



## PRESS RELEASE

### Historic Change for Bridge in England

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Duplicate bridge received a big boost this Wednesday, 4 June. A strategy to introduce universal membership was proposed by the English Bridge Union - the national body for duplicate bridge in England - to its county representatives who accepted by almost 2 to 1 in favour.

This decision will enable the EBU to revitalise duplicate bridge at all levels. The EBU Chairman, Peter Stocken said:

“Universal membership for all members of our affiliated clubs will help us to develop our much loved game which has suffered a decline in recent years. We want to help our clubs attract new players. We now have the mandate to take the game and our organisation in to the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. We have many plans and we will keep all our members and potential members informed of their progress over the coming 18 months.”

The new method of membership will be implemented in April 2010.

For further information please contact Matt Betts, Communications Officer on 01296 317 200 or by email, [Matt@ebu.co.uk](mailto:Matt@ebu.co.uk).

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#### Notes to editors:

##### **About Bridge**

Bridge is one of the most enduring and popular games in the world; for over 100 years, people of all types and from all walks of life have been fascinated by the game. It is one of the most popular leisure activities in Britain, with around 300,000 people playing on a regular basis. Bridge is a trick-taking card game of skill and chance. It is played by four players who form two partnerships (sides); the partners sit opposite each other at a table. The game consists of the auction (often called bidding) and play, after which the hand is scored. Please click [here](#) for more information on bridge.

##### **About the English Bridge Union**

The English Bridge Union Limited (EBU) is a membership-funded organisation committed to promoting the game of duplicate bridge. It is also a National Bridge Organisation in its own right affiliated to the European Bridge League and the World Bridge Federation. New players are the lifeblood of the game and the EBU are keen to encourage them. For more information on the English Bridge Union please visit: [www.ebu.co.uk](http://www.ebu.co.uk)

