



# EBU Event Focus

## Issue 47: August 2016

It is just 8 days until the start of the Summer Meeting in Eastbourne. That means it's not long to wait for those who are already booked and eagerly looking forward to it. But it is also plenty of time for those who haven't yet made their bookings.

We will be taking bookings in the office until Wednesday evening, but after that you can enter online, by email to [comps@ebu.co.uk](mailto:comps@ebu.co.uk), or you can enter at the venue on the day. So whilst we would prefer that you enter in advance you can still decide to play on the spur of the moment and enter when you join us in Eastbourne.

If you haven't yet planned your visit to Eastbourne then the [pre-congress information page](#) may be helpful as it has information on travel, accommodation and more.

If you need a partner for the congress then please use the message board at the foot of the [event webpage](#). If you aren't able to arrange anything in advance then do still come to the event as we will be 'match-making' at the venue and there will be standby players for most events to pair with any remaining 'solo' players.

As always, if you have any questions please contact the Competitions Department on 01296 317203/219 or at [comps@ebu.co.uk](mailto:comps@ebu.co.uk). Entries can be made by calling this number, or through the members area of the website - [www.ebu.co.uk/members](http://www.ebu.co.uk/members).

We would always like to hear from pairs who are willing to act as standby at our events, particularly for Swiss Pairs and Swiss Teams competitions. See [here](#) for more information, or to volunteer please contact [Gordon@ebu.co.uk](mailto:Gordon@ebu.co.uk).

**THE SUMMER MEETING**  
Eastbourne, 19th - 28th August  
**New venue, cheaper prices,  
same great congress**

**3-day weekend  
challenge events**

**One day events**

**Really Easy  
Congress**

**TD & EBUScore  
training**

**Golf & bridge  
competition**

### **SOUTHERN MIDWEEK CONGRESS CANCELLED** No event in 2017

Unfortunately it has been necessary to cancel the Southern Midweek Congress for 2017. Due to declining entries it is no longer feasible to run this congress. We are sorry for any disappointment this causes.

We hope that those who enjoy midweek bridge will continue to support the Northern Midweek Congress which will take place again in 2017.

### **CROCKFORDS CUP** Entries now open

Entries are open for England's [premier teams competition](#).

The event is played as a knockout in the early stage, prior to an 'all-play-all' final between the final eight teams.

A Plate competition is open to all unseeded teams who are defeated in their first match.

**The deadline for entries is  
Thursday 8th September.**

### **NATIONAL INTERCLUB**

**Weekend Challenge Events:** three-day events for those wanting an intensive weekend of bridge.

Friday 19th - Sunday 21st: Swiss Pairs Championship

Friday 26th - Sunday 28th: Four Stars Swiss Teams Championship

See [the event webpage](#) for more details.

**One Day Events:** Two-session Swiss Pairs events on Sunday 21st, Saturday 27th and Sunday 28th; a mixture of single session events on midweek afternoons and evening. See [the event webpage](#) for more details.

**The Mercian Travel Seniors Congress:** Pairs and teams events on Monday to Thursday for those born in 1956 or earlier.

**The U26 Championship Pairs:** On Tuesday afternoon - for those who have not reached their 25th birthday by 31st Dec 2015.

**Really Easy Congress:** Runs from Tuesday to Thursday, with a free 'introductory day' on Monday. It combines competitions and lessons for all levels of 'less experienced' players. See [the event webpage](#) for more details.

**Combined bridge and golf competition:** A round at Eastbourne Downs GC on Monday morning, and an individual bridge event in the afternoon. The results will be combined to give an overall winner. See more details [here](#).

The [main congress programme](#) and [price list](#) are available online.

**Don't forget that those who entered the full congress in 2015 can receive up to £50 off the full congress in 2016.**

The event takes place at the [Winter Garden](#).

There is no 'host' hotel - participants should make their own arrangements with one of the numerous hotels in the town. Information on hotels is at [www.ebu.co.uk/eastbourne-pre-congress](http://www.ebu.co.uk/eastbourne-pre-congress)

Parking is available for just £2 for 24 hours at [Trinity Trees NCP](#). [See here](#) for more information.

## **Guernsey Bridge Congress**

9th - 18th 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 1956 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. Bookings should be made directly with the hotel on 01481 235454.

## **KNOCKOUT (NICKO)**

**Entries now open**

The NICKO is open to all EBU affiliated bridge clubs, and is very popular with over 250 teams entering annually. It is played as a knockout throughout, with the draw regionalised to reduce travelling.

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

Entry forms can be download 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](#), but please be aware that **all participants must be members of the club they represent, should have been so for three months prior to the closing date for entries, and be listed on the club's membership list held by the EBU**. Please assist your club in complying with the regulations by ensuring you have paid your membership, and checking that it has been registered with the EBU.

**The closing date for entries is 15th September.** We hope you will take part.

## **EBED SURVEY**

Thank you to those who have completed the survey which EBED are undertaking.

More responses are needed from people who **do not** play bridge, so please pass on the link to friends and family.

**They can take the survey [here](#).** Once they have completed it they can enter a prize draw to win one of two £100 Amazon vouchers.

## Great Northern Swiss Pairs

1st - 2nd October, 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. Further information is available [here](#).

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

Tariff and booking information is available on the [YCBA website](#).

## LOOKING FOR A PARTNER/TEAM MATES?

If you want to find a partner, or team mates, for an EBU congress try the message boards which are on the webpages of each congress. Scroll to the foot of the page, and you will find the board.



You can either leave a message to say you are looking, or reply to someone else who is seeking a partner or team mates.

They are hopefully straightforward to use, but [see here](#) if you need any help.

## Other dates for your diary

2nd - 4th September: Isle of Man Congress

3rd - 17th September: [World Bridge Games, Poland](#)

5th - 9th September: EBED Autumn Sim Pairs

3rd - 6th October: British Autumn Sim Pairs

24th - 25th September: Green Point weekend, various counties

24th - 25th September: Crockfords finals (for those qualifying), Birmingham

8th - 9th October: Gold Cup finals (for those qualifying), London

14th - 16th October: [Autumn Congress](#), Peterborough Premier League (for confirmed entrants)

22nd - 23rd October: 1st Weekend, London

29th - 30th October: 2nd Weekend, Manchester

5th - 6th November: 3rd Weekend, Solihull

4th - 6th November: [Seniors Congress](#), Reading

Thanks for reading.

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

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