



EBU Event Focus

Issue 97

Dear Club Secretaries, Competitions Secretaries and Main Contacts

This email has been sent to you in your capacity as a club official. Please pass this email on to anyone in your club you feel will be interested in the below upcoming events.

The coming weeks and months are always full of events for all standards of players, and this year even with the competitions currently online, is no exception. The upcoming National Pairs and Portland Pairs provides the opportunity to play in a national field. For 'higher ranked' players the Spring Foursomes which always attracts a strong field is on the horizon. With regional events, and the Easter Congress Online, there really is something for everyone - we hope there's something which takes your fancy.

Play in the Easter Congress, Online in April

Taking place **Friday 2nd to Monday 5th April**, is the [Easter Congress](#). If you have not had chance to participate in the Easter Congress events in the past, now is your chance! This year the competitions will take place online via RealBridge, held over the Easter weekend, as usual. All the main events, including the Championship Pairs, the Swiss Teams and Swiss Pairs, will be run.

There is also a 9-high pairs event that will be run on BBO by Kent CBA, aimed at club players who are interested in taking the first steps into congress bridge but who may have found it daunting to jump straight into a major congress event.

British Spring Sim Pairs

Taking place **Monday 12th - Thursday 15th April**, is the British Spring Sim Pairs. If you would like to register your club for the British Spring Sim Pairs, or any of the Sims events in 2021, please register online via your club My EBU. Once registered, commentary booklets and hands will be available to download via your clubs My EBU page.

Further details about all upcoming Sims event in 2021, can be found on the [Sim Pairs 2021 overview](#) or the [Sims webpage](#).

County Events in March and April

There are plenty of County events coming up over the next few weeks, many of them Green Pointed. Norfolk and Cumbria, Devon, NEBA, Shropshire, Somerset, Jersey and Cheltenham all have events taking place. Further details can be found below, or on the [EBU calendar](#). As these are county run events, please contact the counties directly for further information.

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 or via 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

National Pairs

Regional Heats: 21st March
Various Clubs Online

Last year it was decided to base the first stage of the competition on the same model as the Masters Pairs, i.e. with heats in clubs, with the Regional trophies still being awarded. Clubs are assigned to regions based on their geographical location, with an attempt to try to have even sized regions as far as possible.

Since the 2020 regional heats took place but the final did not, any pair who was in the top 50 last year will be allowed to enter the final this year without having to qualify again, providing they do so before the regional heats take place. This may lead to us having a larger than usual final with variations in format as appropriate.

[More details](#)

Portland Pairs

28th March
RealBridge, Online

This year the Portland Pairs will be run by the EBU as a single two-session event on RealBridge with an entry fee of £30 per player, rather than having heats in clubs around the country. This is our national Mixed Pairs Championship, a unique and popular event in our calendar. Entries should be made through [My EBU](#).

[More details](#)

Easter Congress, Online

*2nd - 5th April
RealBridge, Online*

Due to Covid, the usual Easter Congresses in London and York will not be taking place face-to-face this year. Instead we will be running an online Easter Congress, held on RealBridge. The online congress will be held over the four days of the Easter Weekend, as usual.

The Swiss Teams on Sunday is a two-session event with seven 7-board matches in all. The event is now also a stratified event.

Swiss Pairs on Monday - open to all with seven 7-board matches.

9-High Improvers Pairs on Saturday - open to players of NGS 9 or below. Run by Kent Contract Bridge Association.

[More details](#)

Lambourne Jersey Festival

*24th April - 2nd May
RealBridge, Online*

This wonderful and very popular congress is usually held annually on the delightful island of Jersey. However, this year, due to covid restrictions, the event will be played online on RealBridge. If you have not previously had a chance to visit Jersey directly, this may be a great opportunity to enjoy this excellent, relaxed yet challenging congress. There are Swiss Pairs and Swiss Teams events, along with mixed and open pairs and a seniors pairs event.

To be eligible for a seniors event, players must have their 62nd birthday or beyond during the calendar year (January-December) of the event. For example, a player can play in a Seniors event at the age of 61 provided their 62nd birthday falls later that year.

[More details](#)



**Spring Bank Holiday
Congress**

29th - 31st May
RealBridge

A relaxed congress held over the three-day holiday. The Championship Pairs is a four-session event with a two-session qualifying round on the Saturday, leading to a pair of two-session finals for the top 36 pairs on Sunday, split into two 18-pair finals. The format may change, depending on the number of entries. The non-qualifying players move in to the Swiss Pairs. Please note that the Swiss Pairs is now a one-day event on the Sunday. The Swiss Teams event is stratified and suits a whole range of players from Club Master to Grand Master.

[More details](#)

Autumn Overseas Congress

6th - 13th October
Side, Turkey

Join us in the beautiful city of Side, on the southern Mediterranean coast of Turkey, close to Antalya. Further details will be available shortly.

Book your place before the end of March at the special low deposit rate of £50 per person! You have nothing to lose by booking early as you will be guaranteed the best price and secure one of the limited number of sole occupancy rooms at a special low rate of £100 supplement per week.

Most importantly your monies are fully protected by ABTA.

[More details](#)



Summer Meeting

6th - 15th August
Eastbourne

We are hopeful that this year's Summer Meeting will go ahead in Eastbourne as a face to face event. However, if booking early it is advisable for the moment to be able to cancel.

Full details for 2021 are still to be finalised. Further details will be provided as soon as we have them.

The Summer Meeting will still incorporate Weekend Challenges and One Day Events and the Really Easy Congress. All events are Level 4 except for the Really Easy Congress, which is Level 2.

[More details](#)

Other dates for your diary

[20 - 21 Mar](#)

[Norfolk and Cumbria Congress](#)

[27 Mar](#)

[Castle Morpeth Blue Point Swiss Pairs](#)

[10 - 12 Apr](#)

[Devon Congress](#)

[18 Apr](#)

[NEBA GP Swiss Teams](#)

[24 - 25 Apr](#)

[Shropshire Congress](#)

**30 Apr - 2
May**

[Cheltenham Congress](#)

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<https://www.ebu.co.uk/dynamic/sendy/w/ccLrgHoG7CCNxFRQC0S9Hg>



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