
New Normal News March 2022

1 message

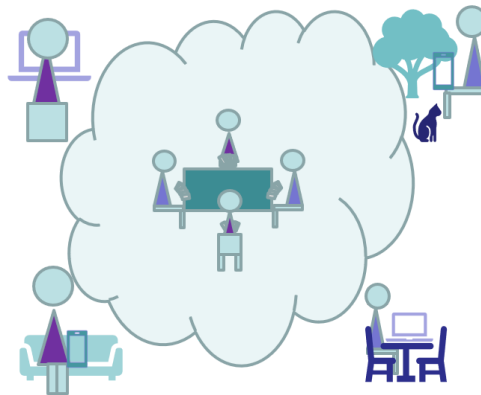
Nicky <bridgeforpleasure@gmail.com>
Reply-To: bridgeforpleasure@gmail.com
To: Nicky <nickyrbainbridge@gmail.com>

13 March 2022 at 22:34

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New Normal News

MARCH 2022



www.bridgeforpleasure.co.uk

In this edition...

March 2022
Sharing the income
Safe Bridge Code
How are clubs doing?
Zoom Conferences (With Link for Next Meeting)

Thanks to everyone who contributes to the conferences and gives feedback about the newsletter, or lets me know they watch the conference recordings. As long as I know this is useful, I will keep going!

The audience for this newsletter is fast growing. If you would like to receive it, you can subscribe at:

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March 2022

Two years now since the first lockdown.

The bridge world has both shrunk and changed radically.

There's a danger that online platforms, clubs, counties and the EBU will fight over the remaining players and the remaining income.

We need to bring new players to the game, to bring players who are not online back to the room, and to bring players who can't make it to the room online.

Despite some efforts, there's still no national campaign likely to attract attention outside the existing game, to get new players to lessons.

Cases of the virus are well down on their peak, but in my town, figures suggest they are still twenty times what they were when we went into lock down last summer. Vaccination has made it very unlikely that players will become seriously ill or worse. However, the long term effects of the virus aren't looking desirable. We need to promote efforts by responsible clubs to provide virus hostile bridge.

So many clubs have taken on the challenge of returning to face to face play. However, their numbers are generally well down. Covering venue costs is now a major challenge, and a few clubs have given up. We need financial measures to support the return of face to face in clubs. After all, bridge cannot be a serious mind sport without a thriving grass roots presence.

Safe Bridge Code

Summary

Discourage Spread of Germs

- Space
- Ventilation
- Clean Hands
- Well Players

Encourage Players

- Players Welcome
- Lots of information

Balance Fair Play and Enjoyment

- Lessons and Coaching

Purpose

Bridge Clubs can consider the code and how/whether they wish to apply it.



The code provides suggested guideline (below), but each club would choose how they follow it. Each club would be encouraged to publish their approach to it. Should they wish it, their club can be listed as committed to the Safe Bridge Code on, for example, the “Bridge For Pleasure” web site.

The use of the code may make players aware that measures can be taken to reduce the transmission of the virus, that some clubs are committed to it, and help them to identify those clubs.

Application

The code would be entirely voluntary. Clubs would be able to choose how to follow it, possibly using some of the suggested guidelines below.

Suggested Guidelines

Discourage Spread of Germs Space

- American recommendation of a minimum 9 feet (2.75m) from table centre to table centre.

Ventilation

- Perceptible air movement from one external opening to another through the room; or
- Extractor fan(s) moving the volume of air in the room every two hours; or
- Air Purifiers to the specification for the room size and shape; and/or
- Wearing of masks is received positively/ is encouraged/requested if players at the table ask.

Clean Hands

- Sanitiser provided to at least every table; and/or
- Players encouraged to use it on arrival, between rounds, on departure; and/or
- Equipment duplicated and/or quarantined.

Well Players

- Players are asked/required to be fully vaccinated; and/or
- Players asked/required not to attend if feeling unwell; and/or
- Players asked/required not to attend if testing positive for Covid; and/or
- Players asked/required not to attend if recent contacts are testing positive for Covid

Encourage Players Players Welcome

- Make eye contact and smile at new players
- And everybody else
- On the web site, notice boards, social media, newsletters

Lots of information

- At the beginning of sessions
- On the club web site
- In club newsletters
- On social media

Balance Fair Play and Enjoyment

- Discourage/forbid discussion of laws/regulations at the table without director present
- Discourage vexatious calls to the director on trivial points
- Ensure anyone complained of understands the complaint, how it applied to what happened, and any rectification
- Tackle table bullies

Lessons and Coaching

- Provide lessons or coaching; or
- Refer enquiries for lessons or coaching to a named teacher with contact details; or
- Refer enquiries for lessons or coaching to a known directory of teachers.

Sharing the Income

Here are two proposals to share income more fairly and promote grass roots bridge.

Halve Club Face to Face P2P/UM

The Pay to Play levy on clubs for face to face sessions should be halved. This will help make the returning face to face sessions financially viable.

Charge for EBUScore Support

The EBU should make an annual charge for support of EBU Score in clubs. It was recently made clear that EBU staff spend some time supporting this product.

It's presently supplied free of charge to affiliated clubs.

Despite this, many clubs still choose to use ScoreBridge, and pay an annual service fee. These clubs, often smaller and more socially

mind, are subsidising the use of EBU Score by others. The EBU could charge around half the typical annual support fee of ScoreBridge for EBUScore restore fairness and gain a little income.

How are clubs doing?

Clubs and Face to Face

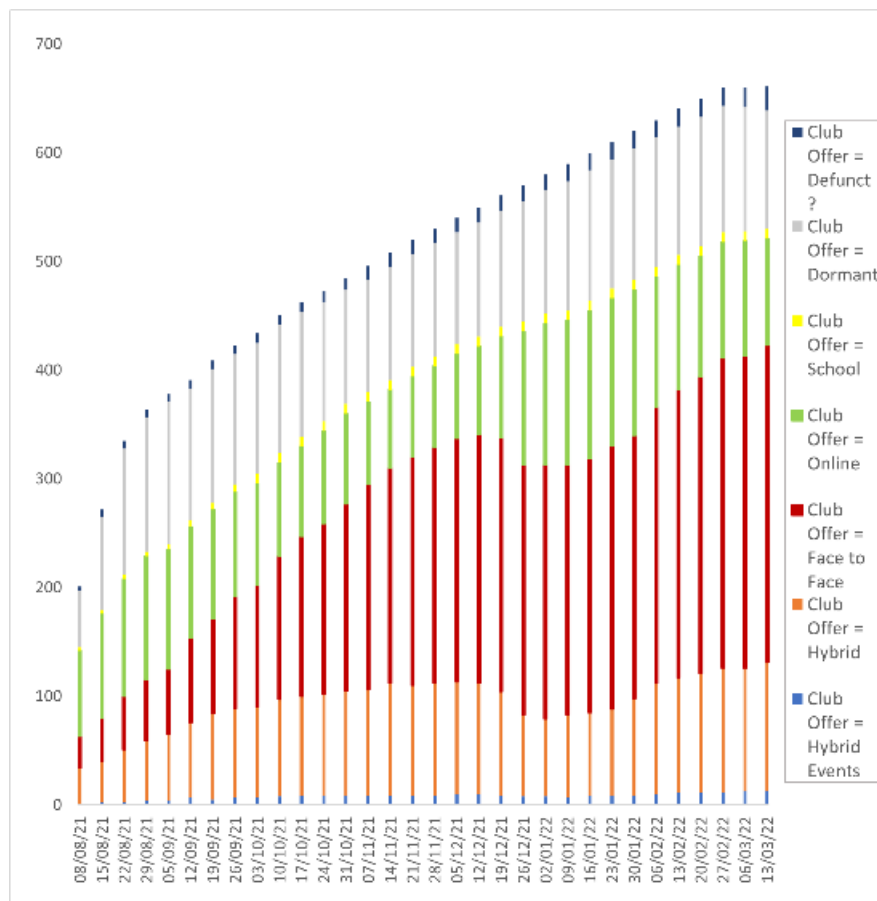
| | |
|--------------------------------|-----|
| Face to Face Sessions On Offer | 809 |
| Clubs Offering Face to Face | 424 |

Club Statistics Update March 2022

The Omicron dip has passed and face to face resumed it's former growth.

Some clubs are continuing to close due to lower numbers of players and organisers.

This chart represents the trends in a weekly snapshot of the offer from the clubs in the current sample, now 660, being monitored weekly.



Hybrid Events means the club is offering Face to Face AND Online and some in the form of Hybrid Events.

Hybrid Club means the club is offering some Face to Face and some

Online Sessions.

Face to Face means the club is only offering Face to Face Sessions.

Online means the club is only offering Online Sessions.

School means the offer is principally lessons and practice.

Dormant means the club web site is there, but the club is not offering sessions dedicated to its members.

Defunct? means the club web site appears to have been closed down.

There's much more information at the page below, typically updated once a week.

BFP Club Statistics Page

New Normal Zoom Conferences

The meetings are informal gatherings. They are intended to bring together a wide range of perspectives. They should allow constructive debate.

The proceedings are not secret and will be recorded and published widely.

Previous Zoom conferences:

| | | |
|------|--|---|
| 2020 | 16th September 18th November | 21st October 16th December |
| 2021 | 20th January 17th March 19th May | 17th February 21st April 16th June |
| | 21st July 18th August 22nd September | https://youtu.be/PbTyAz9vuHA https://youtu.be/pPEzFxs8VBA https://youtu.be/QJlu3PIn02s |
| | 20th October 17th November | https://youtu.be/VRP7eaeqaH8 https://youtu.be/DAv-7POhNHU |
| 2022 | 19th January 16th February | https://youtu.be/3w9hl3UWG70 https://youtu.be/Z5jOfwcpueU |

A link for the next Zoom conference is below:

Nicky Bainbridge is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Bridge in the New Normal March 2022

Time: Mar 16, 2022 02:00 PM London

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83115104830?pwd=dkRVTUdhTTFuQzJ3eGxLUFNTZkVCDz09>

Meeting ID: 831 1510 4830

Passcode: 478359

SAVE THE DATE NEXT MEETING Wednesday 16th March 2pm

Zoom link for the next New Normal Bridge Zoom Conference

New Normal Newsletter

This is issued once a month generally on the weekend before the third Wednesday. It is written and distributed on an entirely non profit basis, takes no advertising or commission.

Previous New Normal newsletters and a subscription form are available on the Bridge for Pleasure web site.

There is also information on playing Covid-secure bridge.

A freely available bridge teaching scheme with lesson plans, notes, deals, homework quizzes and answers is there for all.

Bridge for Pleasure - Information Web Site

Please forward the letter to anyone in the bridge world who might be interested. Anyone can subscribe using the link below,

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