

Competition Journal



Welsh Bridge Union

National Tournament Organiser	Jean Hand	jeanhand15cc@gmail.com
EWBA Tournament Organiser	TBA	
MWBA Tournament Organiser	Alan Screen	alanscreen@sky.com
NWBA Tournament Organiser	Rod Sheard	rsestates1@hotmail.com
WWBA Tournament Organiser	Chris Overton	mistletoe@btinternet.com

WBU Website Portal

<http://welshbridgeunion.org>

Current Master Point Listings, News, Calendar, Area & Club contacts & much more

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WBU Competition Rules: General

- 1 This is the only set of competition rules for WBU events and should be read in conjunction with rules laid down for events shown under individual headings, save that:
 - a) The WBU Management Committee reserves the right to make emergency amendments to these rules, which will be notified to the relevant competitors and published on the WBU Website.
 - b) Where no rule is stated in this Journal or made under a) above, the EBU Tournament Director's Guide ("White Book") shall apply.
- 2 Copies of the English Bridge Union Blue and White books may be found at <http://welshbridgeunion.org/publications/> (Link with permission from the EBU)

General Rules

- 3 All competitors must have paid the current year's WBU subscription before entering competitions or trials. They must also conform to the eligibility conditions laid down in the Constitution of the WBU (see extract below). This does not apply in respect of the Simultaneous Pairs and School Teams Championship.

Extract from Constitution:

19.1 For International events, the eligibility rules of the organisers shall apply.

19.2 In representative matches between Areas or parts of Wales, only persons of Welsh birth or Welsh parentage or who are domiciled in Wales shall be eligible to play.

- 4 Master Point awards are shown for each event. Where the awards are shown as Local points, the events are not classed as of "National Standing". In team events, each member of a team must play at least one-third of the boards, or ten boards, whichever is the greater, to qualify for Master Point awards. Awards for Area competitions are listed in the Master Point Handbook.
5.
 - a) No player may enter more than one team or pair in any one competition.
 - b) Area championships: Qualification criteria are subject to the jurisdiction of Areas. A player may attempt qualification for any one championship in one club only. Members of more than one Area may enter for Area championships in each Area, but Green points will be awarded only in the first Area final played. A player who is a member of a team that plays in an Area final is considered to have played in that final.
 - c) National championships: Players may attempt qualification in one Area only, and if there are club heats, in one club only. Four pairs shall be deemed the minimum number in a preliminary round of a pairs event. Members who are unable to play in their own club heats may apply to another club; clubs shall not refuse such an application provided:

- i) due courtesy has been exercised and at least 7 days' notice given by the player(s) in question;
 - ii) sufficient space is available at the venue (clubs should where possible ensure that the venue for qualifying heats, if not the club's normal venue, is at least large enough to accommodate the number of pairs or teams that could reasonably be expected); and
 - iii) a visiting player has not been barred from playing for disciplinary reasons.
 - d) Where an Area event doubles as a qualifying heat of a National competition, the rules for the National competition apply only to pairs entered for the National competition. A club's or Area's total entry shall be determined by the number of pairs who, having paid the entry fee for the competition in question, have competed in no fewer than 50% of qualifying sessions. Separate rules apply to the Webber Cup competition.
6. Entries for the Welsh Cup & Cambria Cup must be submitted to the NTO or organiser by 30th September. **Requests to play in the Invitation pairs should reach Patrick Jourdain by 31st July.** Early entries on the official forms (available online) are appreciated. Entries will be accepted only when the appropriate fee is forwarded simultaneously, and this will be strictly enforced. All cheques should be made payable to the Welsh Bridge Union, and an acknowledgement will be sent only if a stamped addressed envelope is enclosed. Closing dates are stated in order to allow time for necessary preparation. Entries may however, close before the stated date if the available space has been filled or late entries maybe accepted if they do not disrupt the arrangements made.
7. Entry fees & table money per player are as follows:

Invitation Pairs:		£35 per player plus £15 contribution to prize fund
Graded Masters:		£25 per player
Men's/Ladies' Weekend		£12 per player per event
Welsh/Cambria Cup		£5 per player
Simultaneous Pairs		£2.50 per player (+ usual club table money)
Open Pairs Mixed Pairs Webber Cup Teams of Eight	First qualifying round:	£2 per player (plus normal club table money)
	Final	£25 per player
	Qualifiers £2.00 per player	Final £15 per player

Please note that Area Associations may in addition make reasonable charges for Area finals.

Heat organisers of the Teams of Eight, Open, and Mixed Pairs must inform the NTO of entry numbers by the dates given in the competition details. All entry fees, except for the WBU simultaneous pairs, should be sent to the NTO. Entry fees for the WBU Simultaneous are to be sent to the CEO. Cheques should be made payable to the WBU.

8. Unless specified in the rules relating to a particular competition -
- i) Ties will be decided in accordance with rules laid down in section #143 of the EBU White Book currently in force;
 - ii) Allocation to the National Final will be made using the formula:

$$\frac{(\text{TOTAL AREA ENTRY} * \text{NUMBER OF PAIRS IN FINAL})}{\text{TOTAL ORIGINAL ENTRY}}$$

Areas will find reserves from within their own area qualifying event. Where an area is unable to fill its allocation, places will be offered to other areas. Priority will be given in

allocating spare places to the area(s) with the lowest percentage of qualifiers compared with their un-rounded allocation.

9. The Management Committee will take disciplinary action against any player, pair or team that withdraw(s) either before or during a WBU event without due notification to the NTO and/or adequate reason. Appeal against such action may be made to the Executive Council.
10. A substitute must not have already been eliminated from the event, and must not subsequently play in the event in another team or pair. In Men's, Ladies and Mixed Pairs, the substitute must be the same sex as the absent player.

Pairs and Individual Events:

- a) Area and National Finals: no substitutes are allowed except in an on-the-spot emergency when the director will use his discretion.
- b) Club qualifying heats and Club championships: for one and two-round heats, no substitute is allowed; for three-round heats a substitute is allowed for one round only and the other player must play throughout.

Teams:

An additional member may be enrolled at any time under the conditions of rule 12, provided there are fewer than six players already in the team. The exception being the Welsh Cup where no players may be added after the Quarter Finals.

11. Players will be considered to have expressed their primary allegiance to the Area through which they have paid their WBU subscription. If any player has paid a subscription through more than one Area, the area of their Club as recorded on the WBU online database shall be considered their area of primary allegiance.
12. In open teams events, teams may consist of 4, 5 or 6 players, this limit applying for the duration of the competition. An entry will not be accepted unless at least 4 players are nominated. Additional members must be nominated to the CEO or NTO before they play. In an emergency such additional members may be declared to an ATO and the entry fee paid.

In knock-out events, captains must designate a town in Wales as the home base at the time of entry; this will be regarded as the venue of the team's home matches

Knock-out Teams Events:

13. In team events, on receipt of the draw it is required that the home captain contact his opponent, preferably the same day and by telephone. If the away captain has not been contacted within one week of receiving the draw, he should attempt to contact the home captain (this in no way absolves the home captain from the requirement to telephone first). During this conversation, a selection of suitable dates should be proposed by each Captain, one of which will be confirmed as soon as possible. If a date cannot be agreed and the match has to be awarded, then it will generally be awarded to the away captain, provided that:
 - a) He has not asked for a halfway venue;
 - b) He has not broken a previously-arranged date;
 - c) He has offered three dates, one of which must be a Sunday, and no more than two of which fall within one 7-day period.

If any of a), b) and c) above applies, the match will be awarded to the home captain unless b) or c) applies to the home team, in which case the matter will be referred to the CEO who will, in consultation with the President if necessary, award the match on the facts or, as a last resort, by the toss of a coin.

14. Teams will be zoned in the early rounds, but the away team captain may demand a halfway venue if the distance between the two home bases is greater than 75 miles. The responsibility for organising the halfway venue is that of the away captain, but expenses shall be shared.
- 14a. Welsh Cup. Teams may consist of 4, 5 or 6 players, but no players may be added to a team after the Quarter Finals.
15. Team changes may be made whenever a group of boards is scored. Each team will, in turn to be decided by the toss of a coin, have the right to seat its players last, alternating after each group of boards.
16. Late matches disrupt the competition. The dates given by the organiser at the start of the competition constitute the final dates for each round. An extension (max. 7 days) will only be given if both captains request it before the date. Where an extension is granted, the winning captain's chance of a favourable adjudication on an inability to agree dates in the subsequent rounds will be seriously prejudiced.
17. Winning captains must telephone or email the organiser within 24 hours, with names of those who played in the match in both teams and the number of boards played by each player. In the Cambria & Welsh Cup matches telephone or email the organiser or NTO.
18. Should a team arrive more than thirty minutes late, its opponents have the right to curtail the match by four boards for every half-hour of lateness, which right they may legitimately exercise or renounce after 16 boards of play (one-third of the boards in the Cambria Cup).
Where opponents have failed to notify of lateness, the match may be claimed after one hour, or where the opponents have notified, after two hours, subject to appeal to the Tournament and Master Points Committee. A team, on receipt of notification that their opponents are going to be more than one hour late, may decline to play on that date.
19. In any dispute which does not concern laws, regulations, ethics, rulings or appeals, the ruling of the National Tournament Organiser or the WBU Management Committee, including the award of the match, shall be final.
20. In return for not having to travel, the home team is expected to provide refreshments for both teams. The scale on which this is provided should take into account the length of the match and the distance travelled by the away team.

Miscellaneous

21. Mobile telephones and other electronic devices must be kept switched off at all times in the playing area from the start of play in each session until after the last player has finished playing in that session. It is not acceptable for such devices to be kept switched on "vibrate" or other silent setting. A fine of 2 Victory Points or 12 IMPs or 40% of a top (according to the form of scoring for the event in question) may be imposed on any pair or team if a mobile telephone or other device belonging to or carried by any player in that pair or team sounds during the session or if a player attempts to make a telephone call during the session.
A player who believes he has good reason such as family illness or medical alert to require that his telephone be kept switched on during a session may request that the Director keep charge of the telephone for the duration of the session.

Laws & Ethics Committee regulations

22. The WBU has decided that a record should be kept of psychic bids made in National competitions, and players are requested to report such bids to the Tournament Director. All records of psychic bids and appeals forms should be sent to the CEO or NTO.
23. Convention cards must be provided by all players at all stages of National and Area events, or the partnership will be assumed to be playing "simple systems". Acceptable convention

cards are those in the format published by the English Bridge Union as EBU 20, 20A and 20B. WBF convention cards are not acceptable for Welsh Bridge Union events. Clubs are encouraged to follow the same principle, but this will be left to the discretion of the Clubs.

24. A contestant or his captain may appeal for a review of any ruling made at his table by the Director. The appeal to a WBU Appeals Committee or Referee is subject to a deposit of £20 for a pair and £30 for a team. This is returned at the discretion of the Appeals Committee, and its decision is based upon whether it considers the appeal to have been frivolous for the class of player involved. The test in the case of an experienced appellant would be if the Committee came to a unanimous decision with little or no discussion; the less experienced the player, the more understanding the Committee would be.

Appeals to the National Authority are settled by the WBU Laws and Ethics Committee, and must be submitted in writing to the WBU Chief Executive enclosing a deposit of £75. You should inform the Tournament Director of your intention to appeal, since the Committee may want information from him/her, as well as the comments of the Referee or Appeals Committee that heard the original appeal. The deposit will normally be returned only if the Laws and Ethics Committee considers the appeal to involve a question of principle, error of direction, or an error in the application of Law or Regulation. The Committee does not revise value judgments unless they are grossly inappropriate.

No appeal to the National Authority will be allowed if there was not a request for an Appeal against the Tournament Director's ruling under Law 92A.

The outcome of an appeal to the National Authority, or some other intervention by the Laws and Ethics Committee, will affect the result of a match in a knock-out competition only if the decision is made before the publication of the draw for the next round.

25. If a ruling of first instance is required in a match played privately, the procedures outlined below should be followed:

- a) Captains agree upon an outcome – this is final.
- b) Captains contact a WBU Tournament Director (TD):

Anne Jones 029 20651407
David Stevenson 01516 777412 mobile 07778 409955
Tony Haworth 01656 784425

- c) Captains agree upon a suitable arbiter – his ruling should be treated as though it was from a TD.

Note that sometimes rulings are required late at night. The following TDs have indicated they are prepared to accept phone calls until 1.30 am:

Anne Jones 029 20651407
David Stevenson 01516 777412 mobile 07778 409955

26. If an appeal is required against a ruling of first instance in a match played privately, the Captains should contact a WBU Referee:

Anne Jones 029 2065 1407
David Stevenson 0151 677 7412 mobile 07778 409955
Patrick Jourdain 029 2062 8839
Glyn Williams 01656 667621

27. In any dispute that concerns laws, regulations, ethics, rulings or appeals, the decision of the Laws and Ethics Committee shall be final.

Master Point Awards

<u>Welsh Cup.</u>	First Round Winners	1 Green (plus incremental quarters)
	Second Round Winners	2 Greens
	Semi Final Winners	4 Greens
	Final Winners	8 Greens

<u>Cambria Cup</u>	First Round Winners	1 Green
	Second Round Winners	2 Greens
	Semi Final Winners	3 Greens
	Final Winners	5 Greens

<u>National Pairs</u>	60+ Pairs original entry	12, 8, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1, Greens
	40-60 Pairs original entry	10, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1, Greens

<u>Mixed Pairs</u>	60+ Pairs original entry	6, 4, 3.5, 3, 2. 5, 1.5, 1, 1/2, Greens
	40-60 Pairs original entry	5, 3.5, 3, 2.5, 2, 1.5, 1, ½, Greens (plus Local Point awards)

Perry Shield:

2 Green Points for winning each complete match.
1 Green Point for each complete match drawn.
Final ranking awards of 2 Greens for winners and 1 Green Point for the runners-up.

Spickett Bowl:

1 1/2 Green Points for winning each complete match
3/4 Green Point for each match drawn.
Final ranking awards of 1 1/2 Greens for the winners and
3/4 Green for the runners-up.

President's Cup

30 Local Points for winning each complete match
15 Local Points for each match drawn
Final ranking award of 100 Local Points for the winners and 50 Local Points for the runners-up.

To be played over three sessions. In each section each team plays a complete set of ten boards against each of the other three teams.

Players may play only for their area of primary allegiance as specified in rules 3 and 11.

Directives and Conventions

The WBU has decided to adopt the English Bridge Union's Directives and Permitted Conventions as contained in the "Handbook of EBU Directives and Conventions" (The Blue Book), published by the Laws and Ethics Committee of the EBU. The WBU arranges for copies to be available for download all clubs. The WBU has also authorised the Newport Club system for Welsh events. Most WBU competitions and events are Level 4, with the exception of novice events that may be held from time to time as Level 2 events, and the Llangollen Congress is Level 5.

Competition Prize Money, effective from July 2014

Members are reminded that if competition entry fees are to be refunded, they will be refunded net of any irrecoverable expenses.

Welsh Cup £200 for winning team (whether 4, 5 or 6 players), £60 for runners up.

Cambria Cup £200 for winners (4, 5 or 6), £60 for runners up.

Webber Cup £200 for winners (4, 5 or 6), £60 for runners up.

National Pairs £100 for winners, £60 for second.

Mixed pairs £100 for winners, £60 for second.

Teams of Eight Final £240 for winners

Competition Rules: Events

Team Events

PERRY SHIELD (*Inter-Area Open Teams Championship*)

Eligibility: Players may play only for their area of primary allegiance as specified in rules 3 & 11

Format: To be played over three sessions. In each session, each team plays a complete set of ten boards against each of the other three teams.

Scoring: Each ten-board set to be scored in VPs according to the relevant WBF scale.

Master Points: 2 Greens for each match won. 1 Green for each match drawn. Final ranking awards of 2 Greens for winners, and 1 Green for runners-up. (Awards apply to the full three-session match against each other team.)

Start time: Saturday: 11am, Sunday: after the completion of the Annual General Meeting (which starts at 11.00 am).

Venue: Rotates around the Areas

Closing date: Determined by Area Committees.

SPICKETT BOWL (*Inter-Area Ladies' Teams Championships*)

Details as for the Perry Shield, but refer to page 6 for new Master Point awards.

WELSH CUP (*WBU Open Teams Championship*)

Eligibility: Open teams of four to six players.

Format: QUALIFYING GROUP THEN KNOCKOUT. Preliminary rounds 32 boards; semi-final 48 boards; final 64 boards. Matches will be played in groups of 8 boards. In the event of a tie, further sets of 4 boards will be played until the tie is broken. Each set of boards will count as a group under Rule 15. Players may not be added after the Quarter Finals. Some seeding may be used to reduce the possibility of one-sided matches in Round 1. The initial draw is zoned to avoid travel and we also try and arrange it that teams may play at least two matches before being eliminated. Venues to be arranged according to rule 13.

Scoring: Net IMPs

Master Points: See Page 5.

Closing date: Entries must be sent to the Organiser or via the NTO by 15th September together with the entry fee of £5.00 per member of the team. Area Tournament Organisers will not accept entries. The date and venue for the final will normally be the Monday of the Welsh Seniors' Congress in May but where this could be deemed to give one team a significant advantage, application may be made to the NTO to vary the date and/or location. The final may be held at any location in Wales convenient to both parties, bearing in mind that members of the WBU have the right to attend as spectators. The WBU will reimburse reasonable costs incurred in staging the final in a public venue if deemed necessary. (Entry form as appendice)

CAMBRIA CUP (*WBU Mixed Teams Championship*)

Eligibility: Each team of 4-6 players must contain at least one woman and one man, and all members playing in a match must play in partnership with at least three others.

At no time is it permitted for an all-male or all-female team to play.

Format: KNOCKOUT THROUGHOUT. Preliminary rounds 30 boards; semi-final 36 boards; final 48 boards. If both teams consist of 4 players only, the final will be played in groups of 8, the semi-final in groups of 12, and the earlier rounds in groups of 10. Where one or both teams consist of more than 4 players, matches must be divided into sessions of 15 boards (18 in the semi-final and 24 in the final). 4 players constitute a team for each session, and partnerships are rotated after each set of 5 boards (6 and 8 in the semi-final and final respectively). The overriding requirement that at no time may an all-male or all-female team play is unaffected. In the event of a tie, further sets of 4 boards will be played until the

tie is broken. Each set of boards will count as a group under Rule 15. Players may not be added after the semi-final. The initial rounds will be zoned on an area basis. Venues will be arranged according to Rule 13.

Scoring: Aggregate.

Master Points: See Page 5.

Closing date: Entries must be sent to the Organiser or NTO by 15th September. Area Tournament Organisers will not accept entries. Date and venue for final as for Welsh Cup unless any player has qualified for both finals, in which case the final must be played by 31st May at any location in Wales convenient to both parties, bearing in mind that members of the WBU have the right to attend as spectators. The WBU will reimburse reasonable costs incurred in staging the final in a public venue if deemed necessary. (Entry form as appendice to this document)

LADIES' WELSH CUP

Eligibility: All-female teams of 4-6 players.

Format: 1-day teams competition.

Scoring: Net IMPs converted to VPs

Starting time: 11am.

Master Points: 6 locals x number of boards in match for each match won plus final ranking awards to top 1/4 based on scale QE, each complete 25 locals converting to 1/4 green.

Venue: Mid Wales

Closing Date: 7th September

WEBBER CUP (and PHILIP ANGEL CONSOLATION CUP)

Eligibility: Open teams of 4-6 players.

Format: Wales National Teams competition is by direct entry to the National Tournament Organiser.

Scoring: Net IMPS converted to Victory Points.

The Philip Angel Cup will be awarded to the runners-up.

Start time: 1pm Saturday, 11am Sunday.

Venue: Llanidloes Community Centre Mid Wales

Entries To NTO by 7th April

NATIONAL CLUB TEAMS OF EIGHT CHAMPIONSHIP

- Eligibility:** This is a club event with area qualifying heats leading to a nine team one day final. If your club cannot field a team then it can combine with another club provided that the combined registered membership is less than fifty. Clubs may enter as many teams as they wish in the qualifier but may not have more than two teams going forward to the final.
- Format:** The team can consist of up to a maximum of 12 players all of whom must be paid up members of the WBU at the time of the qualifier. Any substitutions must be from the same club and can have played in a non-qualifying team. If the situation should arise in an area where only one team has entered, thus ruling out a qualifier, then the team captain should contact the NTO, or apply to another area for permission to play in their heat.
- Scoring:** Teams of four scores within each section will be converted to IMPs, and after both sessions are completed, the IMPs will be aggregated and converted to VPs.
- Master Points:** Heats: 10 local points x Number of boards in match per match won, plus final ranking of 200 and 100. Final: half green for each match won and a quarter for each match drawn, plus final ranking of 2 Greens and 1 Green.
- Starting time:** 11.30 a.m.
- Venue:** Llanidloes Community Centre, Mount Lane Llanidloes SY18 6EY
- Closing date:** Heat organisers must inform the NTO of their entries by 1st May, and forward the total entry fee (see Rule 7) with a list of all team members and results. The NTO will inform heat organisers of qualifying numbers as soon as possible thereafter.

Pairs Events

NATIONAL OPEN PAIRS CHAMPIONSHIP (*The Fletcher Cup*)

- Eligibility:** Open Pairs.
- Format:** Played as a Simultaneous Pairs event in each Area scored across the field. The National Final will consist of 28 pairs, playing two sessions on Saturday and a longer session on Sunday.
- Scoring** Match-pointed pairs.
- Starting times:** 1 pm Saturday, 11 am Sunday.
- Venue:** Mid Wales

LADIES PAIRS CHAMPIONSHIP (*The Jessie Newton Shield*)

- Eligibility:** Ladies' Pairs.
- Format:** One-day, two-session open-entry event.
- Scoring** Match-pointed pairs

Starting times: 1 pm Saturday
Venue: Mid Wales
Closing date: 7th May

MIXED PAIRS CHAMPIONSHIP (*The Sidney Hoffman Memorial Cup*)

Eligibility: Mixed Pairs.
Format: The National Final will consist of 10 TABLES, playing two sessions on one day. Areas will be responsible for arranging their own qualifying rounds and Area finals.
Scoring: Match-pointed pairs
Starting time: 11.15 am.
Venue: Mid Wales
Closing date: Area finals must be completed on the same day and the names of the qualifiers notified to the NTO by 17th January. The NTO will inform the Area Organisers of the number to qualify for the National Final.

GRADED MASTERS PAIRS (Currently suspended pending revision)

Open to all members of the WBU. To encourage people to enter this competition it is now Green-Pointed through all sections.

Eligibility: Players may enter in pairs of their own choice, irrespective of master point ranking, and will be placed into the relevant section according to their combined master point holding as shown in the master point section of this Journal or as recorded by the Home Union with which they register their Master Points.

1. The 14 pairs with the highest combined Green point holding (note i));
2. The 14 pairs with the next highest combined Green point holding (note ii));
3. The 14 pairs with the next highest combined Green point holding (note iii));

Further sections will be made up, ranked by total master point holding. The composition of the lower sections will be determined by the NTO.

Notes:

- i) No player below the rank of Life Master may play in Section 1.
- ii) No player below the rank of Premier Regional Master may play in Section 2.
- iii) No player below the rank of Regional Master may play in Section 3.

Notwithstanding the above, where fewer than 14 pairs are eligible the next ranked pairs shall be promoted to Sections 1, 2 and 3 by the NTO before the event or the Director on the day to make up seven tables.

Format: Three sessions (2 on Saturday, 1 on Sunday), all-play-all where movements permit.

Scoring: Match-pointed pairs.

The Thomas James Cup will be awarded to the pair neither in the top two sections nor having won their section that climbs the highest number of places during the final session. Ties will be split in favour of the section with the fewest pairs, failing which in favour of the lowest section.

Start time: 1 pm Saturday, 12 noon Sunday.

Venue: Mid Wales

Closing date: 2nd January

WBU INVITATION PAIRS

Eligibility: The Organising Committee appointed by Council is responsible for issuing invitations to foreign and Welsh pairs of international standing. Any pair of suitable standing wishing to receive consideration should notify Patrick Jourdain no later than the end of July. At least one pair will be the choice of the WBU selectors.

Full details of the event will be issued with invitations

Format: Three sessions (two on Saturday, one on Sunday), all-play-all.

Scoring: Butler (IMPs and VPs).

Master Points: Winners: 10, 2nd: 7, 3rd: 5, 4th: 4, 5th: 3, 6th: 2, 7th: 1. The winning pair will receive a prize of £300.

Start time: 12 noon Saturday. Sunday start time to be arranged, to finish no later than 6 pm.

Venue: St Mellons Golf Club. (Or other suitable venue).

Closing date: No later than 31st July.

PORTLAND PAIRS

Eligibility: Mixed pairs. This is the senior mixed pairs event in the calendar.

Format: Two-session event at venues throughout the UK, scored across the entire field with heat winners at each venue. The winners of each heat are guaranteed a prize which will be paid in EBU vouchers.

Scoring: Match-pointed pairs

Master Points: Green Points are awarded each session based on the scores overall within that session only. Additional Green Points are awarded based on the final ranking list to the top half of the field.

Starting time: 1.00 pm

Venue: North

Closing date: 1st March

ST DAVID'S DAY SIMULTANEOUS PAIRS

- Eligibility:** Open. Simultaneous Pairs competitions to be held during the week containing 1st March. No pair may play in more than one heat of the same competition.
- Format:** Simultaneous pairs scored across the field, separate sets of hands for each day from Monday to Friday.
- Scoring:** Match-pointed pairs.
- Master Points:** Winners 600 local points, with successive reductions. Green points will be awarded to the top 10% of the field. Prizes to the first five pairs plus the leading pair of WBU ranked players, neither having a rank higher than District Master
Start time: As for normal club nights unless otherwise specified.
- Venue:** Local clubs
- Contact:** Clubs must notify the Chief Executive of their intention to hold a heat by the date advised. Organised by Ecats; please contact Anna Gudge for a Sims Pack.

AUTUMN SIMULTANEOUS PAIRS

- Eligibility:** Open. Simultaneous Pairs competitions to be held at the beginning of September. No pair may play in more than one heat of the same competition. Supporting the 'Welsh Air Ambulance' and WBU tuition and education initiatives.
- Format:** Simultaneous pairs scored across the field; separate sets of hands for each day from Monday to Friday
- Scoring:** Match-pointed pairs.
- Master Points:** Winners 600 local points, with successive reductions. Green points will be awarded to the top 10% of the field
- Start time:** As for normal club nights unless otherwise specified.
- Venue:** Local clubs
- Contact:** Clubs must notify the Chief Executive of their intention to hold a heat by the date advised. Organised by Ecats; please contact Anna Gudge for a Sims Pack.

WBU PREMIER LEAGUE

The Premier League is the trial to aid selection of the Welsh Open team for the Camrose Trophy (the international matches between the home nations). It is a teams competition (maximum six players) held over two weekends. This year's dates are 17/18 October and 31st October/1st November. Venue: Commodore Hotel, Llandrindod Wells. The closing date for entries is 14th August. Entries should be made via email to bobalderdice@btinternet.com. Acceptance of entries for the Premier League is at the discretion of the selectors. All team members must be WBU members and eligible to represent Wales in that season's Camrose Trophy.

The Premier League is an all play all teams competition. Each team plays every other team over the course of a single weekend, with the pattern being then repeated over the second weekend in order to arrive at a final victory pointed result. As a further aid to selection, each pair's results are 'Ximped' in order to arrive at a pairs ranking in addition to a teams ranking. Seating rates for the first weekend are determined through a random draw, and then reversed for the second weekend.

There is no entry fee for the Premier League, but table money is payable at the rate of £40 per player per weekend.

Green Point awards

Green Points will be awarded per (14 board) match as follows:

0.5 for a win 0.25 for a draw

In order to be eligible for 'match awards' a player must have played in the match in question. The player will normally have played the entire match.

Bonus awards will be awarded to the top four teams: 8, 4, 2, & 1 respectively.

In order to be eligible for 'bonus ranking awards' a player must have played at least one-third of the boards that their team was scheduled to play over two weekends (i.e. the equivalent of 5 complete matches out of 14).

In the event that a player plays only part of a match, the Green Point award will be reduced pro rata.

In order for a player to be eligible to represent the WBU at international level they must have taken part in at least 50 % of the matches played (ie 7/14 in this case)

Green Points will not be awarded in respect of any unplayed match.

Team Changes

A team must consist of more than half of the members who played the previous year.
So:

Last year 4 members, this year same 4 members (100%) you can add 1 or 2 new players
Last year 4 members, this year 3 of those 4 members (75%) you can add 1, 2 or 3 new players
Last year 5 members, this year 4 members (80%) you can add 1 or 2 new players
Last year 5 members, this year 3 of those 5 members (60%) you can add 1, 2 or 3 new players

Welsh Cup

Closing Date 15 September

Entry fees £5 per player to be sent with this completed form to the National Tournament Organiser -
Jean Hand 15 Chester Close, Shotton, Deeside CH5 1AU

Make cheques payable to WBU. (Entries will not be accepted without payment)

Captain: 1) _____ WBU No. _____

Address: _____

_____ Post Code _____

Telephone No. _____ Email _____

Team Members 2) _____ WBU Number _____

3) _____ WBU No. _____ 4) _____ WBU No. _____

5) _____ WBU No. _____ 6) _____ WBU No. _____

Cambria Cup

Closing Date 15 September

Entry fees £5 per player to be sent with this completed form to the National Tournament Organiser -
Jean Hand 15 Chester Close, Shotton, Deeside CH5 1AU

Make cheques payable to WBU. (Entries will not be accepted without payment)

Captain: 1) _____ WBU No. _____

Address: _____

_____ Post Code _____

Telephone No. _____ Email _____

Team Members 2) _____ WBU Number _____

3) _____ WBU No. _____ 4) _____ WBU No. _____

5) _____ WBU No. _____ 6) _____ WBU No. _____