



THE ENGLISH BRIDGE UNION

VENETIAN CONGRESS



A NATIONAL GREEN POINT EVENT

Sponsored by First for Bridge

15th – 22nd October 2023

Pace Park Hotel Bolognese

Preganziol, Italy

PROGRAMME

Sunday 15 th October	20:45 – 23:15	Arrival from UK Pre-Congress Pairs (18 Boards)
Monday 16 th October	10:45 – 14:30	Welcome meeting Swiss Pairs session 1 (2 matches)
	20:00 – 23:15	Swiss Pairs session 2 (3 matches)
Tuesday 17 th October	14:30 – 16:45	Swiss Pairs session 3 (2 matches)
	20:00 – 23:15	Swiss Pairs session 4 (3 matches)
Wednesday 18 th October	20:00 – 23:15	Excursion Bassano Del Grappa Pivot Teams (single pivot)
Thursday 19 th October	14:00 – 17:15	Open Pairs
	20:00 – 23:15	IMP Pairs
Friday 20 th October	14:00 – 17:15	Swiss Teams session 1 (3 matches)
	20:00 – 23:15	Swiss Teams session 2 (3 matches)
Saturday 21 st October	13:00 – 15:00	Swiss Teams session 3 (2 matches)
	15:30 – 17:30	Swiss Teams session 4 (2 matches)
		Followed by sponsor's drinks reception and prize-giving
Sunday 22 nd October		Departure to UK

WELCOME

A warm welcome to you all, from the English Bridge Union to the Venetian Congress sponsored by First for Bridge. We hope that you will enjoy our choice of the Pace Park Hotel Bolognese.

In order to help you enjoy your stay in Veneto, you are invited to a welcome meeting at 10:45am on Monday 16th October. You will be able to meet all the people concerned with the running of the event.

We wish you all a very enjoyable stay in Veneto and a successful congress.

MASTER POINTS

All Master Points will be awarded by direct credit but may take some weeks to show up on your account. Ranking lists are available from our web site at <https://www.ebu.co.uk/results/1304>.

Stratification

The Swiss Pairs and Swiss Teams will be stratified.

Stratification levels for individual players:

'A': a Premier Life Master or above, or has NGS grade 'Ace'.

'B': a Premier Regional Master or above but not Premier Life Master or above.

'C': not a Premier Regional Master or above.

There are exceptions/exemptions, see

<https://www.ebu.co.uk/competitions/stratifications>, in particular

<https://www.ebu.co.uk/documents/official-documents/Stratification-2019.pdf>

Stratification levels for pairs: the higher of the stratification levels of the players.

Stratification levels for teams:

'A': one player is a Grand Master or above, or is in the Gold Point top 60, or has NGS grade 'Ace'; OR at least two of the team are stratification level 'A'.

'B': at least two of the team are 'B', or at most one is 'A'.

'C': at most one of the team is 'B', and none are 'A'.

Master Point awards

Master Point awards are quoted for the overall 'A' + 'B' + 'C' stratification ranking list only. The top award and minimum award on the 'B' + 'C' list is 50%, and the 'C' list is 25% of that quoted for the overall list.

Swiss Pairs

0.28 Green Point per 8-board match won (0.14 for a draw).

Bonus Green Point ranking awards to the top quarter of the field with a top award of 4.00 Green Points and a minimum award of 0.50 Green Point. Intermediate awards in accordance with the standard EBU formula.

Swiss Teams

0.28 Green Point per 8-board match won (0.14 for a draw).

Bonus Green Point ranking awards to the top quarter of the field with a top award of 3.50 Green Points and a minimum award of 0.50 Green Point. Intermediate awards in accordance with the standard EBU formula.

Other events

All other single-session events will be Blue Pointed at National scale (Club x 4).

PRIZES

Prizes as will be credited to the player's account and are quoted in terms of £ per pair or £ per team, as appropriate. The actual prize values quoted are based on a certain anticipated entry to each event. Stratification and other category prizes depend on sufficient entries in the category.

Swiss Pairs: 1st £120, 2nd £60; with further prizes of £60 for the top pair in the 'B'+ 'C' stratification categories and £40 for the top 'C' pair.

Swiss Teams: 1st £120, 2nd £60; with a further prize of £60 for the top team in the 'B'+ 'C' stratification categories.

Open Pairs and IMP Pairs: winners £80.

Pivot Teams: winners £80

Pre-congress Pairs: winners £40

GENERAL CONDITIONS

- Pairs are required to have two identically completed system cards (EBU 20B), to be exchanged with your opponents at the start of each round.

If you do not have two completed system cards, you will be provided with blank system cards to fill out before play may continue, receiving a score of 'average minus' for any boards unplayed due to the time lost in doing this.

The congress is EBU Level 4, so only EBU system cards are permitted. (WBF cards are only permitted in EBU Level 5 events.)

- The programme, and format of the events, can be changed by the Chief Tournament Director if the number of tables makes such changes necessary.
 - Re-matches will be allowed in the fourth session of the Swiss Pairs; and in the third and fourth sessions of the Swiss Teams.
 - The Pivot Teams is a multiple teams event, in which you will partner any two of your three teammates in turn for approximately twelve boards (i.e. a 'partial' pivot rather than a 'full' pivot).
- Best Behaviour at Bridge - please be nice to your partner, be pleasant to your opponents and be polite to the Tournament Director.
- Please switch off your mobile phone. If you must have it on for emergencies, switch it to silent, and leave the playing area before answering. You may not use any electronic equipment within the playing room.
- You may not smoke or use electronic cigarettes in the playing room or indoors in the hotel.

Bridgemates

North (or South) is responsible for entering the contract and result into the Bridgemate, and East (or West) verify the entry by pressing the ACCEPT button.

It is best to enter the contract, declarer and lead at the end of the auction – this saves time, reduces the risk of entering the wrong board number, and ensures the lead is fresh in your mind.

Entering the lead accurately not only provides extra information of interest to players, but can also assist the scorer in resolving errors of data entry.

Results should be entered before the next board is played, East or West must be allowed to accept the result, and both sides should have the opportunity to review other scores.

It is an offence to attempt to access the TD screen or change a score in the Bridgemate without calling the TD.

Bridgemate UK is the EBU's "Official Wireless Scoring Provider".



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