

Colchester Castle Bridge Club

Instruction/ guidance for Playing Online .. Thursday mornings at 10am

Dear All

After a couple of trial runs it is proposed to commence friendly bridge tournaments online commencing Thursday 15th October 2020

The objective is to provide our members within a friendly safe environment to play online until such times as we can reconvene our normal twice weekly sessions at the Friends Meeting House, once Covid19 restrictions can be lifted.

As previously explained in order to partake you will need to complete the following:

a. Enrol onto BBO and create a profile and username

In **addition** to the previous request as well as including your real name (so that you know who you are playing)on your profile ,can you also include (or add) in the *Other* section a brief resume of what system you are playing which will appear on your profile and will be visible to all . This is a free type section and is down to you to determine but for example mine says: *Basic ACOL 12-14 NT , Weak 2 times three. Transfers, Stayman, Negative Doubles.*

Click [here](#) for guidance (only watch as far email display)

b. Purchase some \$BB's

Click [here](#) for guidance link

c. Advise Bob Ferris of your username, true name and contact no

at twooverone1944@gmail.com

If you are not registered with Bob, you will not be able to enter the tournament

Entering a Tournament

Our tournaments only become visible within two hours of their start. The tournament is scheduled to start at 10 am but we ask you to be logged in by 09.50. (we reserve the right to start slightly early) and once we have started it is not possible to join .

You can find and enter as follows:

- Login to BBO
- Ensure that you have a credit in your \$BBs account
- From Home Page click 'Competitive'

- From Competitive click 'All Tournaments'
- You'll see a search field top right. Type 'Colcastle' and enter
- You should now see only the tournament you are seeking
- Click on the white bit and you'll be taken to a screen where you can register
- Type your partners Username (they need to be online)...you will need your partners username to issue the invite to play
- Once they accept you are entered in the tournament
- WARNING ..you need to be online and NOT in Casual when the tournament starts

As a reminder, you need to have identified a partner and know their user name to join a tournament. If you need a partner Ann Bradshaw has kindly offered to provide her usual partnering service, so if required please drop her an email with as much notice as possible:
annbnotley@hotmail.com

Tournament Mechanics

a. Timing

The tournament is initially set up to comprise of approximately 18 boards of 8 minutes duration per board, with two boards per round., although this number will vary depending on number of players and movement selected. The timer is set at 16 mins per round. Please play reasonable quickly because at the end of the 16mins any table still playing will run out of time and you will receive an average score. Also bear in mind that as soon as all tables finish a round, automatically the system will move to the next round.

Note: the time remaining for the round is displayed in the top left corner of the screen. Average scores can be adjusted by the Director and persistent slow play can be penalised (but we want to avoid this). After a few weeks we may adjust the timer duration after reviewing feedback.

b. Introducing Yourself

At the bottom of the screen is a Chat Box. Select 'Table' and then one of the partnership should introduce themselves and also give a brief description of what system you play. An example could be: *Morning! Mark and Bob here . System : Basic ACOL 12-14 NT weak 2 times three, Stayman, Transfers , Negative Doubles*

Note: having typed it for the first round you can copy and paste it into the chat box for subsequent rounds

c. Alerting your Bids

Unlike Face to Face play, where your partner Alerts any unnatural bids, in online play you need to self-alert your bids.

See attached guidance [here](#)

Please endeavour to follow this approach rather than adding free text to the Table in the Chat Box asking for explanation which is unfairly also visible to your partner. .It takes a bit of practise but does become automatic and speeds up play.

If a bid is not clear, an alternative option is for the opposition to click on the bid made, which asks the bidder to explain further, but again this delays play

d. Adjusting your Settings

A quick tip...in order to avoid making false bids in error I find it useful to adjust my settings to get the system to ask me to confirm my bids ...which allows you to double check.

The only one of these settings which I check each game is 'Confirm Bids '

Guidance on how to do this is shown [here](#) .

The only setting I would suggest changing from the default setting is 'Confirm Bids '

e. Calling the Director

As is normally the case with Colchester Castle Club there is rarely a need to call a Director. However if there is a need to call a Director please do so promptly as soon as the need arises. To call a Director see the link [here](#) .

Please bear in mind that there is only 1 Director looking after all tables so please use wisely and sparingly.

f. Results

At the end of the tournament, after a short delay a results table will be automatically be produced showing the ranking of players.

Scores can be adjusted by the Director for a maximum of 15 mins, after which time no changes are permitted. However, please call the Director during play as per above if possible to avoid delay at the end.

We are endeavouring to transfer scores over to the Club Bridgeweb site, in a similar way to that takes place currently, but Directors are still working on perfecting this methodology.

Please do have a practise, and look at the hyperlinks above if you are unsure.

There are a number of players who are familiar with BBO and if you have any questions or queries they will be happy to receive your questions.

These are Bob Ferris@ twooverone1944@gmail.com

Mark Leggett@ marksnacky@outlook.com

Bill Anslow @ anslowbill@gmail.com

There are also a multitude of Youtube seminars available that you can search on, in addition to those provided by hyperlinks above

Please do not be phased by the above instructions.....it will become second nature with practise and Colchester Castle Club prides itself on its friendliness and an environment where mistakes are tolerated

Good Luck and Have Fun

Regards

Mark