

# Worcestershire Bridge News

## July 2018

A range of topics this month from TD rulings through Youth Bridge and on to some changes to our competitions.

### Tournament Director Rulings

With the best will in the world, nobody can stop accidents happening at the bridge table and the best and easiest way to sort them out is to simply ask the Tournament Director. Most Directors are familiar with the remedies for the common accidents like revokes and leads out of turn. However, some situations are far rarer and it's not easy to keep up with how they should be sorted out. The EBU has produced a series of YouTube videos which help with these. While they are aimed at Tournament Directors they are also of interest to the "average player" (if there is such a person!) and they can be found here <http://www.ebu.co.uk/laws-and-ethics/td-videos>

### World Youth Bridge Championships

As we reported in our last newsletter, the England Junior Teams in all age categories (Under 16, Under 21, Under 26 Open and Under 26 Women) qualified to play in the World Youth Championships in August (<http://www.worldbridge.org/competitions/wbf-championships/youth-teams/>). We very much hope that some of our teams will be seen on VuGraph on Bridge Base Online ([www.bridgebase.com](http://www.bridgebase.com)) and would recommend kibitzing some of the matches to see how exuberant – and how good – some of our young players can be.

### Inter-Club Teams League

A very important addition here. The existing format has attracted a significant number of the more experienced players in the County. While that is excellent news and we discourage them from playing in regular partnerships, it can be challenging for those of us who are less experienced to play against them. Consequently, we are introducing a "Simple Systems" Division for those who want to enjoy the competition but aren't initially keen on playing against very experienced players. While it is not anticipated that teams who have previously participated in the event will move across to the new Division, no doubt some may choose to do so. We are hoping that some clubs who already participate will enter additional teams in the new Division and that some clubs that haven't participated in the past will enter as well. We already have a number of teams falling into both categories that have indicated that they would like to play in the event. Fuller details of the event are attached to this Newsletter.

### Grand Prix Teams

In response to the requests of some of the participants, we are introducing some changes to the Grand Prix Teams series that is played throughout the season on County Nights. The main changes are to the scoring. Victory Points will be awarded on a sliding scale according to total IMPs scored instead of the current basis of ranking on each night. In addition, there will be a change to the number of VPs deducted for using a Tollemache Pool substitute. Full details will shortly be available under Rules of Competition on the County website.

We are also, however, asking our teams to take a different approach to the use of substitutes and recommending that, especially for the first three sessions in the series, instead of using Pool players, they try to find substitutes from their clubs or from among their friends. There are two reasons for this. The first is that we want to try to improve the County's performance in the Tollemache Trophy and so we would like to arrange a series of practice matches for the Tollemache team members on Grand Prix Teams evenings. The second reason is that we are keen to introduce more people to County Bridge in general and to the Grand Prix Series in particular. By teams sourcing their own substitutes, we hope to be able to achieve both these objectives.

### Finally....

Please don't forget the competitions that we already run but haven't mentioned in this Newsletter: -

- The Irene Allen Swiss Pairs (October 21<sup>st</sup>) and the County Leagues – The Irene Allen Trophy and the No-Fear Divisions of the League are open to those who are not members of the County Association
- County Championship Knockout Teams – starting in September
- Invite a Guest Night on 8<sup>th</sup> October – open to all County Members to invite a guest who has not played, or only played infrequently, on County Night and who might be interested to "see what it's all about"!

### Opting -Out

If you don't want to receive these newsletters, please simply reply to my email, putting "Opt-Out" in the subject line.

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