

## Competitions Secretary Report for Jan 2026 meeting

Events completed since last meeting

### **CONGRESS (Joint with Sussex) 25/26<sup>th</sup> October 2025**

The final numbers were 24 tables for Swiss Pairs and 18 tables for Swiss Teams (virtually the same as last year. The event was advertised on the Websites of the other seven counties in our area and on the Scrolling Banner on the EBU website.

In this event we used a caddy to welcome people on arrive, collect and hand out boards and result slips. This worked very well and the two boys (one on each day, my grandchildren were staying with us that weekend) received lots of good comments. This allowed me to focus on training David Cock. Both days went very well.

For information, the breakdown of counties for the players for the Congress, One Day Green Pointed Swiss Pairs and the online Blue Point Events were (it was not collected for the RealBridge Swiss Pairs on May 2025 nor the Phillimore in July 2025).

County	Swiss Pairs Oct25	Swiss Teams Oct25	Swiss Pairs March 2025	Swiss Pairs BBO Dec25
Kent	26	9.5	30	21
Sussex	7	2.5	4.5	3
Surrey	4		2.5	4
London	4	3	8	2
Middx	2	1	1	
Herts	2			3
Suffolk	1			
Oxfordshire	1	1		2
Direct	1		1	1
Essex		1		1
B&B			1	2
Others				13
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>48 pairs</b>	<b>18 teams</b>	<b>48 pairs</b>	<b>52 pairs</b>

### **BLUE POINTED SWISS PAIRS BBO**

I was advertising an Oxfordshire one on 7<sup>th</sup> December and looking for standby pairs for both this and the Kent one on 14<sup>th</sup> December. So I asked each county for anyone who was willing to be on standby and found one for each. This allowed each other's event to be advertised in the other county and entries for each increased to 52 pairs in each. Win, win.

### **IMPROVER PAIRS 30<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2025**

Attracted 86 entries for the morning, and 91 for the afternoon and of these 44 pairs played in both sessions (very similar entry for 2024)

### **MENS & LADIES PAIRS**

Current entries are: 9 tables for Ladies, 8 tables for Mens.

### **Dates confirmed with venues and catering where appropriate**

Sun 11 Jan 2026 TWBC **Homina Mens / Femina Ladies Pairs**

Sat/Sun 24/25 Jan 2026 TWBC **Corbett Teams of 8**

Sun 1 Mar 2026 TWBC **Green Pointed Swiss Pairs (7x7)**

Sat 28 Mar 2026 Maidstone **Larsky Final (booked)**

Sun 19 Apr 2026 RealBridge **George Griffiths Seniors Pairs** (Easter is 5 April) Online not F2F

Sat 16 May 2026 RealBridge **Blue Pointed Swiss Pairs 6x6**

Sun 19 July 2026 TWBC **Phillimore BP Swiss Pairs (6x8)**

## Event for Jack High

The first event on the last Sunday in November attracted 18 pairs (12 of which were from Kent). Subject to committee approval, we plan to run these on the last Sunday each month, starting from end of January 2026.

## 9H Corwen

The EBU has sent on the list of those players with Primary membership Kent who are 9High on 1<sup>st</sup> January. As last year, I suggest we use the Saturday 9H events with a ladder and use the best 5 results from 1<sup>st</sup> Jan to 31 Mar to determine the qualifiers from Kent.

## CHANGE OF LICENSING RULES

I thought initially that the policy effectively might allow counties to run more F2F Green pointed events, rather than just the two per year. But as pointed out by Paul, this is probably not the case. But we could ask for one or more of these....and see the response.

Kent could consider

1. Resurrecting the Green Pointed Swiss Teams. This was in May. At present there is a blue pointed Swiss Pairs in May (RealBridge) on the original date and I would not like the county to lose its two Blue Pointed online Swiss (BBO in December, RealBridge in May). But we could look at the calendar.

2. Deciding to no longer run the end of October Congress with Sussex, but just ourselves. This was done to increase entries and collaboration with our neighboring county. It also shares the work since there has been no Congress Secretary since Monica stepped down around 2020. Kent aims to run the best possible competition for players and having a good entry is part of that. If Sussex were no longer involved, would entries decrease? They take the entries and manage the finances, but of course in return the profit is shared.

3. Since events like the Mixed Pairs (Dyer Smith) and Seniors Pairs (George Griffiths) as a black pointed event have a small entry, we could decide to run a two session, green pointed Multiple Pairs event on approximately these dates and allow entry to all but award the cup to the leading Mixed Pair or Leading Senior Pair (or one date with both these cups being awarded). A green pointed event may attract more entries? Thoughts on this more radical suggestion. Of course, there would need to be 16+ tables to make a surplus.

- April 19th is good (Current date of George Griffiths online) - say for option 3 (Cup / Prize for leading senior pair and leading mixed pair)
- And June 20th (designated a County GP weekend) - say for option 1

Then abandon October 4th date for Dyer Smith - too close to the Congress.

This spreads out the Kent competitions better (i.e. avoiding two events in October).

Any other ideas?

Stephen Brown, Jan 2026