

Joining Instructions and Notes on Playing in the Online Event

We have players registered with us from a wide geographic area as well as from neighbouring clubs. A warm welcome to you all.

Playing Bridge at IKBC with Bridge Base Online

The committee have issued a document outlining our policies regarding online etiquette. It is available by clicking [here](#)

On the evening of the event:

- Login to BBO - **Check that your BBO Account has sufficient funds for the BBO\$ 3 entry fee.**
- Click on “Competitive” then “All Tournaments”
- In the Search box search for “Ipswich”
- The search should land you on our event -

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| vEBU207862 | “Pairs Ipswich & Kesgrave Online” |
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- Click on the TITLE of the event – “Ipswich & Kesgrave Online” - , enter your partner’s BBO username and click “Invite” (*Note that if your partner has already registered and invited you, you will get an “Accept Invitation” request instead. Accept it!!*)
- Once you or your partner has accepted the invitation you will be presented with a screen which shows a Green-coloured rectangular box. Some people find this confusing, but it simply announces that the game will start in x minutes and, although it doesn’t say so, you are registered to play in the game. All you need to do is wait until 7:00 when you will find yourself at a table.

If that bores you, click on the word “Entries” just above the green box and you will see a list of all the players who have entered (including your own names) and this list updates in real time. Again, at 7:00 you will find yourselves at a table.

- Register for the event as soon as you can – say between 6:30 and 6:50 pm. (*Once logged in keep checking that BBO knows you are still there (mouse wiggle). It can decide you’re not active and disconnect you if you’re not vigilant and you will need to login again.*)
- Wait until 7:00 and provided you and your partner are still both online, you will both be seated at a table and play can commence
- If you have trouble registering to play in the game, please send a private message to the director ‘vEBU207862’ using the chat box.
- We use a robots as a substitute where players lose their internet connection and can’t be reinstated quickly, and we also use robots to fill a half table. A full system card for Robots is available in BBO in their “Help” section, but you can see the key points of their system by clicking on their seating position icon (N,E,S,W).

As a summary, they play, 2/1 Game Force with 5 card majors, strong NT, strong (17+) jump shift, weak 2 bids and a strong artificial 2♣.

Unseated players will be returned to the table at the end of the hand during which they lost their connection.

Notes

1. If either you or your partner is offline when the tournament starts, then you may be dropped off the entry list and the tournament will start without your pair. To avoid this issue, make sure your computer knows you are still in control so that it doesn’t go to sleep and throw you off (*move the mouse, look at your account, do anything that makes sure your computer is aware that you are still active*).

If that occurs, send a private message to the director vEBU207862 who will try to sort out your problem.

Useful hints from our directors:

- The club uses pre-dealt hands which are also used in the face to face game when it occurs simultaneously on Thursday evenings. Scores are not merged but you can see what others have done on a particular hand by looking at the results on the website.
- UNDOs are allowed during the bidding, but not during the play.
- Quickly introduce yourselves at the beginning of each round as many usernames differ from real names. Please also give an outline of your system – e.g. Weak NT, 3-weak 2s. If you are unsure about how to quickly copy and paste your introductions into the chat box, have a look at this short presentation – ([click here](#))
- Remember to alert your own bids (don't worry - opponents will see your explanation but your partner won't).
Do this by typing a brief explanation on the “Alert” line before clicking the number and denomination of your bid
- When alerting please explain, rather than label, a bid. For example typing 'Ogust' doesn't explain the meaning of the bid to those who don't know the convention.
- Please also follow correct protocol when asking or answering questions about the bidding. You can ask the bidder what a bid means, but you can't ask the partner.
- Watch the time (top left of your screen) we play 16-minute rounds and BBO will simply throw you off and award an adjusted score if you don't finish in time so either play more quickly or claim.
- Note that if you don't finish a hand, BBO will take it upon itself to award you a score and it tells both you and the directors that “the director” has made the change. Please note this is NOT done by your directors at this time but they are informed and check every BBO scoring adjustment to see if it is fair (it usually is by the way, but rest assured, the assignment doesn't go unchecked). The real directors will inform you and your partner if a scoring adjustment has been made by them.
- Call the director sooner rather than later if things seem to be going wrong. (*Click on the hamburger – 3 lines – icon top left of the playing screen*)
- During the play of a hand:- (see “[BBO Table Communications](#)” for details of how to follow these procedures)
 - Never chat to “Table”
 - Address any queries to only one individual by clicking on their name
 - Answer private questions to you by clicking on the name of the sender in the message chat box
 - If you persistently don't get an explanation or clarification from a player, call a director who will (gently) sort things out.
- Be gentle! We have a wide range of playing ability in the club and everyone is welcome so patience, compassion and understanding are needed to ensure that everyone enjoys their game..