

Larsky Report

Since the last meeting the 4 Larsky semi-finals have been booked as follows:

Maidstone Thursday 8th February 7:15pm
Bekesbourne Sunday 11th February 2pm
Tunbridge Wells Wednesday 14th February 7:30pm
Farnborough Monday 19th February 7:30pm

At the last meeting I proposed a flat rate Director's fee of £35 which was more than the normal County Director's and less than a National Director's fee. Stephen Brown, our Chief TD believes that we should stick with our normal rates. For these events this would be a single session with travelling expenses. There should be no set-up or take-down fee as there will be local club members there to help with this.

All affiliated clubs have been circulated with details of the new format and have been asked to hold heats on each of the days of the week on which they play. Dates for these heats which spread them over November, December and the first half of January have been suggested to clubs but it has been made clear that they can choose to change these if they wish. Also they have been told that KCBA will only publicise their heat if they wish us to.

So far one club has declined to hold a heat and three have confirmed the dates on which they wish to hold their heats.

As each heat is completed I will be emailing (where possible) or writing to all those scoring 50% or over inviting them to participate in the semi-finals and asking them to notify me as to in which semi-final they wish to play. Unless a venue is full I envisage we would allow qualifiers to turn up without notifying me. Directors will have a list of qualifiers just in case.

Once the semi-finals have been completed I envisage handing over the Competitions secretary who will invite qualifiers to the final in the same way that he/she has done from club heats in the past.

Here are my proposals for the new regulations:

LARSKY CUP

The Larsky Cup is awarded to the winners of the Premier Kent Pairs Championship. The format consists of qualifying heats, semi-finals and a final.

All Kent affiliated clubs are entitled (and are requested) to designate one of each of their weekly pairs sessions in November, December or the first half of January as their Larsky Cup heat(s). i.e Clubs are asked to hold one heat for each day of the week on week they hold a regular pairs session.

KCBA may suggest dates for clubs to hold heats in order to spread the heats evenly throughout the period but clubs are free to reject these and choose their own date(s) in the period. Clubs may designate their heat(s) as members-only. If clubs are happy to receive visitors for their heat(s) KCBA, on-request, will publicise these heats on its website.

Players may compete in more than one qualifying heat in the same season and with more than one partner but should respect those clubs who designate their heats as members-only. Players who score 50% or over in any heat may play in any one but only one of the semi-finals. They may only play with a partner with whom they qualified. Substitute players in a partnership are not allowed.

The time and venue of all semi-finals will be advertised on the KCBA website. Qualification from the semi-finals will be based on a weighting directly proportionate to the size of the individual semi-finals. Reserve pairs will gain qualification when a qualifying pair withdraws. Priority will be given to the first reserve in each semi-final where a pair has withdrawn and subsequently to the remaining highest scores across all semi-finals. No pair who scores less than 50% in a semi-final may qualify for the final. The 2017-18 final will take place on Saturday 24th March at Tunbridge Wells Bridge Club, commencing at 11.00am, and will consist of 26 pairs. The first four pairs in the final are eligible for the EBU Corwen Trophy (the inter-county pairs final), played over the weekend of 2nd/3rd June at the Park Inn by Radisson Northampton.

Master Points

Green points are awarded for the final to to all the participants provided at least 52 pairs have entered the semi-finals. Local points are awarded at the usual club scale for the heats and at Regional level for the semi-finals.