

**2020 HOME INTERNATIONAL REGULATIONS
(October 2020)**

| Table of Contents | Page |
|--|-------------|
| 1. Scope | 3 |
| 2. Programme | 3 |
| 3. Conditions of Entry | 3 |
| 4. Eligibility | 3 |
| 4.1 Proof of eligibility | 4 |
| 4.2 Change of eligibility | 4 |
| 5. Organisation of matches | 4 |
| 5.1 General procedures | 4 |
| 5.2 Venue and facilities | 4 |
| 5.3 Officials | 4 |
| 6. Teams | 5 |
| 7. System Regulations | 5 |
| 7.1 Submission of systems | 5 |
| 7.2 System card review | 5 |
| 8. Match Rules | 7 |
| 8.1 Captain | 7 |
| 8.2 Appeals | 7 |
| 8.3 Computer dealing | 7 |
| 8.4 Hand records and cross-imp results | 7 |
| 9. Playing Regulations | 8 |
| 9.1 Commentary on the Laws and recent WBF clarifications | 8 |
| 9.1.1 Law 12 | 8 |
| 9.1.2 Law 21 | 8 |
| 9.2 When screens are in use | 8 |
| 9.3 Late arrival | 8 |
| 9.4 Slow play | 8 |
| 9.5 Alerting | 8 |
| 9.6 Scoring | 8 |
| 10. Conduct | 9 |
| 10.1 Disciplinary powers | 9 |
| 10.2 Disciplinary proceedings | 9 |
| 10.3 Penalties | 9 |
| 11. Reports | 10 |
| 12. Championship table and trophies | 10 |
| 12.1 Masterpoint awards | 10 |
| 13. Special Regulations – Lady Milne Trophy | 11 |
| 13.1 Format | 11 |
| 13.2 Seating rights | 11 |
| 13.3 Systems | 11 |
| 13.4 Schedule | 12 |
| 13.5 Fixtures | 12 |

| | |
|---|----|
| 14. Special Regulations – Teltscher Trophy | 12 |
| 14.1 Format | 12 |
| 14.2 Seating rights | 13 |
| 14.3 Eligibility | 13 |
| 14.4 Systems | 13 |
| 14.5 Schedule | 13 |
| 14.6 Fixtures | 14 |
| 15. Contact details and resources | 14 |
| 15.1 Bridge Great Britain | 14 |
| 15.2 HNBOS | 14 |
| 15.3 Websites | 14 |
| 15.4 Resources | 14 |
| Appendix A – Screen Regulations | 15 |
| Appendix B – BSC definitions | 17 |

1. Scope

These Rules and Regulations are established by the Expanded Committee of Bridge Great Britain (BGB) and shall apply to all matches in the Home International Series. All issues and difficulties raised prior to an event will be resolved by BGB.

During an event the Director in Charge will determine how any problems are to be resolved.

All events sponsored by BGB are played under the current version of the International Code of Laws of Duplicate Bridge, with such modifications as have been approved by the WBF Laws Commission as at the date of publication of these Regulations.

Bridge Great Britain is the Regulating Authority under the 2017 Laws.

2. Programme

BGB shall arrange the programme of matches which shall take place on set dates during a single competition year. A competition year runs from 1 September to 31 August of the following calendar year.

Any disputes will be resolved by the Expanded Committee of BGB.

In extreme circumstances, and on the joint application of all the countries concerned, BGB may permit a match to be rescheduled. This must be within four weeks of the due date. If the match cannot be rescheduled in good time BGB will award a match score as it sees fit.

BGB has authorised the late playing of the Lady Milne and Teltscher Trophies for the 2019/2020 series as a result of the Covid-19 situation. The events will be played online.

3. Conditions of entry

The Home International Series comprises the Camrose Trophy (Open Teams), the Lady Milne Trophy (Women's Teams), the Junior Camrose Trophy (Under 26), the Peggy Bayer Trophy (Under 21), and the Teltscher Trophy (62 and over).

Participating Home NBOs (HNBO) are the English Bridge Union, the Northern Ireland Bridge Union, the Contract Bridge Association of Ireland, the Scottish Bridge Union, and the Welsh Bridge Union.

To participate in the Home International Series each HNBO must pay an entry fee to BGB at the start of the competition year.

Each HNBO may enter one team in each event, but see sections [13.1](#) and [14.1](#). Each country entered must play against each other such country. Entry and subsequent refusal to play shall result in disqualification.

If a team withdraws from any of the Home International Series, it will not be replaced. Matches will be rescheduled appropriately.

Each team may have up to six playing members, plus a non-playing captain.

4. Eligibility

Each nominated player and any Non Playing Captain must be a member of the HNBO for which he is selected to play, and must satisfy one or more of the following criteria to qualify to represent that HNBO:

1. He was born in the country governed by that HNBO.
2. He has a natural parent who was born in that country (parents by legal adoption count as natural parents, but parents by marriage do not).
3. He has been a bona fide resident of the country governed by that HNBO for at least two years prior to nomination.

He has previously represented that HNBO as a resident and has since moved away, but retains membership of that HNBO and has not subsequently represented any other country.

Additional criteria apply to the Junior Camrose Trophy and Peggy Bayer Trophy (15.3) and the Teltscher Trophy (16.3)

4.1 Proof of eligibility

It is the responsibility of each HNBO to ensure that all selected players are eligible to represent it, and to provide evidence if required to do so by BGB (prior to a match) or the Director in Charge (during a match). Failure to prove eligibility may result in the team's disqualification. This also applies in terms of transgender, where relevant document will be requested if necessary.

4.2 Change of eligibility

- No player will be permitted to play for more than one country for events in the same season.
- If a player satisfies eligibility conditions for more than one country, he must state which HNBO he wishes to represent at the start of the competition year on or before 1 September. Once registered with one HNBO a player is eligible to represent only that HNBO until he notifies BGB of his desire to change allegiance, and meets the requirements of the new HNBO.
- A player may change allegiance from one HNBO to another by registering the change with both HNBOs and the BGB Secretary by the start of a new competition year. He may not represent his new HNBO **until two full competition years have elapsed since he represented another HNBO**. Participation in an HNBO Trial does not affect eligibility to play for another country.
- Playing in a Transnational event organised by the EBL or WBF, or representing another NBO in a friendly match does not affect eligibility. Representing Ireland in an EBL or WBF event does not affect eligibility to represent the CBAI or NIBU in the Home International Series. Representing Great Britain in such an event does not affect eligibility to represent England, Scotland, or Wales. The Commonwealth Games bridge event has no formal standing, and is not affected by either WBF or EBL eligibility regulations.

5. Organisation of matches

5.1 General procedures

The organising HNBO is responsible for providing copies of the Laws, these Rules and Regulations, copies of the "Statement of Procedure in BGB Appeal Committees", and other relevant documents. The BGB Secretary will provide a copy of these Rules and Regulations for the Director in Charge.

5.2 Venue and facilities

The host HNBO is responsible for arranging for sufficient staff to run the event to the standard required. A "Guide for Match Managers" is on the BGB website which incorporates all technical and organisational requirements, as well as information to be submitted to Captains.

5.3 Officials

Matches shall be organised by a Match Manager appointed by the host HNBO. He is responsible for the provision of equipment and facilities, hand, and scoring records.

A Director in Charge will be nominated by the host HNBO and endorsed by the other HNBOs. His name shall be submitted to BGB for approval at least one month in advance of the match. Assistant Directors shall be appointed by the host HNBO in consultation with the Director in Charge.

All expenses are the responsibility of the host HNBO.

It is the responsibility of the BGB delegate of the host HNBO to oversee the arrangements for the event.

6. Teams

Each HNBO shall inform both BGB and the host HNBO of the names of the Captain and members of each team at least 14 days in advance of the start of each match and also send details for inclusion on the BGB website to the BGB Webmaster at bgbwebmaster@btinternet.com. If an HNBO has submitted the names of fewer than six players, a fifth or sixth player may be added prior to the commencement of the second play period.

Subject to the approval of the Director in Charge, the members of a team may be changed up to the posting of the line-up for the first session of the event, but not thereafter. Immediately before the commencement of the first session the Captain of each team shall nominate to the Director the members of his team. Thereafter no substitute or reserve player shall be permitted to play.

7. System regulations

7.1 Submission of systems

The Lady Milne Trophy and Teltscher Trophy are designated as Category 2 events. Highly Unusual Methods are not permitted but **Brown Sticker** agreements may be played subject to full disclosure.

The two members of a partnership are restricted to a single system in any one weekend and both must play the same system and methods in bidding and play.

A team is restricted to a maximum of **four** system cards.

The current definitions of Highly Unusual Methods and Brown Sticker agreements are provided in [Appendix B](#). Defensive measures are permitted as defined in the WBF Systems Policy.

All players must make available their own System Card to the opponents.

No change in basic methods or material change to a system or agreement during an event is permitted without the approval of the Director in Charge. Permission will normally be given provided that the Director is assured that neither the original submission nor the change is made to gain an unreasonable advantage, and that the change is made to a method in common use.

From 2020 the system cards will be subject to a review. When the system card has been reviewed and accepted, it will be published on the BGB website prior to the event. It is the responsibility of Captains to ensure that their players' systems are submitted on time.

The deadline for submission of systems is two weeks prior to the start of the event, and a reminder will be sent by The Secretary seven days before the deadline. **An automatic fine of 1 VP will be imposed on any pair not submitting their system by the due date.**

The relevant dates for submission of systems for the rest of the 2020 Home International Series are:

| | |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| Lady Milne Trophy | 17th October 2020 |
| Teltscher Trophy | 17th October 2020 |

7.2 System Card Review

Bridge Great Britain (BGB) will review the system cards submitted by teams in the 2020 Home International Series.

The quality of system cards over the past few years has improved considerably and the purpose of the review is to maintain the high standard and provide consistency across all participants. It is a consultative process.

The principle of disclosure requires that competitors fully disclose all conventions and treatments requiring defensive preparation.

Pairs must use WBF System Cards, with up to two supplementary sheets, to achieve this objective. These should be sent to the BGB reviewer (bgbsystemcards@gmail.com) who will liaise with the submitters to address potential shortcomings. When Brown Sticker agreements may be used, separate forms for each Brown Sticker agreement, together with viable proposed defences, must be submitted with the System Card.

It is strongly recommended that before completing the System Card that participants study the WBF Guide to Completion, available on the [WBF website](#).

Considerable latitude will be given to inexperienced junior pairs.

Teams may appeal a decision of the Reviewer to the Match Manager of the event.

Full disclosure

Full disclosure does not require you to present your complete system. However, it does include a clear description of openings, responses, and early rounds of bidding with or without competition, conventions as well as other partnership agreements, style and understandings based on experience.

Full disclosure is a combination of what you reveal in your System Card and supplementary sheets and what you add at the table also without your opponents having to ask questions.

In cases where there is damage due to possible failure to disclose, the side that was not informed will be given the benefit of the doubt. If an opponent refrains from asking a question to which you should have provided the answer without prompting, and damage ensues, there is an a priori assumption that you have not provided full disclosure. Each case will be heard on its merits.

Formats

Acceptable formats for submission of system cards are:

- A PDF of the system card and any supplementary notes
- A Microsoft Word Document (doc or docx format)
- An Open Document Format (odt format e.g. OpenOffice, LibreOffice)
- A Google Docs format document

Please note that use of the WBF Convention Card Editor (ccf format) has been deprecated.

System cards for the opponents may be kept by players for consultation. This is in addition to any online system that might be provided by RealBridge.

Common Shortcomings

As it says in the WBF Guide to Competition:

1. Use suit symbols or S, H, D, C, but be consistent throughout the card.
2. Avoid names of conventions, explicitly define what your calls mean.
3. Use the recommended abbreviations in the Guide, do not make up your own.
4. Avoid terms like “weak”, “strong” or “pre-emptive” as they seem to mean very different things depending on region or upbringing. Use an approximate hcp count. Indicate length and suit quality requirements if any.

Other common failings include:

1. Inadequate description of leading methods and carding.
2. Inadequate description of subsequent auctions and passed hand bidding.

3. Not listing on the front page of card your unusual or unexpected first-round actions and competitive agreements after your side has opened ('Special bids that may require defence' section).

8. Match rules

All conversation at the table shall be in English. No kibitzing in real time is permitted. A delayed kibitzing system will operate.

8.1 Captain

Captains may watch using the delayed kibitzing system.

The Home Captain will be responsible for initial arrangements at the open table including checking the players are seated correctly. The Away Captain has the same responsibility at the Closed Table

A captain may call the Director to make a protest or request a ruling.

8.2 Appeals

All appeals must be made by the Team Captain, and a deposit of £50 is payable. The Director in Charge shall have the right to retain the deposit if in his/her opinion the appeal was without merit.

The time limit within which an appeal may be lodged will be specified by the Director in Charge, taking into account Laws 79C1 and 79C2.

In the event of an appeal, the Director in Charge would be expected to consult with experienced colleagues and/or representative players as appropriate. Unless such persons are clearly independent of any interest in either HNBO involved in the Appeal, the Director in Charge should seek the approval of the Team Captains party to the appeal. Any complaints regarding the procedures of the Appeal shall be referred to BGB, which shall act as the National Authority.

It is a requirement that the decision of the Director in Charge be fully documented, together with the Law(s) relevant to the decision.

The decisions of the Director in Charge shall be final.

8.3 Dealing

Dealing will be done by the online system used.

8.4 Hand records & cross-imp results

Hand copies should be available after each stanza.

It is a requirement that the scorer produce results of cross-imping.

9. Playing regulations

Rules and Regulations whose special provisions supplement the Laws will be interpreted, where not explicitly covered in this document, as provided in the EBU White Book.

9.1 Commentary on the Laws and recent WBF clarifications

Except where specifically covered in these regulations, BGB accepts the default position of the Regulating Authority in the Laws.

9.1.1 Law 21

Law 21B2: When a player elects not to change a call because of misinformation, Law 16C will still apply. The situation is analogous to the withdrawal of an original call followed by the subsequent replacement of the same call. Information arising from inferences that only become available because of the correction of misinformation is authorized to the non-offending side, but unauthorized to the offending side.

9.2 When screens are in use

The use of screens in the Lady Milne Trophy and Teltscher Trophy is mandatory. RealBridge will provide for the use of electronic screens. Regulations on the operation of screens are contained in Appendix A.

9.3 Late arrival

Any team not seated and ready to play at the start of a session will be fined 1VP and a further 1VP for every complete five-minute period thereafter.

All players are encouraged to log-on as early as possible to Real Bridge, and inform the TD of potential internet connection problems. In the absence of any such notice, the following will apply:

If any team has been late at the commencement of a session the fines for slow play in the same round will be based on the time at which all players were seated at the table and ready to play.

An emergency EBU mobile number will be available to NPCs to inform the Tournament Director of any problems relating to the start of a stanza.

All players are advised to have a reserve device available in case of technical failure or connection problem, but should the need arise a substitute will be permitted. The third pair of each team should be on call and, with the agreement of the Tournament Director, the pair will be permitted to act as substitutes.

If any team has been late at the commencement of a session the fines for slow play in the same round will be based on the time at which all players were seated at the table and ready to play.

9.4 Slow play

At approximately half way, and approximately ten minutes before the end of play, the Director should notify each table of the time remaining. Failure of the Director to meet this requirement will not absolve the players from penalty.

At the end of the allocated time the Director will impose, for any table still in play, a fine of 1 VP for any delay up to five minutes, and an additional fine of 1VP for each further delay of five minutes or part thereof. It is open to the director in charge to give penalties of fractions of VPs to each side. **There is no discretion in regard to imposition of fines for slow play**, which must be enforced unless the problem was caused e.g. by operation of RealBridge, or other “mechanical” difficulty.

Where the same pair incurs a subsequent fine, this shall automatically be increased by 50%, and the Director will normally exercise his authority to require the withdrawal of that partnership for the next session. To give effect to such decision the Director shall inform the Team Captains of it.

For substantial or repeated delays the Director should impose a more severe penalty.

Appeals against fines for slow play may be based only on a question as to the Director’s findings of fact.

9.5 Alerting

The WBF Alerting Policy has been adopted for the Home International Series as follows:

The following classes of calls should be alerted:

1. Conventional bids should be alerted, non-conventional bids should not.
2. Those bids which have special meanings or which are based on or lead to special understandings between the partners. (A player may not make a call or play based on special partnership understanding unless an opposing pair may reasonably be expected to understand its meaning, or unless his side discloses the use of such call or play in accordance with the regulations of the sponsoring organization). See Law 40(b).
3. Non-forcing jump changes of suit responses to opening bids or overcalls, and non-forcing new suit responses by an unpassed hand to opening bids of one of a suit.

The method used by RealBridge will be a system of self-alerting visible to both opponents but not partner, which automatically creates a library, and dispenses with the need to type the explanation of the same call again.

9.6 Scoring

Scores will be posted by the online system in use. Any problem with these should be reported to the Chief TD without delay. match, subject to a ruling/appeal as appropriate. In case of any doubt, the online system is deemed to be the official scoring system.

At the end of each stanza the Tournament Director produces table records for each Captain, and when agreed, this becomes the final score. A scoring correction can be made if it is notified by the Captain that a Bridgemate entry on the Tournament Director's printout is incorrect, within sixty minutes from the start of the next stanza.

Scoring adjustments will be made in accordance with these Regulations. If not so covered, the default position will be by reference to the EBU "White Book".

If at the end of protest period no protest has been lodged, the posted result shall become the official result of the match except in these circumstances (but see also Section 8.6):

1. There is a pending appeal.
2. There is to be an adjustment in respect of fines.
3. Where a replay of one or more boards has been directed and is still in progress.

WBF 'Continuous' VP Scales will be in use.

9.7 Undos

Undos in the auction, until they are non-recoverable, will be treated as the equivalent of a mechanical error using a bidding box, and this will be at the discretion of the Tournament Director. Undos in the play will not be permitted, but players will be reminded of the option of a two-click system when playing their cards.

10. Conduct

10.1 Disciplinary powers

The Director in Charge may at his discretion investigate any matter touching upon or arising out of the Laws, the Proprieties of the Game, or these Rules and Regulations. This shall be the case irrespective of the way in which such a matter has come to his attention. Consequent upon the findings of such investigation he is empowered:

1. to impose such penalty as he shall decide in respect of the score or the participation of any individual, pair, or team in that match.
2. to award an adjusted score on any board involved.

The powers of the Director in Charge shall extend to the suspension or disqualification of any pair or players, or disqualification of a team. This in no way affects the powers of the Director to maintain discipline.

10.2 Disciplinary proceedings

All complaints about a player's behaviour shall be reported to the Director in Charge and the HNBO of the player involved for further action if appropriate.

10.3 Penalties

Breaches of these regulations by a player or non-playing captain where a penalty is not otherwise provided shall carry an automatic fine of 1VP.

11. Reports

Immediately the match is completed and the final score agreed, the match result shall be posted on the website dedicated to the event, and communicated to the Secretary and to the BGB Webmaster at bgbwebmaster@btinternet.com for inclusion on the BGB website. The following reports should then be sent to the BGB Secretary:

1. A statement from the Match Manager, containing the following information:
 - Match details and report on the venue.
 - Names of all players in each team and their Captain.
 - Line-up forms.
 - Name of Director in Charge.
2. Results of each match and the overall result signed by all the Captains and the Director in Charge.
3. A confidential report from the Director in Charge, concerning observations and/or recommendations regarding the venue and facilities, together with copies of all Appeals Forms and rulings made during the event.

All reports should be printed in dark ink so as to facilitate photocopying.

Where possible photographs in digital format of each team should be sent to the BGB webmaster.

12. Championship table and trophies

Each HNBO shall be credited with the number of Victory Points gained in each of the matches.

In each series the winner of the trophy shall be the team with the greatest number of Victory Points gained over the series. In the event of two or more countries gaining an equal number of VPs a tie will be split firstly by the VPs in the direct match between the two or more representative teams, and thereafter in IMPs. If both are tied, then the trophy will be shared. Each trophy shall be in the custody of the winning team for 12 months. The HNBO of the winning team shall be responsible for insuring the trophy and be responsible for collecting, engraving, and delivering it to the following year's event.

To qualify as trophy winner, a player must play at least one-third of the total number of boards

12.1 Master point awards

For each player who plays at least one-third of the boards, master point awards for the Camrose Trophy, Lady Milne Trophy, Junior Camrose Trophy, Peggy Bayer Trophy, and Teltscher Trophy, awarded at the discretion of each HNBO, are as follows:

Lady Milne Trophy & Teltscher Trophy

For each 32-board match won: 2 nationals
(having played at least 16 boards)
For the winners: 2 nationals
For the runners-up: 1 national
One representative cap will be awarded

Where there is a tie in Victory Points for first place, the joint winners will each receive half of the combined masterpoint award for the winning and runners-up. In the case of a tie for 2nd place, the runners-up award will be split between the two teams.

13. Special regulations – Lady Milne Trophy

13.1 Format

Six teams will compete, the sixth team rotating between each country, with the country hosting the match providing the second team that year. All members of the second team representing the host HNBO must be members in good standing of the host HNBO. If, for any reason, that country is unable to field a second team, then the holders from the previous year will be invited to field a second team. Five head-to-head matches of 32 boards, in 16-board stanzas, will be played.

The two teams from the same country will play against each other in the first match, and will be designated teams C & E.

The draw for 2020 is as follows:

| | |
|---------|------------------|
| Team A: | Wales |
| Team B: | Northern Ireland |
| Team C: | England |
| Team D: | Ireland |
| Team E: | EBU |
| Team F: | Scotland |

13.2 Seating rights

Seating rights will be announced at the Captains' Meeting.

Line-ups must be submitted at least five minutes before a stanza is due to begin. Failure to complete and submit a line-up on time will incur a 1VP penalty.

Line ups will be done using google forms

13.3 Systems

Brown Sticker agreements may be used provided separate forms for each Brown Sticker agreement to be played, together with viable proposed defences, are submitted with the system card.

Each pair is permitted to register and play a maximum of three Brown Sticker agreements.

A pair may prepare written defences against the **Brown Sticker** agreements of any system. Such defences will have to be given to the opponents (two clearly legible copies) prior to the start of the match. Written defences against **Brown Sticker** agreements are deemed to be part of the opponents' System Card.

When using Real Bridge players are permitted to consult their own system card but unnecessary delay in doing so will not avoid the imposition of automatic fines.

13.5 Schedule

The time allowed for a 16-board stanza shall be 2 hours 10 minutes, with a 15-minute scoring break between stanzas and a 45-minute break between matches played on the same day.

The Captains meeting will be held via Zoom on Tuesday 27th October at 6p.m.

| | | | | |
|----------|-------------|--------------|-------|-------|
| Friday | | | | |
| | 17.00–19.10 | D v F | C v E | B v A |
| | 19.25–21.35 | D v F | C v E | B v A |
| Saturday | 10.00–12.10 | A v C | B v D | F v E |
| | 12.25–14.35 | A v C | B v D | F v E |
| | Lunch | | | |
| | 15.20–17.30 | E v A | F v B | C v D |
| | 17.45–19.55 | E v A | F v B | C v D |
| Sunday | 10.00–12.10 | B v C | A v F | E v D |
| | 12.25–14.35 | B v C | A v F | E v D |
| | Lunch | | | |
| | 15.20–17.30 | F v C | E v B | D v A |
| | 17.45–19.55 | F v C | E v B | D v A |
| | 20.10 | Presentation | | |

13.6 Fixtures

| Year | Date | Host country |
|------|--------------|------------------|
| 2020 | 30 Oct-1 Nov | Online(England) |
| 2020 | 30 Oct-1 Nov | Online(England) |
| 2021 | 16-18 April | Northern Ireland |
| 2022 | 22-24 April | Wales |
| 2023 | 21-23 April | Scotland |
| 2024 | 19-21 April | Ireland |
| 2025 | 11-13 April | England |
| 2026 | 17-19 April | Northern Ireland |

14. Special regulations – Teltscher Trophy

14.1 Format

Six teams will compete, the sixth team rotating between each country, with the country hosting the match providing the second team that year. Five head-to-head matches of 32 boards, in 16-board stanzas, will be played.

The two teams from the same country will play against each other in the first match, and will be designated teams C & E.

The draw for 2020 is as follows:

| | |
|---------|------------------|
| Team A: | England |
| Team B: | Scotland |
| Team C: | Ireland |
| Team D: | Northern Ireland |
| Team E: | CBAI |
| Team F: | Wales |

14.2 Seating rights

Seating rights will be announced at the Captains' Meeting.

Line-ups must be submitted at least five minutes before a stanza is due to begin. Failure to complete and submit a line-up on time will incur a 1VP penalty.

Line ups will be done using google forms

14.3 Eligibility

Players in the Teltscher Trophy must attain the age of 62 before or during the calendar year 2020, that is born in or before 1958.

The provision of a 6th team by the host HNBO is at the HNBO's discretion,-provided that all members of the team are members in good standing of the host HNBO, and meet the minimum age requirement. The team may select its own title, which must be approved by Bridge Great Britain. The eligibility of players in the sixth team to play for another country will not be affected.

The Teltscher Trophy will be presented to the leading team representing one of the five HNBOs, all of whose members must be current members in good standing of that HNBO. If the team is a mix of nationalities, it will not be eligible to win the trophy.

14.4 Systems

See 13.3

14.5 Schedule

The time allowed for a 16-board stanza shall be 2 hours 10 minutes, with a 15-minute scoring break between stanzas and a 45-minute break between matches played on the same day.

The Captains meeting will be held via Zoom on Tuesday 27th October at 6p.m.

| | | | | |
|----------|-------------|--------------|-------|-------|
| Friday | | | | |
| | 17.00–19.10 | D v F | C v E | B v A |
| | 19.25–21.35 | D v F | C v E | B v A |
| Saturday | 10.00–12.10 | A v C | B v D | F v E |
| | 12.25–14.35 | A v C | B v D | F v E |
| | Lunch | | | |
| | 15.20–17.30 | E v A | F v B | C v D |
| | 17.45–19.55 | E v A | F v B | C v D |
| | 20.30 | Dinner | | |
| Sunday | 10.00–12.10 | B v C | A v F | E v D |
| | 12.25–14.35 | B v C | A v F | E v D |
| | Lunch | | | |
| | 15.20–17.30 | F v C | E v B | D v A |
| | 17.45–19.55 | F v C | E v B | D v A |
| | 20.10 | Presentation | | |

14.6 Fixtures

| Year | Date | Host country |
|------|-----------|------------------|
| 2021 | 21-23 May | England |
| 2022 | 20-22 May | Northern Ireland |
| 2023 | 19-21 May | Wales |
| 2024 | 17-19 May | Scotland |
| 2025 | 16-18 May | Ireland |
| 2026 | 21-23 May | England |

15. Contact details and resources

15.1 Bridge Great Britain

Secretary: Mrs Sandra Claridge

Tel: +44 (0)1844 208629

Email: sclaridge31@gmail.com

Webmaster: Jeremy Dhondy

Email: bgbwebmaster@btinternet.com

15.2 HNBOs

| Country | Contact | Email | Telephone |
|------------------|-----------------|-------------------------|--------------------|
| England | Jake Cope | jake@ebu.co.uk | +44 (01296) 317200 |
| Ireland | Paul Porteous | paul@cbai.ie | +353 (0)1 4929666 |
| Northern Ireland | Helen Hall | hallhelen@hotmail.co.uk | 07730 682686 |
| Scotland | Carolyn Dempsie | secretary@sbu.org.uk | |
| Wales | Sarah Amos | sarahamostd@gmail.com | 07930 503746 |

15.3 Websites

Bridge Great Britain: <http://www.bridgegreatbritain.org>
English Bridge Union: <http://www.ebu.co.uk>
Contract Bridge Association of Ireland: <http://www.cbai.ie>
Northern Ireland Bridge Union: <http://www.nibu.co.uk>
Scottish Bridge Union: <http://www.sbu.org.uk>
Welsh Bridge Union: <http://www.welshbridgeunion.org>
Fearghal O'Boyle: <http://www.fob.ie>

15.4 Resources

WBF VP scales: worldbridge.org/victory-point-scales.aspx
EBU White Book: ebu.co.uk/laws-and-ethics/white-book
WBF Systems Policy, Alerting Policy and Brown Sticker forms
<http://www.worldbridge.org/rules-regulations/competitions/systems/>

Appendix A: World Bridge Federation Screen Regulations (These regulations do not apply in their entirety as the alerting system used by RealBridge will apply)

1. Description of the Operation

The North and East players sit on the same side of the screen. The sequence is this: North places the board on the bidding tray and the aperture is closed completely (thereafter it remains closed for the duration of the auction period). The players remove their cards from the board and the tray is passed under the closed aperture to the side of the screen with the Dealer.

Calls are made using the bidding box. Each player places a selected call on the bidding tray, which will be visible only on the player's side of the screen. A player's first call should touch the extreme left of the nearest segment of the bidding tray. All calls must be visible and neatly overlap in a straight line from left to right, at an equal distance from each previous call. Players should make every effort to perform these actions as quietly as possible.

With screens in use a call is considered 'made' when placed on the tray and released. A player who removes one or more calls made from the tray in an apparent attempt to "Pass" is indeed deemed to have "Passed".

After two players on the same side of the screen have made their calls, North or South (as the case may be) slides the entire bidding tray under the centre of the screen so that it is visible only to the players on the other side who then make their calls in like manner and the bidding tray is slid back again.

This procedure is continued until the auction is completed. It is considered desirable that players should vary the tempo randomly when returning the tray under the screen.

It is the responsibility of North/South to make sure that the whole auction is visible on each side of the screen.

After all four players have had the opportunity to review the auction (equivalent to the right to have the auction restated) the players replace their bidding cards neatly in their respective bidding boxes.

At this point presumed Dummy or Declarer removes the tray from the table leaving the board in the centre of the table where it should remain throughout the play.

The opening lead must be made before the aperture is opened and only Declarer or Dummy may open the aperture or call for it to be opened. At the end of play the tray is put back on the table.

After the opening lead is faced, the aperture is opened to permit all players to see dummy's cards and cards played to each trick. If a defender exposes a card and because of the screen, declarer does not see it, dummy may draw attention to the irregularity.

When leading or following suit, players must take care to always play cards in the same way, and quitted tricks must be placed vertically or horizontally in accordance with Law 65 to determine win/loss of that trick, and at an equal distance from the previous card.

Violation of correct placing procedures is subject to penalty. Penalties are detailed in the Supplemental Conditions of Contest.

3. Scoring

Players and Captains are reminded that they are responsible for the accuracy of their own scores. The score as calculated by RealBridge will be regarded as the official score.

Repeated violation of any correct entering procedures may be subject to penalties.

4. Alerts and Explanations

a) A player who makes an alertable call as defined in the EBL Alert Procedures must alert his screen-mate, and partner must alert on the other side of the screen when the bidding tray arrives there. The alert must be made by placing the Alert Card over the last call of the screen-mate, in his segment of the bidding tray; the alerted player must acknowledge by returning the Alert Card to his opponent. A player may, by written question, ask for an explanation of an opponent's call; the screen-mate then provides a written answer.

b) At any time during the Auction a player may request of his screen mate, in writing, a full explanation of an opponent's call. The reply is also in writing.

c) At all times from the commencement of the Auction to the completion of play each player receives information only from his screenmate about the meanings of calls and explanations given. Questions during the play period should be in writing with the aperture closed. The screen is raised after the response has been made. Therefore, the tournament director cannot make enquiries on a player's behalf on the other side of the screen during the auction or play.

5. Modification of Rectifications when RealBridge virtual screens are in use.

a) An irregularity passed through the screen is subject to the normal laws,

b) When an alertable call is made see 3.2 above. Failure to alert or explain accurately is subject to the usual misinformation laws.

c) When a player takes more than a normal time to make his call, (or calls uncharacteristically quickly), his partner may be subject to the limitations imposed by the Unauthorised Information laws. The operation of virtual screens on RealBridge means that the time taken by each player on the other side of the screen will usually be apparent.

d) Alerts and written explanations are made visible to both opponents but not to the player's partner. At all times from the commencement of the Auction to the completion of play each player may request further information only from his screenmate about the meanings of calls and explanations given.

Appendix B BSC definitions

Brown Sticker agreements and treatments

The following agreements or treatments are categorised as Brown Sticker:

1. Any opening bid of two clubs through three spades that:
 - could be weak (may by agreement be made with values below average strength) **and**
 - does not promise at least four cards in a known suit.

EXCEPTION: The bid always shows at least four cards in a known suit if it is weak. If the bid does not show a known four card suit it must show a hand a king or more over average strength. (Explanation: Where all the weak meanings show at least four cards in one known suit, and the strong meanings show a hand with a king or more above average strength, it is not a Brown Sticker agreement.)

EXCEPTION: A two level opening bid in a minor showing a weak two in either major, whether with or without the option of strong hand types containing 16 high card points or more, or with equivalent values. Defensive measures are permitted for opponents as if a Brown Sticker agreement.

2. An overcall of a natural opening bid of one of a suit that does not promise at least four cards in a known suit.

EXCEPTION: A natural overcall in no trumps.

EXCEPTION: Any cue bid suit that shows a strong hand.

EXCEPTION: A jump cue bid in opponent's known suit that asks partner to bid 3NT with a stopper in that suit.

3. Any 'weak' two-suited bids at the two or three level that may by agreement be made with three cards or fewer in one of the suits.
4. Psychic bids protected by system or required by system.
5. None of the foregoing restrictions pertain to conventional defences against strong, artificial opening bids or defences against Brown Sticker or HUM agreements.
6. For the avoidance of doubt an opening bid of one club which may be made on a doubleton or singleton club and which is ostensibly natural and non-forcing should be regarded as natural and not artificial.