

HOW SIMULTANEOUS PAIR RESULTS ARE CONSOLIDATED

Let's start with match points, the usual means of scoring duplicate pairs events. In simple terms, the scores of every pair playing a board are compared (with North-South and East-West pairs being compared separately) and you get two points for each pair whose score you beat (irrespective of how much that's by) and one point for each pair whose score you equal. Just as well it's usually done by computer these days!

When results are consolidated for a Simultaneous Pairs event (remembering that we're all playing the same boards), exactly the same process is followed, albeit now for a much larger group of players.

What comes as a surprise is that, in this process, the sequence in which, for example, Kingston Seymour players appear in the consolidated result can vary from the sequence in which they appear in our club results. That's because, for example, one pair might have had an outright top at our club but, when all the scores are put together, several other pairs might have done just as well, or even better, than them on that board – so their percentage drops a little.

Conversely, another pair might have had a bottom at our club and then find other pairs have done equally badly, or even worse, at other clubs – so their percentage goes up a little.

Hope that makes sense!