

LCBA LOCKDOWN SWISS TEAMS RULES 2020

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The Rules below are additional to the LCBA General Rules for Online Bridge on BBO and Paras 3, 4, 6, and 7 of the LCBA Teams Events General Rules except that the proviso for 7 clear days' notice stipulated in Para 6 a) of the latter document is waived.

1. a) The Competition is for teams of 4 players. A team may comprise a squad of up to 6 players of whom 4 must be nominated to play in each match. A player may not play for more than one team in the competition.
 - b) At least 3 players in the nominated squad of 6 must be LCBA members. BBO Robots are not permitted to play for any team in this competition.
 - c) All matches will be played as 'Home Play' Teams (of 4) Matches of 12 Boards on BBO, on a date and time to be agreed by the two team Captains. The match may be split into two stanzas of 6 boards, with one team changing tables after 6 boards, provided both teams agree.
 - d) Pairs may employ any partnership understandings permitted at Level 4 as described at Section 7 of the 2019 EBU Blue Book. Players should inform their opponents of the details of their basic bidding system and carding arrangements before their first board is played, even if they have a convention card posted on BBO. Players are responsible for self-alerting all calls that would normally be alerted or announced by partner in accordance with the provisions of the EBU 2020 Sky-Blue Book (Para 1.2 to 1.24).
2. a) Teams wishing to enter the competition should do so using the online form on the LCBA Web Site. The entry fee is £20 per team and this must be paid to the treasurer by BACS or cheque prior to the start of the competition. Details of how to pay will be provided in the confirmation email sent to the individual registering the team.
 - b) Teams may enter on behalf of an LCBA affiliated Club or just comprise a group of 4 or more players who are not associated with any specific club. The closing date for entries is 30 September 2020. To avoid the need for playing 'Triples', in the event of an odd number of teams entering the competition, the last team to enter may be asked to withdraw if a standby team cannot be brought in to make up the numbers.
3. a) Provided that there is a minimum entry of 16 teams, the competition will be played as a Swiss Teams event of at least 5 rounds. There will be a random draw for first round assignments, and assignments for subsequent rounds will be determined by each team's relative position with the proviso that no team shall be drawn against another more than once.
 - b) Match assignments will designate a 'Home' team and an 'Away' team for the purposes of arranging matches in accordance with LCBA Teams Events General Rules. The 'Home' team Captain will be responsible for setting up the match on BBO at the appointed time and should seat the 'Away' team members as directed by the 'Away' team captain. 'Home' and 'Away' designations may be changed with the agreement of both captains.
4. a) The number of rounds to be played will be determined by the size of the entry according to the following scale:

| Number of Teams | Number of Rounds |
|-----------------|------------------|
| 16 | 5 |
| 18 to 22 | 6 |
| 24+ | 7 |

- b) Teams will have a 13 day window in which to play their match for each round. Dates are as follows:

| Round No | Dates |
|----------|-----------------|
| 1 | 7 to 19 Oct |
| 2 | 21 Oct to 2 Nov |
| 3 | 4 to 16 Nov |
| 4 | 18 to 30 Nov |
| 5 | 2 to 14 Dec |
| 6* | 6 to 18 Jan |
| 7* | 20 Jan to 1 Feb |

*If needed

It is anticipated that the next round assignments will be made available to all captains within 24 hours of the previous round being completed, which may be sooner than the last date specified above if teams are able to complete their matches in good time.

- 5 a) Each board will be scored in IMPs and the net IMP score for the match shall be converted to VPs at the appropriate EBU Scale for 12 board matches shown at the Appendix.
- b) In the event that a match, once started, cannot be completed due to technical or other reasons, the score at the point the match had to be abandoned must be agreed by both Captains and they should endeavour to reschedule the match to play the remaining boards as soon as possible. In the event that this cannot be done, the full circumstances of the case together with the number of boards played and the score at the point the match was abandoned should be reported to the Competition Controller who will rule on the allocation of VPs. Should one team be held responsible for the abandonment of the match and the failure to complete the unplayed boards as the reasons were deemed to be within its control, the other team will be awarded 3IMPs for each unplayed board.
- 6 a) There will be no trophy or prize money awarded to the winners of the competition.
- b) Master points will be awarded at the County scale based on matches won, and there will be an overall ranking award for those in the top quarter of the field.

Appendix:

Victory Point Scale for 12 Board Teams of 4 Match

| IMP Margin | VPs |
|------------|-------|
| 0 – 1 | 10-10 |
| 2 – 4 | 11-9 |
| 5 – 7 | 12-8 |
| 8 – 11 | 13-7 |
| 12 – 15 | 14-6 |
| 16 – 19 | 15-5 |
| 20 – 24 | 16-4 |
| 25 – 30 | 17-3 |
| 31 – 37 | 18-2 |
| 38 – 46 | 19-1 |
| 47+ | 20-0 |