

## **LEICESTERSHIRE CUP & PLATE RULES 2016-17**

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1. All competitors must be paid-up Player Members of the EBU who meet the general LCBA conditions for participation in the Association's Members-only competitions for the year 2016-17.
2. a) The competition is for teams of four.  
b) A team may consist of up to six players, at least four of whom must be nominated before Round 1. Additional players, up to the overall limit of six, may be nominated to the CC at any time prior to first playing in the event.  
c) Each team shall (subject to d below) be represented by only two pairs in each round.  
d) Emergency substitutions, by the fifth and/or sixth member of the team, may be made to cover cases of late arrival, illness during play etc. of any of the normal four playing members. Such changes at other than the end of a stanza are subject to the consent of the opponent captain.  
e) The membership status of all competitors will be checked after the First Round.  
Any team having used an ineligible player will be disqualified and may not participate thereafter, in either Cup or Plate, unless this player makes all payments necessary to become eligible and these payments are received by the LCBA (and EBU if appropriate) by Wednesday 23 November 2016, or the CC is notified by that date of the replacement by an eligible player, subject to the overall limit of six.  
f) No player who has played for one team may later play for any other team in either the Cup or Plate.
3. a) Each player must provide a completed EBU 20/20A/20B style system card and hand this to the opponents for their use throughout each stanza. Pairs not having completed such cards should be furnished with EBU 20B style LCBA Simple System Standard English 2015 Cards and required to play in accordance with these until other personal EBU style cards are completed. WBF style cards may not be used.  
b) Pairs with properly completed (2 paged) EBU 20 style system cards, may employ EBU Level 2 Permitted Agreements, as detailed in Section 6 of the 2016 Blue Book.  
c) However pairs having properly completed full (4 paged) EBU 20A or 20B style system cards may also employ any Agreements permitted at Level 4, as detailed in Section 7 of the 2016 Blue Book.
4. a) Any team either wishing to appeal, or reserve the right to later appeal, against a decision of the Director or Scorer should inform the Director and the other team of this and ensure that all relevant details of the hand and decision etc. are recorded on a witnessed statement before leaving the venue.  
Whether the actual appeal is immediate or made later after reflection or consultation, it must be sent in writing by email or post to the CC within two days of the event.  
(It is strongly recommended that in home-play matches each captain bring a standard LCBA Appeal Form, downloadable from the LCBA Website, to the match.)  
b) If a psychic bid is reported to the Director, he shall, on request, record the details of the board on which it occurred, and report the matter to the CC for the attention of the Laws and Ethics SC of the LCBA. The Director may also record and similarly report any departure from the system that he considers should be brought to its attention.
5. All results shall be treated as provisional until confirmed by the CC after receipt of the records specified in the rules and the determination of any appeal.
6. a) The winners of the main Cup competition will hold the Leicestershire Cup for one year.  
b) Monetary prizes of £60 and £30 will be awarded to the first two teams in the Cup, and of £30 and £15 to the first two teams in the Plate. If neither of the Cup prizes is won by a non-expert team then a further prize of £20 will be awarded to the highest placed such team, subject to this team having qualified to proceed beyond Round 1. In the event of these teams being eliminated in the same round the team failing to qualify by the smallest margin is deemed to be the highest placed.  
*The definitions of non-expert players/pairs/teams are kept on files held by the Tournament Secretary, the Competition Controller and LCBA Qualified Directors.*
7. The LCBA will award local Master Points on the County scale in the Cup (District Scale in the Plate) subject to receipt by the CC of results, including the details specified in Rule 17 c).
8. Teams MUST notify the CC if they wish to withdraw from the competition(s) at any stage.

### **ENTRIES AND ROUND 1**

9. Round 1 of the Cup will be played at the Rothley Centre on Wednesday 9 November 2016. Entry is restricted to a maximum of 16 teams. The playing charge is £4.00 per head.
10. Matches in Round 1 shall normally be head-to-head matches of 24 boards, but if necessary a single Triangular match shall be played. The draw made immediately prior to the start of play covers the whole of the competitions.
11. Head-to-head matches shall be played in four stanzas of six boards. Each pair shall play alternate stanzas against each opposing pair. In the event of a tie a further 4 boards shall be played, two against each pair. This procedure shall be repeated until a result is obtained. The winner of each match qualifies for the home-play stage of the Cup; the loser qualifies for the home-play stage of the Plate.

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- 12 a) Triangular matches shall be played in two sessions, each of 12 boards with 6 played against each other team.
  - b) The two teams with the best net total aggregate score will qualify for the home-play stage of the Cup; the third team will qualify for the home-play stage of the Plate.
  - c) Prior to the start of play each captain shall independently inform the Director of which two of his four players will sit North-South in the first session. After that session has been scored the captains will provide the same information for the second session. There are no seating rights; the captains are required to make their dispositions without knowledge of those of the other teams
  - d) Ties between just two teams jointly first shall be split for the purpose of determining position in the subsequent round(s) by the drawing of lots.
  - e) If there is a three-way tie then a single session of two board matches shall be played, organised as in 12 c), and this shall be repeated until at least one team is no longer in a tie with the other(s).
  - f) If the tie is thus reduced to one between teams jointly first this shall be split as in 12 d).
13. Aggregate scoring shall be used in all matches, honours not counting.
- 14 a) Teams that entered this round but failed to qualify for the next round of the Cup will be automatically entered into the Leicestershire Plate.
  - b) In addition 'Non-Expert' teams, namely ones with no player ranked Tournament Master or higher, or for other reasons deemed 'Expert', that do not enter and play in the Leicestershire Cup may make a direct entry to the Plate. Such entries, naming at least four qualified players and accompanied by the team direct entry fee of £5, must be received by the CC by Tuesday 8 November 2016.

### **HOME-PLAY STAGE OF BOTH COMPETITIONS**

- 15 Both competitions are thereafter organised as home-play events in which (round 2 if needed), the quarter finals, semi-finals and final will take place by agreement between the teams concerned, subject to these date limitations: (16 December 2016), 20 January, 3 March and 14 April 2017 respectively.
- 16 a) The draw allocating R1 pairings covers the whole of both competitions with byes being allocated in the next round to reduce the fields to powers of two. The first drawn team shall be deemed the home team in Round 1 head-to-head matches, and thereafter the team qualifying for the first listed position in the draw shall be so deemed.
  - b) Additional, that is direct, entries to the Plate shall be placed, by a draw made by the CC and one other TSC member, in vacant slots in Round 2 of the Plate Competition, immediately after the direct entry closing date
- 17 a) Within seven days of the pairing being confirmed, the deemed Away Team captain should offer to the deemed Home Team captain, a minimum of three weekday evening dates, not clashing with any LCBA event, spread over a period of at least eight days, with a minimum of seven clear days notice of the first date. Not all dates offered should be for the same day of the week. Any failure to make a timely offer, or to accept a date within a further seven days, should be reported to the CC who will seek to expedite the playing of the match but who has the discretion to default one or both teams.
  - b) In all cases the deemed Home Team will be responsible for venue arrangements, including the payment of any table money, wherever the match be played.
  - c) The results of these privately played matches must be notified by both teams to the CC within 7 days, and never later than the closing date of the round. The return must include the names of the players in each team & if in accordance with the provisions of 2 d), more than four are used, how many boards each member played.
  - d) Unless a prior arrangement to the contrary is made, the deemed Away Team Captain or his nominee shall be designated as Director in these privately played matches.
- 18 a) Aggregate scoring shall be used in all matches, honours not counting.
  - b) Matches shall be played in four stanzas of six boards; except that the final of the Cup shall be played over 32 boards in four stanzas of eight boards. Each pair shall play alternate stanzas against each opposing pair.
  - c) In the event of a tie a further 4 boards shall be played, two against each pair. This procedure shall be repeated until a result is obtained.
19. Should a team arrive more than 15 minutes late, its opponents have the following rights:
  - a) After 45 (#) minutes of un-notified late arrival, or 90 (#) minutes of notified late arrival, the match is awarded to the non-offending side. 'Notification' may (obviously) be by message, but the presence of even a single member of the team is deemed to indicate an intention to play and constitutes 'notification' in the context of this rule.  
(#) In the 32 board Cup Final these times are increased to one and two hours retrospectively.
  - b) For each completed 15 minute delay within a scheduled play period, the match is to be reduced by two boards, awarding the non-offending side 100 aggregate points per board. Only the initial stanza is shortened, removing board 1 onwards, leaving full standard stanza thereafter.
  - c) If both teams are late the match shall be curtailed according to the time interval of the latest arrival after the other side became complete, with the award of 100 points per board removed (details as in b), or awarded to the first completed side subject to the time interval before the second side became complete reaching the lateness figures in a)