

EWBA Teams League 2026-27

- 1) The EWBA Teams League is a competition for teams of 4 players who will compete against every other team in their division over the months of October 2026 to June 2027. The purpose of the League is to bring bridge players from clubs throughout East Wales together for friendly, sociable competition.
- 2) Anyone who is either a direct member of the EWBA or a member of a bridge club affiliated to EWBA may form a team of a minimum of four players and, as captain, enter it in the EWBA Teams League. It is not necessary for all members of a team to be members of the same bridge club. If a team wants to introduce a member who is not an EWBA member, the organiser must be happy that they have a genuine connection with the East Wales bridge community, such as representing East Wales in the Tollymache or the Pachabo.
- 3) Entries must be received by the League organiser by 1st September 2026. Captains are required to give the team a name and register at least four players.
- 4) Captains may add additional players to their team during the course of the season, subject only to the limitation that no person may play for more than one team in any one season. There is no limit to the number of players on a team. There is no extra fee payable for added team members.
- 5) The entry fee is £32 per team, which also covers for the RealBridge sessions. Players under the age of 30 play for free. Please contact the organiser to arrange an adjusted fee. The fee must be paid by transfer to the bank account of EWBA, details of which the League Organiser will send to the team captains.
- 6) The winners of divisions 2 and 3 and the winner of the KO cup will receive £60 per team prize money. The winners of division 1 will represent the EWBA in the Pachabo cup, organised by the EBU. If the winning team cannot provide 2 pairs for that event, or if they choose to play in a team of 5/6 and don't have enough players, they can invite players from the second team to join them. The choice of players will be made by the winning team. If the winning team is waving the right to play in the Pachabo, the second team will get the chance to go. The EWBA will pay the entry fee for the Pachabo. Any extra cost that might occur for travel and accommodation is the responsibility of the players. If no team will play in the Pachabo, the prize for winning division 1 will revert to £60.
- 7) The League will be divided into as many divisions as is most convenient to ensure that every team plays 4 to 7 matches per season. As far as possible the divisions will be of equal size.
- 8) Each match shall be between 4 players representing each team. Matches shall consist of 24 boards, played in two stanzas of 12 boards each. The pairs playing E-W for the home team shall move, for the second stanza, to play against the opposing pair whom they did not meet in the first stanza. Scoring is by IMPs. The net IMP difference is converted to Victory Points according to a 20-point scale which is printed below.

Net IMPs	0-1	2-5	6-10	11-15	16-21	22-27	28-34	35-43	44-53	54-65	66+
VP	10-10	11-9	12-8	13-7	14-6	15-5	16-4	17-3	18-2	19-1	20-0

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- 9) The team winning each division shall be the team scoring most Victory Points in the season. If two teams have the same number of Victory Points, the tie will be resolved in favour of the team that won the match between those two teams. If that match was tied, the tie will be resolved in favour of the team that won the most matches that season.
- 10) The team finishing first in each division (other than division 1) is guaranteed promotion to the next higher division. A team finishing second may be promoted if this helps to ensure equal numbers of teams per division. The team finishing last in each division (other than division 3) will normally be relegated to the division below. More teams might be demoted or no team at all, in order to keep the divisions evenly balanced.
- 11) Following the entry date, the League Organiser will notify all captains of the names of the teams in each division, including contact details of the captains of the other teams in their division. The organiser will also provide a fixture list showing when matches must be played.
- 12) It is the responsibility of both captains to contact each other to arrange a mutually convenient date on which to play. Captains are advised not delay arranging matches. It is not necessary to wait for one match to have been played before arranging the next. When a captain is aware that their team will find it difficult to arrange a match during a particular month, they should try to organise the match earlier rather than later.
- 13) As this is a sociable league, the primary choice is to play matches F2F or on RealBridge. The match can be played on BBO if there is a valid reason and both teams agree. Once a date has been agreed and the match will be played on RealBridge, both captains must contact the organiser with the name of their playing captains and the play date. Note that, in case an organising captain isn't playing, they have to appoint one of their players as playing captain and send that name to the organiser. The organiser will set up the RealBridge match and send the captains the link. There is no extra cost to this.
- 14) If it has been agreed to play the match F2F or on BBO, both captains are responsible for the organisation of the match. F2F matches can be played in a bridge club, a private home, or anywhere else where appropriate conditions and equipment for the match can be provided. If in a private house, separate rooms for the two tables are desirable.
- 15) Matches in the EWBA League are played subject to the Laws of Contract Bridge and under Welsh Bridge Union Regulations. If a match is played in a location where there is no non-playing Tournament Director (for virtually all matches played in private houses and for on-line play) players are asked to resolve questions that arise, so far as possible, by agreement between captains at the end of the stanza. If an issue cannot be resolved in this way, the captain of the home team should email the Welsh national tournament director Sarah Amos (sarahamostd@gmail.com), copying in the captain of

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the opposing team and the tournament organiser. Sarah has 48 hours to make a decision and respond. Alternatively, the captains may agree to refer the matter to the League Organiser who will act as final arbiter.

- 16) At the conclusion of the match, the two captains shall agree the IMP scores and the Victory Points won by each team. Both captains are responsible for informing the League Organiser of the result of a match, **including the names of the players, the IMP scores and the VP score for each team**. It is important to send the names of the players so that master points can be correctly awarded. The information has to be emailed to mpdeschepper@yahoo.com, with a copy to the captain of the opposition.
- 17) The League Organiser will maintain records of the results of all matches and will arrange for a current league table for each division to be published on the EWBA website www.bridgewebs.com/eastwales. Captains are asked to view this site for information about the progress of the League and for any notices about the competition.
- 18) All teams playing in the East Wales League will also be entered into a Knock-out Cup competition. In the Cup, teams in lower divisions will receive a starting bonus of 25 IMPs per division difference if playing a team from a higher division. In case there are 4 divisions, the bonus will be 20 IMPs per division difference. The League Organiser will provide the draw for the KO Cup as soon as all entries are in.
- 19) League matches should be played by the date provided in the fixture list. If, for significant reasons, this is not possible, the captains should contact the organiser to request an extension. They must provide an acceptable explanation for the delay. There will be no extensions for matches in the Knock-out Cup. If a match is not played in time, the organiser will decide the outcome based on information gained from the teams involved.
- 20) All matters not covered by these regulations may be determined at the discretion of the League Organiser whose decision shall be final. The League Organiser for 2026-27 is Mia Deschepper who can be contacted at mpdeschepper@yahoo.com or by phone on 07899.731255.

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