**NCBA QUESTIONNAIRE 2015**

**FOR NOTTINGHAMSHIRE BRIDGE CLUB PLAYERS**

**N**ottinghamshire **C**ontract **B**ridge **A**ssociation has as one of its aims:

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***to promote the game of Bridge within the County****.*

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 One of the key tasks of NCBA therefore is to organize the various leagues and Cross-County team matches. This has been carried out efficiently for many years. However there are differing levels of Bridge within the county, from beginner to international, and all deserve proportionate input in order to enhance the general standard and experience of Nottinghamshire players. We also need to ensure a flow through of new players, as others leave the game.

This questionnaire seeks to ascertain how *individual bridge players* currently feel about Bridge in their county and whether there is anything they would like improving or changing. There is also a sister questionnaire going out to all *Club Secretaries* to get a collective sense of how much Bridge is played in Nottinghamshire and how if at all NCBA can support clubs. From these responses we propose to identify ways in which NCBA can brigade resources and promote Bridge more actively in Nottinghamshire.

**So please do take the time to support your chosen *sport* by answering this questionnaire.**

All responses will kept confidential and you will remain anonymous in a report to NCBA and EBU for fund raising and planning purposes. Results will be published on the NCBA website for all to see. Please email your response to your NCBA secretary Clare via email: CPBatten@yahoo.com by 20 August 2015.

 **About You**

1. How long have you been playing Bridge (years)?
2. Please complete this box to show how many times *per month* you play at your clubs.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Nottingham |  |
| Phoenix |  |
| Woodborough |  |
| Newark |  |
| Retford |  |
| Keyworth |  |
| East Bridgeford |  |
| Sunday Tigers |  |
| Mansfield |  |
| Others please list |  |

3. Are you EBU registered? (Y/N)

* 1. If so what is your current Grade (e.g. Master points or NGS)
	2. If not an EBU member, can you tell us why not?
1. What are the first 4 digits of your postcode?

**What you like**

1. We need to learn good practice in successful Bridge clubs so we can share it, suitably generalised, across Nottinghamshire clubs.
	1. What you like most about playing Bridge in the various places you play at?
	2. What would you seek to change if anything? E.g. slow play/late finish etc
2. When do you prefer to play Bridge, daytime or evening?
3. Would you be prepared to travel to a central location e.g. Nottingham to attend fun drives, training sessions or other events? If not can you tell us why for example you might have transport difficulties.
4. Do you currently attend charity fund raising or social drives? Would you like more of these or less?
5. Would you welcome a regular Newsletter from NCBA about Bridge in the County including tips or articles on bidding/play, guest articles, leagues results, notice of events including the more social local events etc.?
6. NCBA will be putting on a ‘Tutored Play’ series from September this year aimed at helping beginners/Improvers build confidence and play expertise to support their move to club night play and beyond. Would you be interested in attending? Spaces will be limited so if interested please contact NCBA – details on the website.
7. NCBA will also be hosting a Butler Imps pairs event on Wednesday 9th September aimed at giving *2015/6* *County and League Team* players and aspiring players, practice for the forthcoming season. Would you be interested in attending? (NB: Butler Imps is simply a method for scoring similar to team bridge which therefore differs from that used on a normal duplicate bridge club night). If so please contact NCBA- details on the website.
8. To keep costs down we would prefer to contact you or send information/Newsletters by email. Can you confirm the email address we may use: it would be kept under Data Protection principles and only used for NCBA business.
9. Bridge is one of those sports that is run by volunteers. We are only limited in what we can do by the lack of willing helpers. Would you be wiling to volunteer to support any particular event or activity, even if one-off. An example might be joining a team to visit a school to help teach mini-bridge or help run a social drive.
10. NCBA are considering putting on various activities for Nottinghamshire players. We hope you would support these activities. Please tick all that apply.

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| --- | --- | --- |
| Event | Would you like to attend? | Is this a good idea for NCBA to get involved in? |
| Celebrity Guest speakers on particular topics  |  |  |
| Coaching sessions on topics by Nottinghamshire “star” players. |  |  |
| Competitions held simultaneously in clubs over a number of weeks, aimed more at beginners or improver player~ ladder style cumulative scoring |  |  |
| Organising one off Bridge events in special locations like Belvoir Castle/Nottingham Castle or for example playing bridge in Black tie with canapés and fizz? |  |  |
| Teaching mini Bridge/Bridge at schools/colleges/universities. |  |  |
| Promoting the annual EBU “Junior Teach in” (a weekend for juniors to learn or improve their bridge over a weekend) with a Nottinghamshire contingent. |  |  |
| Organising a county wide “find a partner” system (not for one off club night partnering!!! |  |  |
| Joining a Bridge mentoring system |  |  |
| Running more beginners teaching sessions across the county. |  |  |
| “Bring your child/grandchild to learn bridge session |  |  |
| Occasional Cross-Club visits on different nights to support inter-club awareness, experience and sociability. |  |  |
| County promotion/advertising to raise awareness of Bridge generally-(needs a sub team to continually drip feed articles) |  |  |
| **Other your ideas please!** |  |  |

**Thank you again for taking the time to complete this questionnaire.**

**Your views are important**.

And NCBA do want to raise the profile and standard of this enjoyable and challenging, albeit declining game. Your response will help us create a strategy to energise Bridge in Nottinghamshire harnessing the excellent practice that is going on across some local clubs.

You can type your responses in and email back or print this out and hand write the answers, giving it to your club secretary for forwarding on.

If you have any queries about this questionnaire please contact the author at tonitsmith@tiscali.co.uk