

## EBU Virtual Clubs on Bridgebase Online (BBO)

In response to requests from clubs and counties, BBO have created “Virtual Clubs”, which are now available to all EBU affiliated clubs and counties. Some small clubs might wish to team up with others nearby or who usually play at the same time as they do.

Once set up they will be able run pairs games of any size at any time, which will be charged in BB\$. The minimum charge will be \$3 per player, but can be set higher in order to increase income for the club, and BBO themselves suggest \$5. The club or county will get 70% of this money with BBO keeping 30% as their fee for use of the platform. Table money will be paid to the club on a monthly basis, through us the EBU.

We will put the money in to the club or county’s bank account. You must submit these games for the Universal Membership Scheme (UMS) but may choose to do so under Code 10, 11 or 12 (code 20 for counties), depending on whether or not you want to issue master points or grade for NGS. There will be no individual exemptions from NGS if you submit under Code 10 or 20. We can help you with converting your BBO results into the xml format required for UMS submission.

From this income, a club or county will have to pay UMS, and pay for a TD if you do not have a suitably-qualified volunteer of your own. Aside from that, you will be free to run the games you want at the times you want and to limit them to your own members if you wish.

If you have a person who already has experience of running games on BBO, all that will be required is for them to be shown by us how to set up these paid games and then you will be free to go ahead and run them in the way that you want. One way to do this would be to watch an experienced TD set up a game for another club (Skype is useful for this), and then for you to be observed by the Club Liaison Officer or another EBU TD when setting up your first game.

For those who have not run BBO games, you will either need to have a paid TD, which is what many clubs have already been doing, or full training is available at a cost of £100. We can put you in touch with someone suitable to help you in either of those ways.