



The Autumn Congress

21st – 23rd October 2022

On RealBridge



PROGRAMME

2022-10-21

1 Times of play

Friday	11:00am - 2:15pm	Two Stars Pairs qualifier, session 1, 6 x 4-board matches, match-pointed Swiss Pairs
	3:00pm – 6:30pm	Two Stars Pairs qualifier, session 2, 7 x 4-board matches, match-pointed Swiss Pairs
Saturday	11:00am – 2:15pm	Two Stars & Satellite Pairs finals, session 1, 24 boards
	11:00am – 2:15pm	Consolation Swiss Pairs, session 1, 4 x 6-board matches, traditional VP scoring
	3:00pm – 7:15pm	Two Stars and Satellite Pairs finals, session 2, 33+ boards, with a break
	3:00pm – 7:00pm	Consolation Swiss Pairs, session 2, 5 x 6-board matches, traditional VP scoring
Sunday	11:00am – 2:15pm	Teams-of-Four Championships, qualifying round: 24 boards
	3:00pm – 6:30pm	Eastbourne Bowl & Burlington Cup Teams-of-Four finals: 27 boards
	3:00pm – 6:15pm	Sussex Cup (for non-qualifiers) Teams of Four consolation: 24 boards

2 Two Stars Pairs Championship

for the Two Stars Pairs Trophy

2.1 Qualifying

The qualifying stage is two sessions, 13 x 4-board rounds in total, assigned as Swiss Pairs (current round), and scored by match-points *with no conversion to VPs*.

The top 20 pairs qualify for the Two Stars Pairs final and the next 20 pairs for the Satellite Pairs final on the Saturday.

Pairs should sit at a table: there will be a random assignment for opponents in round 1, at the start of play.

Those who do not qualify for either of the finals will normally play in the Consolation Swiss Pairs on the Saturday, along with any pairs joining at this stage.

There will be no carry-forward from Friday into any event on Saturday.

It is assumed that pairs who fail to qualify for either final will play in the one-day Consolation Swiss Pairs event on Saturday – any pair who does not wish to do so should ensure that the tournament directors are aware of this.

2.2 Two Stars final

Two Star Pairs trophy holders: Brian Senior & Nigel Bird

Twenty pairs will play an all-play-all final of 19 three-board rounds in a 10-table barometer Howell. Starting positions will be prepared in advance.

2.3 Satellite Pairs final

Depending on numbers – not held in 2021.

Twenty pairs will play an all-play-all final of 19 three-board rounds in a 10-table barometer Howell. Starting positions will be prepared in advance.

2.4 Consolation Swiss Pairs

for the Lewis Levy Cup, holders: Denis King & Mike Fa

This is a one-day event on Saturday open to all non-qualifiers for the Two Stars or Satellite Pairs finals and to pairs entering the congress at this point.

Pairs will be assigned starting positions randomly at the start of play.

3 Teams Championships

For the Eastbourne Bowl, Burlington Cup and Sussex Cup.

3.1 Qualifying round

Teams may be divided into sections for the qualifying round on Sunday and starting positions will be published in advance.

For this purpose, it is essential that all teams enter their names by end of play on (7:00pm) on Saturday evening, using the [Teams Line-up Form](#) to appear on the Congress results page <https://www.ebu.co.uk/results/981>

Pairs requiring teammates should contact the EBU in advance of the congress.

Scoring will be by net IMPs. The leading teams within each section will qualify for the Eastbourne Bowl. The next best placed teams within each section will qualify for the Burlington Cup.

The teams' qualifying ratios will be such as to result in a 10-team final in each event and will be announced as soon as final figures and section sizes are known. All other teams will qualify for the Sussex Cup.

The qualifying ratios may involve expressions such as the ‘best third placed team’ in a group. Should this arise, then the term ‘best’ in this context is defined as the team fewestimps behind the second placed team in their group (likewise, the ‘best fifth placed team’ are those closest to the fourth placed team in their group). In other words, it is the size of the gap which is important — not the actual score.

Team captains will be assigned starting positions for the finals.

3.2 Eastbourne Bowl (Premier Teams final)

Eastbourne Bowl holders:

Michael Byrne, Martin Stephens, Chris Cooper & Dan McIntosh

Ten teams will play 9 x 3-board matches. Head-to-head matches will be played, in order that running scores may be displayed at all times (barometer). Scoring will continue to be by net IMPs.

3.3 Burlington Cup (Secondary Teams final)

Depending on numbers: not held in 2021

Ten teams will play 9 x 3-board matches. Head-to-head matches will be played, in order that running scores may be displayed at all times (barometer). Scoring will continue to be by net IMPs.

3.4 Sussex Cup

Sussex Cup holders: Fiona Brown, Helen Erichsen, Ollie Burgess & Diana Nettleton

There will probably be only one section in play, playing 24 boards in total. Scoring is by net IMPs. The trophy is awarded to the team with the largest plus score.

4 Player of the Year Championship

In a normal competitions year, the Two Stars Pairs is the first event to count towards our Player of the Year Championship.

Players can gain points based on finishing in the top places of the most prestigious events on the EBU calendar. The player accumulating the most place points in the year (events finishing in the period 1st October 2022 to 30th September 2023) will win the prize of £1000.

The events in which points can be scored include knockout competitions and congress tournaments. The full list can be found on our website.

5 Master Point Awards

5.1 Pairs events

5.1.1 Pairs Qualifier

Awards for overall ranking and awards for rounds won.

Green Points per four-board match won/drawn: 0.14 for a win (0.07 for a draw).

Bonus ranking awards to the top one-eighth of the field:

1st 2.00; last award receiving position 0.25.

Awards for intermediate places in accordance with the standard EBU congress formula.

5.1.2 Two Stars Final

Green Points for all 20 pairs: 1st 6.00; 20th 1.50; awards for intermediate places in accordance with the standard EBU congress formula.

5.1.3 Consolation Swiss Pairs

Green Points awards for six-board match won: 0.21 per win (0.11 for a draw).

Bonus ranking awards (Green Points) to the top one-eighth of the field:

1st 2.00; last award receiving position 0.25.

Awards for intermediate places in accordance with the standard EBU congress formula.

5.2 Teams Championship

5.2.1 Teams Qualifier

Green Points will be awarded based on rounds won, 0.07 Green per 2-board round won; 0.11 Green per 3-board round won. A draw counts as half win (0.04 or 0.06, respectively).

5.2.2 Eastbourne Bowl

Green Points to all qualifiers: 1st 4.00; 10th 1.00: awards for intermediate places in accordance with the standard EBU congress formula.

Awards for matches won as per the qualifying round.

5.2.3 Sussex Cup

Green Points will continue to be awarded based on rounds won – 0.07 Green per 2-board round won and 0.11 Green per 3-board round won. A draw counts as half-win.

In addition, the Sussex Cup winners receive 1.00 Green.

6 Prizes

Number of prizes and prize amounts are dependent on entries – the total prize fund is 10% of the entry fees (after VAT).

6.1 Pairs events

Quoted in terms of £ per pair

6.1.1 Pairs Qualifier

Prize to first place: £40.

6.1.2 Two Stars Final

Prizes for the top three pairs: 1st £160, 2nd £80, 3rd £40.

6.1.3 Consolation Swiss Pairs

Prizes for the top two pairs: 1st £160, 2nd £80.

6.1.4 Non-expert prize

A non-expert pair is defined as one in which both players are below the rank of Premier Regional Master, and below NGS grade Ace. Any player presently or previously based overseas for any substantial period of time during his/her bridge-playing career, or any player who has been selected to represent his/her country at any level (including under-25 or under-20 level) is excluded from this category.

One prize (£40) will be awarded to the leading non-expert who finish outside the main prize list in the Pairs Final, or the Swiss Pairs.

6.2 Teams Championship

Quoted in terms of £ per team.

6.2.1 Teams Qualifier

There are no prizes in respect of the qualifying round.

6.2.2 Eastbourne Bowl

Prizes to the top two teams: 1st £100, 2nd £60.

6.2.3 Sussex Cup

The overall winners will receive a prize: £60.

7 General Notes

7.1 System Cards

All events in the congress are EBU level 4.

You are required to have a system card online that should make available to your opponents at the start of each round, by posting a link in the table chat. Since all competitions in this event are Level 4 you must use EBU system card (you may not use WBF system cards, which are only permitted in EBU Level 5 events).

You can use any existing link to your system card. Otherwise, system cards can be uploaded via the System Card utility on My EBU – log in to My EBU, under ‘Utilities’, select ‘System Cards’ and follow the instructions. This will give you an online link that you can provide to your opponents at the table. You can do this at any time.

7.2 Best Behaviour at Bridge

Please be nice to your partner, be pleasant to your opponents and be polite to the Tournament Directors. Otherwise you may well be given a Disciplinary Penalty!

7.3 Slow Play

Slow play interferes with the smooth running of events and is discourteous to other players. If you have not started a board when there is less than three minutes left of the round, you may well have the board removed and be awarded an artificial score. Persistent slow players could additionally be given a procedural penalty.

7.4 Prizes

All prizes will be automatically credited to the member’s EBU account and may be redeemed at any time on application to the EBU. The prize values quoted assume a certain level of entry and are subject to alteration should the actual entry be significantly different from that originally envisaged. An appropriate announcement would be made before the half-way stage of the tournament in question should this eventuality arise.

7.5 Special circumstances

General EBU regulations apply in relation to any matter not detailed in these conditions (e.g. protest time). However, any conditions may be varied by the Tournament Director in-charge in order to accommodate any unforeseen circumstance and in order to facilitate the smooth running of this Congress.

8 RealBridge

8.1 Instructions

RealBridge uses computer video and audio for communication between players. Player can and should test their video/audio by logging into the system in advance.

Players who have not played EBU events on RealBridge may wish to have a practice on RealBridge in advance of the congress. RealBridge offers taster sessions of 8 boards – you can sign up here <https://realbridge.online/try-realbridge.html>. By playing a short session in advance, you should be more able to enjoy the congress on RealBridge.

Players are expected to use video and audio during play. If you develop problems with audio/video, you will be allowed to continue to play using text until you have time to try to sort it out, rather than delaying play.

It may be necessary to refresh the video feed every hour or so: this can be done (without logging out) by clicking the refresh button on your name bar.

8.2 Procedures

You should remember that you will be seen and heard by your opponents and should take care to avoid distracting behaviour such as eating while visible/audible 'at the table'.

8.2.1 Alerting/Announcing/Explaining

This event will be in open-table mode (not screens) with self-alerting and written explanations. Follow-up questions can be to the player who made the call (via private chat or verbally).

Note that the partner of the player who made the call will not have seen the written explanation.

Calls are alerted by the player making the call, the alert is made by clicking the alert strip. Alert calls that would be alertable or announced face-to-face and provide a written explanation when making the call.

Exceptionally, **bids and passes** above 3NT should be alerted and explained if they are artificial or unexpected. Doubles and Redoubles need only be alerted if required by the face-to-face rules.

8.2.2 Online Regulations

The EBU-Blue Book (section 10) applies to this event. In particular

- Players may consult their own system card and other notes at any stage (10A1)
- UNDOs are permitted in the auction but not in the play (10C1)

If there is a request for an UNDO in the auction, the TD should be called – it may be necessary to reject the request in order to call the TD. The TD will rule whether Law 25A applies and if so, will instruct the other side to accept the request.

If the other side accept the request for an UNDO, without calling the TD, they will usually be deemed to have accepted the replacement call (Law 25B1 – ‘the second call stands and the auction continues’).



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