

Guidance for Team Captains

A match schedule with one game approximately every 4 weeks has been generated to make the process of agreeing dates to play as smooth as possible. You are asked to try to organise match dates according to this schedule but are free to agree to play on other dates if it suits both teams to do so. Thursday has traditionally been the day for teams matches locally and it may suit many teams to keep to this to avoid any conflict with club pairs events but there is no requirement to do so. Matches are of 20 boards duration usually played as 2 sets of 10 with opponents swapping at the mid-way point. Matches can be played as a single set of 20 but only if both captains agree to this. They can be played on any convenient day and time and if there should be any difficulties arranging games then the league secretary should be informed as soon as possible.

The match schedule requires each team in a division to play the other teams once and there may be some inequality in the fixture list as to the ratio of home / away games but this is not critical as all are played online. As there is an odd number in a division 1 each team will have 2 rounds with no match. Either team can initiate contact but the primary responsibility for arranging the match lies with the home team captain. There are instructions for setting up matches on BBO on the main M&CBA website (<https://www.bridgewebs.com/merseysidecheshire/>) under the tab County Teams League in the left side column. Matches can also be played face to face by agreement but any expenses relating to this are the responsibility of the organising team.

At the conclusion of the match the home team captain should upload the result to the EBU website within 24 hrs and when doing so should also indicate which team members participated (**this info is crucial for the correct end of season award of masterpoints**). For information on how to do this, please refer to this link:-

<https://www.ebu.co.uk/member-wiki/lms:captains>

Captains can also add new team members but must also inform the league secretary if doing so.

We very much hope that matches will be amicable and enjoyable for all but we accept that occasionally rulings for procedural irregularities may be required. The county TD David Stevenson is available for advice and can be contacted by phone or email depending on the issue to be resolved. For more information, look on the M&CBA website under the rulings tab in the left column.

This is a summary of the essentials but full league competition rules will be found on the M&CBA website.

