

## U21 Squad Leader Job Description

The EBU's under-21 squad is an inclusive group of young people who want to learn to play bridge at a high level. England International U21 teams are selected from it, but we also welcome improving young players who are not yet ready for international competition. Typically they join the squad after being part of the Under16s Squad, but may join without having participated in the Under16s. The training group has a very wide experience range. The U21 squad provides a development pathway for young players over their time within the group to improve at their own rate.

### Major Task List:

- Helping squad members to develop their bridge skills, offering teaching/coaching appropriate to the skill and experience of each player
- Running some face-to-face training weekends during the year
- Assisting in the running of online and face-to-face training sessions using platforms such as RealBridge and Zoom

### Other possible tasks:

- Assisting in the development of training material/programs for the training group
- Providing input to selections for international events
- Captaining the U21 team at international events. There may be the option for assistants who are experienced enough players themselves to act as an NPC for the junior side
- Team coaching when preparing for international events - targeted coaching for selected players
- Assisting in the recruitment of new junior players

Ideally the candidate should be a self-organised, motivated individual with good communication skills who is comfortable managing a large group of young people. Their bridge skills should be sufficiently advanced for them to be able to teach a wide range of bridge concepts and provide sound judgement on the progression of the young players.

The EBU is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all squad leaders and junior coaches to share this commitment. The Squad Leader will be acting *in loco parentis* in respect of those participants aged under 18 at training weekends and when accompanying junior teams to national and international events, and is subject to enhanced DBS disclosure. The candidate should be willing also to undertake relevant safeguarding training.

Candidates for this position agree to abide by the [EBU Volunteer Code](#), [EBU Conflict of Interest Policy](#) and [EBU Code of Conduct](#).

July 2024