



EBU POLICY ON CLUBS SHARING FACILITIES APPLYING FOR AFFILIATION

Principle

A fundamental principle of Universal Membership is to ensure it encompasses a broad base of players, from the occasional club player to tournament players and international players. The EBU believes it is to the benefit of all members, clubs, and the game, for affiliated clubs to reflect and enable, through their own membership, this same principle. The EBU is therefore generally opposed to arrangements that segment players into separate clubs, sharing the same premises, equipment and facilities. Consequently the EBU may refuse membership applications or renewals from clubs which it believes are not subscribing to this principle.

Criteria

Therefore, whilst it will treat every application from clubs for membership on its merits, the EBU will consider certain criteria in exercising its judgement in whether to accept an application for membership. In particular, applications from clubs where it is intended that facilities will be shared with another bridge club would need to meet the vast majority if not all of the following:

- a distinct membership, usually with a membership subscription, of their own
- a separate governing document (eg Constitution, Articles of Association)
- a separate organisation (eg committee, manager)
- independent self sufficient financial arrangements (ie separate bank accounts, financial records, insurance, financial viability etc)
- Its own equipment and facilities, or transparent commercial arrangement for using another club's such facilities
- A separate website or distinct commercially charged section of a shared site
- An objective rationale for split membership arrangements (if any) which did not involve exclusion from EBU membership of a significant majority of players using any shared facilities

A mandatory criterion would be that an application for membership must be in the interests of the EBU as a whole and must meet any other conditions that the EBU lay down for affiliation.

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