

# NORTHAMPTONSHIRE CONTRACT BRIDGE ASSOCIATION

## BROKE CUP RULES

1. Entries for this Green Pointed Teams-of-Four Knock-Out competition must be submitted to the competition organiser by the date fixed by the Management Committee in each year. This date is usually the final Saturday in August, the same date as the Charity Salver event held at Kettering. The draw for the first round is normally made during the scoring time at the end of this event. The competition organiser will circulate the draw to all team captains as soon as possible after this closing date for entries.
2. The entry fee will be fixed by the Management Committee and will be published in the County Handbook and on any competition publicity leaflets. Cheques should be made out to Northants CBA and should be enclosed with the entry sheet.
3. All Captains are asked to indicate clearly on the entry sheet if they do not wish to participate in the consolation event, the Betts Bowl, should they lose their first round match. Additional teams are allowed to enter just the consolation event at a much reduced entry fee. The Betts Bowl match winners will only be awarded black Master Points.
4. Teams may consist of up to 6 players; all must be paid up EBU/NCBA members at the time the entries are made. Extra members can be added to a team of four at any stage during the competition providing that such players have not played in any other Broke Cup/Betts Bowl team in that season.
5. All matches are to be played over 32 boards, 16 against each of two opposing pairs. If both captains agree then duplimated boards may be used. Boards may be played in stanzas of 8 or 16. Stanzas must be of 8 boards where a team consists of more than 4 players. During a match substitutions can be made at the end of any of these stanzas provided no player plays more than 16 boards against any one opponent.
6. Level 4 Conventions are allowed.
7. For any preliminary round and the first round the first named team in the draw will be the home team. For later rounds the home team will be the better winners in the previous round.
8. It is the responsibility of the AWAY TEAM captain to offer three dates to the home team. These should not include dates which are all on the same day of the week or are major club events for the home team. County or National events should also be avoided unless it is known that no member of either team is involved in such an event.
9. The home team captain is responsible for providing the venue, the equipment and the refreshments. For evening matches coffee/tea and biscuits is usually sufficient. Please remember that 32 boards should be played and an early start is usually necessary for evening matches.
10. If the away team captain requests a half-way venue, the home team captain shall agree. In this case the away team will be totally responsible for making the arrangements and pay any costs of providing such a venue. The home team captain will retain the responsibility for providing any refreshments.
11. SMOKING. The standard arrangement in matches played privately is that all smoking is prohibited at the playing table throughout the match. However the match host should strive to provide an area away from the playing table in which smoking will be permitted during the scoring breaks. Team captains are required to discuss smoking arrangements when arranging the match venue. These standard arrangements may be varied by mutual consent.
12. The captain winning the toss has the right to sit for both stanzas of 16 (usually deferred to the visiting team) or to choose sitting rights in odd or even stanzas when the match is to be played in four stanzas of 8.

13. If the start of a match is delayed for more than 15 minutes because one or more members of a team are late then the following will apply. The delayed team will be fined 3 IMPs, 6 IMPs if the team is more than 30 minutes late – unless such lateness is due to an accident or other unforeseen circumstance which was not the fault of the offending team. In the event of any dispute the judgement of the competition secretary shall be final. The number of boards played shall also be reduced by 3 for every 15 minutes delay. Alternatively, if a team is more than 30 minutes late, the non-offending team may claim the match. This is subject to the approval of the competition secretary who may order the match to be re-arranged (on terms he/she may impose) if a satisfactory explanation is given by the offending team captain.
14. Scoring is by total IMPs. In the event of a tie 4 additional boards will be played, 2 boards against each pair. This pattern will continue until the tie is broken.
15. In the event of a dispute that cannot be resolved by the two captains, the home team captain should try to contact the competition secretary for a ruling during the match. If such a ruling cannot be obtained (or if one team wishes to appeal against the ruling), the two captains must jointly provide the competition secretary with a written statement of facts, including a copy of the hands. The teams should also play a substitute board. The details of the dispute together with the match result (excluding both the disputed board and the provisional substitute board) must be sent to the competition secretary as soon as possible, together with the result of the provisional substitute board. The competition secretary will then give a ruling within one week of receiving such details. If the ruling is being appealed he/she will convene an appeals committee consisting of 3 members of the Count Committee who are not involved in the match (and preferably who are not members of the same club as either team).
16. The winning captain must send the result of the match to the competition secretary within one week of it being played and such a result must include the full names of all persons playing (see 18 below).
17. In the final a Director will be appointed and barometer scoring will apply. Anyone may watch in the open room and spectators will be warmly welcomed. In earlier rounds the permission of both captains must be given to spectators.
18. For each match Green Points will be awarded according to EBU rules, to each player in each winning team. These awards increase throughout the rounds but will all be credited, directly to the EBU, by the County Master Point Secretary at the end of the competition.
19. The winners will hold the Broke Cup for one year and, subject to EBU registration regulations, will qualify to represent the NCBA in the Pachabo competition. This is held each year in West Bromwich early in June.
20. If the winners are unable to play in the Pachabo, or are ineligible because Northamptonshire is not their County of primary allegiance, then the EBU rules state that:-

Additional players from the runners-up team may be added to players from the champion team so as to make a new team of four, five, or six players.

Failing that, the County may be represented by its runners-up team.

These rules last update: June 2002