

STANLEY TROPHY RULES 2016-17

Competition Controller (CC)
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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 shall consist of seven heats of Butler Pairs.
b) Pairs comprising two players each defined by the LCBA for Tournament purposes as an expert player are entitled as of right to play.
The definitions of expert players/pairs/teams are kept on files held by the Tournament Secretary, the Competition Controller and LCBA Qualified Directors.
c) In addition applications to play from other players received by the CC will be considered in consultation with the Selection Committee. Acceptance will normally be made conditional on specific partnerships and/or made temporary and subject to review based on performance over a stated period.
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 round. 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 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 pair 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 pair 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.
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 heat results shall be treated as provisional until confirmed by the CC after receipt of the event records and the determination of any appeal.
6. In each heat the LCBA will award local Master Points on the County scale based on ranking by Blmps per board each played in the heat. *[N.B. This ranking is the same as the Blmpf one recorded on distributed print-outs.]*
7. a) A single overall ranking of pairs playing in at least 4 heats in the season will be generated.
The ranking will be by their average Butler Imps per board across 4 heats. That is their actual Butler Scores in these 4 heats will be summed and divided by the total number of boards they played in them.
In the case of pairs playing in more than 4 heats their average will be calculated from the 4 heats most advantageous to the pair, discarding their scores in the other heats
b) The pair with the highest such ranking will hold the Stanley Trophy for one year. Any tie will be split in accordance with standard EBU procedures.
c) Monetary prizes of £80, £60, £40 and £20 respectively will be awarded to the pairs with the 4 highest rankings.
d) The highest ranked 2 pairs, not including a currently regular county player, will each be invited to play in at least 2 Midland League matches in the 2016-17 season, subject only to their total Butler over the 4 heats being positive.
8. The scheduled dates of the seven heats are 28 September, 26 October and 23 November 2016 and 11 January, 8 February, 8 March and 12 April 2017 at Glenfield Bridge Club.
9. The playing charge for each heat is £4.00 per head.
10. The entry to each heat is restricted to 24 pairs. Each heat will normally be played over 26-27 boards, using a recommended movement. The absolute limits of the acceptable range, which will only be played in exceptional circumstances, are 22 and 28 boards. Unless exceptionally precluded by the number of tables and movements available all heats will be organised with pairs in a single field producing a single ranking list.
Details of recommended movements are kept on files held by the Tournament Secretary, the Competition Controller and LCBA Qualified Directors.