

EWBA Teams League 2025-26

- 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 2025 to June 2026. 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.
- 3) Entries must be received by the League organiser by 1st September 2025. Captains are required to give the team a name and register at least four players. The entry fee is £28 per team. This fee must be paid by transfer to the bank account of EWBA, details of which the League Organiser will send to the team captains. The winners of each division and the winner of the KO cup will receive £60 per team prize money.
- 4) Captains may add additional players to their team at the start and 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 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.
- 6) 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.
- 7) 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. In the event that that match was tied, the tie will be resolved in favour of the team that won the most matches that season.
- 8) 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. The second-last team may be demoted. Exceptionally, there may be no demotion in order to ensure equal numbers of teams per division.
- 9) The League Organiser will, following the entry date, 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.

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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- 10) 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.
- 11) As this is a friendly league, it is preferable to play matches F2F, whenever possible and both teams agree. However, when one team chooses to play online, that will have priority. In this case, the Realbridge platform is recommended as it is more sociable and in the spirit of the league. This needs to be agreed between the captains. The captain of the team requesting to play the match online is responsible for setting up the match and for the cost. In case both teams choose to play the match online, the captain of the home team is responsible for setting up and for the cost.
- 12) If two teams agree to play face-to-face, it is the home team's responsibility to provide a venue for the match together with two bridge tables, bidding boxes, boards and an individual scorecard for each player. A venue may be a bridge club, a private home, or anywhere else where appropriate conditions for the match can be provided. If in a private house, separate rooms for the two tables are desirable. In any venue, including in a bridge club, ensure that the distance between the tables is sufficient so that events at one table will not be overheard or overseen at the other.
- 13) 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 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.
- 14) 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.
- 15) 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.

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- 16) 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. The League Organiser will provide the draw for the KO Cup as soon as all entries are in.
- 17) 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 have to 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.
- 18) 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 2025-26 is Mia Deschepper who can be contacted at mpdeschepper@yahoo.com or by phone on 07899.731255.

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