



Dear Member,

There has been discussion over the last few years about the desirability of a Leicester Teams-of-4 League. Following a formal request from the League Forum, we have been asked to survey the LCBA members as to

- a) whether they would be interested in playing in such a league, and
- b) in what format they would like to see this competition organised.

The second of these questions is obviously wide based, and such a league in whatever format it may take cannot and invariably will not be able to take into account everyone's wishes. Should such a league be formed, the setup, whilst considering all ideas, will be weighted to the wishes of the greatest number of members responding. It is important, therefore, that should you wish to see such a league formed that you make your thoughts and views known. This should be done through either the Club League Representative or Club Secretary who will then pass them on to us.

To help with your thoughts the general premises would be that:

- i) The leagues would consist of 4 players (although a pool of 5-6 would seem sensible to ensure fixture fulfilment).
- ii) Teams can be formed by any 4 individuals i.e. this is not a club-based competition, with the proviso that they are LCBA registered players.
- iii) A player playing for 1 team would not be able to play for another team.
- iv) Matches would be played within a set time frame i.e. BY a set date and not ON a set date and could be played at any agreed venue (clubs, homes,) and at any time of day (Team captains to arrange).
- v) It would be helpful to know your thoughts on such an additional competition being offered as we are aware that the bridge calendar is already crowded and this extra competition may result in a reduction of entries for other LCBA events or impinge on club nights.
- vi) Other issues such as scoring, number of boards etc. would be decided once a general structure has been agreed.
- vii) The LCBA would appoint a controller to look after the administration of the event

For such a league to work we would need a reasonable number of teams to enter. Please don't assume that others will put your case for you. Insufficient interest will result in the idea being shelved for the foreseeable future.

Please let us have your responses by 15<sup>th</sup> December so we can report back in the New Year.

Neil Beasley                      LCBA Tournaments Secretary

Brian Stockdale                LCBA League Secretary