



EBU Event Focus

Issue 75: November 2018

Dear EBU member

After a flurry of activity in recent weeks, there is a brief pause in the competition calendar for most of you - dare I say it, but it's a chance to start contemplating events at the end of December. No, not Christmas - I'm talking about sorting your entry for our end of year Congresses. It's too early to start buying stocking fillers, but it's never too early to organise your festive bridge - entries are open now. If your usual partner or team mates are unavailable for any EBU congress you don't need to miss out. There is a message board on each congress webpage you can use to try to make contact with others who are seeking someone for that event. Don't be stuck at home over Christmas if you'd rather be playing bridge - post your details, or respond to someone else, and find a game for the Year End Congresses.

As always, if you have any queries about any of the events featured here then please don't hesitate to contact the Competitions Department on [01296 317203](tel:01296317203)/219 or at comps@ebu.co.uk. Entries can be made by calling this number, or through My EBU, the members area of the website - www.ebu.co.uk/members.

Year End Congress, London

27th - 30th December

Royal National Hotel, Russell Square

Join us for four days of festive bridge in the capital.

Thurs 27th - Fri 28th: Stratified Swiss Pairs

Fri 28th: Jack High Swiss Pairs*

Sat 29th: Mixed or Open Pairs

Sun 30th: Stratified Swiss Teams

* - a new competition, with a reduced entry fee, for players no higher than Jack on the NGS.

Accommodation packages are available at the venue. See the website for details.

[More details](#)

Blackpool Year End Congress

28th - 30th December

Blackpool Conference Centre & Spa

We round off bridge in 2018 back on the Lancashire Coast.

Fri 28th: Mixed or Open Pairs

Fri 28th - Sat 29th: Stratified Swiss Pairs

Sun 30th: Stratified Swiss Teams

The venue is the same as previous years, but has been re-named. Accommodation packages are available at the venue. See the website for details.

[More details](#)



National Point-a-Board Teams

19th - 20th January

Young Chelsea BC, London

This competition is played exclusively on the point-a-board (BAM) format.

Saturday: Qualifying

Sunday: a main final for the top teams, and a consolation final for non-qualifiers.

Master Points will be awarded at a **50% enhanced rate** in the qualifier and main final.

The competition is part of the **Player of the Year Championship**.

[A short guide to Point-a-Board matches](#)

[David Gold's guide to the tactics of PAB](#)

[Brian Senior - the different tactics for Point-a-Board, IMPs and Match Points](#)

[**More details**](#)

Easter Festivals

London - 19th - 22nd April

Leeds - 19th - 21st April

In case you missed in the announcement in the additional Event Focus last month, this is a reminder that the Easter Festival in London will be at a **new venue in 2019** - the ILEC Conference Centre near Earls Court.

As this venue is slightly cheaper we are freezing the prices at 2018 rates for those booking before the end of February. But you don't need to wait as bookings are being taken now.

Accommodation at the venue is also available to book now - please book directly with the venue using [this online booking page](#).

[**More details**](#)

Northern Easter Festival

The Northern Easter Festival will again be organised by Yorkshire CBA on behalf of the EBU. It will be held at the Hilton Hotel in Leeds. Full information will be available soon.

[**More details**](#)

Athens Congress
30th January - 5th February
Wyndham Grand, Athens

Join us for a smashing congress
in Greece.

It will be held at the Wyndham Grand in the centre of Athens, near the Acropolis and Parthenon.

To attend you must book your accommodation through Bridge Overseas. For more details, or to make a reservation, please see [here](#), or call 08000 346246.

The Congress includes Pairs and Teams competitions, with Green Pointed Swiss competitions to start and finish the event.

[More details](#)

Online Knockout Teams

Entries close 14th January

A knockout competition for teams of four, with all matches played online.

The competition is open to teams from all home nations, so why not involve your friends from over the border?!

There is a plate competition for those defeated in early rounds, so everyone is guaranteed two matches.

Juniors receive half-price entry on a pro-rata basis.

Green Points are awarded in the main competition, and Blue Points in the Plate competition.

[More details](#)

Harrogate Congress

8th - 10th February
Cairn Hotel, Harrogate

A popular long weekend of bridge, organised by Yorkshire CBA on behalf of the EBU. **Please make entries directly with the YCBA.** Please see [the YCBA website](#) for more details and an entry form.

Friday afternoon - Mixed & Open Pairs
Friday afternoon - Improvers Pairs
Friday evening & Saturday - three session Swiss Pairs
Sunday - two session Swiss Teams

Entry to the Full Congress or Swiss Pairs includes a two course buffet supper on Saturday.

[More details](#)

Other dates for your diary

[8 - 10 Nov](#)



[EBL Champions Cup](#)

[17 - 18 Nov](#)



[Tollemache Cup](#) qualifying round (for qualified teams) - Daventry

[24 - 25 Nov](#)

[Middlesex Congress](#) - Harrow

[8 - 9 Dec](#)



[European Mixed Teams Trials](#): playoff - London

[14 - 16 Dec](#)



[Junior Channel Trophy](#) - Lille, France

[15 - 16 Dec](#)



[Seniors Trials for the Teltscher Trophy](#)

[4 - 6 Jan](#)



[Camrose Trophy](#), 1st Weekend - Wales

[4 - 6 Jan](#)

[Midland Counties Congress](#) - Solihull

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<https://www.ebu.co.uk/dynamic/sendy/w/rpkeA7bPr0nQUF4bL1otrg>



English Bridge Union

[01296 317203/219](tel:01296317203)

comps@ebu.co.uk