



# EBU Event Focus Issue 35: September 2015



Dear EBU member

Thank you to everyone who joined us at the Summer Meeting in Brighton. We thought it was a great event, and a fitting end to our time in Brighton. We look forward to seeing you in Eastbourne at the Winter Garden from 19th to 28th August 2016.

More information on the congress will follow in the near future, including details on the discount for those who entered the full congress this year, and some information on hotels and travel.

If you haven't already seen the promotional video for the Summer Meeting in Eastbourne, you may wish to watch it [here](#).



As always, if you have any questions on our events please contact the Competitions Department on 01296 317203/219.

## CONFIANCE GUERNSEY CONGRESS

*11th - 20th September, La Trelade  
Hotel, Guernsey*



**Head to the Channel Islands for ten days of bridge**

The main congress events are at weekends and midweek evening, allowing time to enjoy the sights of the island. On midweek afternoons there are Seniors events - for those born in 1955 or earlier - but the mornings are still free for sightseeing.

The programme includes Swiss Pairs on the first weekend, and Swiss Teams on the second weekend, with timings to allow travel home on the Sunday evening.

The Swiss Pairs, Swiss Teams, and midweek Seniors Pairs and Teams are Green Pointed - in the other events Blue Points are awarded.

For more information on the congress please [visit the event webpage](#).



The venue is [La Trelade Hotel](#) in the picturesque parish of St Martin. Near to the hotel are a number of interesting and historic places including the Little Chapel, the Occupation Museum, St Martin's Church, and the Doyle Monument at Jerbourg.

Bookings should be made directly with the hotel on 01481 235454.

## CROCKFORDS CUP

**Entries closing soon**

Entries are closing soon for the [Crockfords Cup](#), the English teams of four championships. The event is played as a knockout in the early stage, prior to an 'all-play-all' final between the final eight teams.

The Crockfords Plate competition will be open to all unseeded teams who are defeated in their first match of the main event, be this in round 1, or in round 2 following a bye.

The Cup competition is part of the **Championship Series**, in which points can be earned towards the [Player of the Year Championship](#) (see below).

**The deadline for entries is  
Thursday 10th September 2015.**

## NATIONAL INTERCLUB KNOCKOUT

**Entries closing soon**

The National Interclub Knockout is open to all fully affiliated EBU bridge clubs, and is probably the most popular of all tournaments with around 300 teams entering annually. It is played as a knockout throughout, with the draw ...continued...



## **GREAT NORTHERN SWISS PAIRS**

*3rd - 4th October, Hilton Hotel, Leeds*

**A Green Pointed, twelve round, Swiss Pairs weekend**

With seven 7-board matches on Saturday, and five more on Sunday, this is a full weekend of Swiss Pairs. Green points are awarded for each match won, with bonus awards based on the stratified results.

There is also an improvers pairs on Sunday afternoon, so please encourage your less experienced friends or family to take part.

The schedule allows time for enjoying the sights of Leeds, or just for travel before and after the event. The cost of entry includes meals on Saturday evening and Sunday lunchtime.

The event is organised by Yorkshire CBA on behalf of the EBU. To enter please contact Stuart Davies, [stuart@svd1.uk](mailto:stuart@svd1.uk), 01274 598408.



The event takes place at the [Hilton Leeds City](#).

For more information on the event please [visit our website](#).



## **AUTUMN CONGRESS**

*16th - 18th October, Holiday Inn, Peterborough*

**A three day congress, with events for all levels of experience**

The congress includes the prestigious Two Star Pairs. The qualifier for this will take place on Friday using a Swiss Pairs format, but with short matches and matchpoint scoring. The top twenty pairs will qualify for the Two Stars Pairs, the next twenty for the Satellite pairs, with these finals taking place on Saturday. Anyone wishing to play only on the Friday may do so.

Those who don't qualify for the main finals will play in a more traditional style of Swiss Pairs on the Saturday, with 9 x 6 board matches scored by VPs. This Swiss Pairs is also open to those playing only on the Saturday.

Green Points are awarded for matches won at all stages of the Pairs events.

The Two Star Pairs is part of **the Championship Series**, in which points can be earned towards the [Player of the Year Championship](#).

We also have our 2-session multiple teams event on the Sunday for the Eastbourne Bowl (Premier) and the Burlington Cup (Secondary). All non-qualifiers play in the Sussex Cup.

For more information please [visit the event webpage](#).

regionalised to reduce travelling.

Each club can enter an unlimited number of teams, so why not team up with your clubmates and take part?!

Club secretaries will be sent an entry form, and it can also be downloaded from our website. Entries should be submitted by the affiliated Club Secretary, who should be satisfied of the credentials of the players. Details of the qualification requirements are available [on the event webpage](#).

The Plate competition will be open to all unseeded teams who are defeated in their first match of the main event, be this in round 1, or in round 2 following a bye.

**The closing date for entries is Thursday 17th September.**

We hope you will take part.

## **NATIONAL PAIRS**

**A final reminder of changes to the format**

Here's a final reminder (for now) of the changes to the format of the National Pairs for 2015/16. There will not be 'club heats' this year, and the competition will start with Regional Finals which will be open to everyone.

The intention of the changes is to ensure that the Regional Finals are comprised of those who wish to take part in the competition - nobody is affected by not being able to participate in a club heat.

The Regional Finals will be held at an increased number of venues, with the top 50 pairs nationally qualifying to play in the National Final. The venues will also be divided into regions, with each region scored by itself, and the winning pairs awarded 'regional trophies'.

This will hopefully lead to a National Final of quality. Points can be earned from the event towards the [Player of the Year Championship](#) (see below).

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## Really Easy Afternoon 16th October, multiple venues

An event aimed at less experienced players, intended as an introduction to 'congress bridge'. The event takes place at the main congress in Peterborough, and the same hands will also be played at

- [Brierfield Bridge Club](#) - 1:30pm start
- [Bradford Bridge Club](#) - 2pm start
- [Caterham Bridge Club](#) - 2pm start
- [Christchurch Bridge Club](#), Bournemouth, - 2pm start
- [First Class Bridge Academy](#), Billericay, - 2pm start
- [Richmond Bridge Club](#) - 2pm start
- [Wimbledon Bridge Club](#) - 2pm start
- [West Midlands Bridge Club](#) - 3pm start
- Autumn Congress, Peterborough - 2pm start

with the competition scored across all venues.

The event at each venue is open to all - EBU members and non-members alike. Please pass this information on to any friends or family who may be interested.



The venue is the [Holiday Inn Peterborough - West](#). Preferential rates are available for those booking via the [EBU Accommodation Booking Service](#) - call **Bridge Overseas Freephone on: 0800 0346 246**

Please [see here](#) for more information.

## BRIDGE HOLIDAYS FOR LESS EXPERIENCED PLAYERS



### Blue Point Holiday

*16th - 20th October,  
Chilworth Manor, near  
Southampton*

£299 PP dinner, bed & breakfast



### Really Easy Weekend

*30th October - 1st November -  
Horwood House near Milton  
Keynes*

£166 PP single, £130 PP sharing.  
Two nights DB&B with sandwich  
lunch on Sunday.

These holidays are aimed at social players looking to combine a holiday with some 'gently competitive' bridge.

As these holidays are aimed at social players we suggest that they are most suited to

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## PLAYER OF THE YEAR CHAMPIONSHIP

Congratulations to David Gold for winning the 2014/15 Player of the Year Championship.



David had a great year, winning the Premier League, Gold Cup, and Point-a-Board competition at the National Teams Congress. He also finished second in the Crockfords Cup, he reached the semi-finals of the Spring Fours, and was fifth in the Swiss Pairs at the Summer Meeting.

Tony Forrester, David Bakhshi, Alexander Allfrey, and Andrew Robson tied for second place.

The final points list for 2014/15, including points from the Crockfords Cup, and Swiss Pairs & Teams at the Summer Meeting, is available [here](#).

The competition will run again in 2015/16. For more details see [the competition webpage](#).

## SIM PAIRS EVENTS

The EBED Autumn Sim Pairs is taking place this week. The next event is the British Autumn Sim Pairs - Monday 5th to Thursday 8th October.

**Please take part and encourage your club to host a heat - they can enter up until the evening before.**

There are many reasons to take part in our [Sim Pairs](#):

**Win £1000:** every heat winner is entered into a draw with a top prize of £1000. [There are 17 other prizes](#), and the same prizes for host clubs too.

**Enhanced Master Points:** the leading pairs win enhanced Master Points, including Blue Points, whilst playing at their 'regular club night'.

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players who are ranked below Master, and whose NGS grading is no lower than a jack. Whilst there is no lower limit on a player's ability, they should be comfortable playing in a 'club setting'.

Accommodation for each event should be booked through the [Accommodation Booking Service](#) with Bridge Overseas on 0800 0346 246. Bridge fees should be paid directly to the EBU on 01296 317203/219.

An online results service including: **commentaries by experts**; a **double dummy analysis** feature; a **comments board** so you can discuss hands with other participants.

**Support the EBU:** the proceeds of the Sim Pairs help to fund **your** EBU.



## Dates for your diary

10th September:

Deadline for entries for 2015/16 [Crockfords Cup](#)

12th - 13th September:

[Premier League](#), 1st weekend, Manchester

31st October - 1st November:

[Premier League](#), 2nd weekend, Coventry

6th - 8th November:

[Premier League](#), 3rd weekend, London

17th September:

Deadline for entries for 2015/16 [NICKO](#)

26th September - 10th October:

[Bermuda Bowl](#), [Venice Cup](#), [D'Orsi Bowl](#), Chennai, India

5th - 8th October:

British Autumn Simultaneous Pairs

6th - 8th November:

[Seniors Congress](#), Birmingham

12th - 14th November:

European Champions' Cup, Horwood House, nr Milton Keynes

Thanks for reading.

We hope to see you at one of our events in the not too distant future.

EBU Competitions Department

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