

## **PAIRS LEAGUE RULES 2019-20**

Competition Controller (CC)

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**The Rules below are additional to the LCBA Pairs Event General Rules**

1. The Competition Sub-Committee (CSC) (comprising the CC, Irene Krantz and John Wilcox) is responsible to the LCBA Tournament Sub-Committee for the proper administration of the LCBA Teams of Two League (commonly called the Pairs League) in accordance with EBU rules and guidelines
2. a) The competition shall consist of a Series of five heats, each heat comprising a number of '*Teams IMPed*' Stanza. These will be held at the County Bridge Club (St. Oswald) on 16 January, 13 February, 12 March, 9 April and 14 May 2020.  
b) Entries should be sent to the CC by Friday 13 December 2019. The cost of entry is £40.00 per pair for the series. If initial entry is by telephone or email payment must be received to confirm the entry by no later than Friday 27 December 2019. Later entries will only be accepted if to the benefit of the 'movement' and thus to those who entered on time.
3. a) It is essential for the successful running of this competition that each pair is represented on all five evening sessions in the series.  
b) By entering Pairs are making a binding commitment to the LCBA that if one or both are unable to play in any heat they will make every endeavor to find a substitute player or pair of broadly similar standard to play in their place.  
c) A pair unable to play on any evening is required to field a substitute pair or player of broadly similar standard. Substitutes may be as a pair or a single player and may substitute for a different pair or players later in the series. It is the responsibility of the players, not the LCBA, to make these arrangements.  
d) If notwithstanding the commitment they have made no substitute can be found by the players then the CC must be contacted in advance of the session.
4. a) Entrants will be placed by the CSC into a number of hierarchical divisions based primarily on their record as a pair in the 2018-19 pairs league, but for new entrants instead on their record in the other 'teams-scored' LCBA events (especially the League, Josephs Bowl & Plate and the Stanley Trophy). In the case of new partnerships their records as individuals will provide guidance.  
Up to 32 pairs may play. Divisions will be of 8 pairs, or more where appropriate depending on the actual entry.  
b) The top two pairs from each division (except division 1) will normally be promoted to the next higher division; the bottom two pairs from each division (except the lowest) will normally be relegated to the next lower division.  
c) A Monetary prize of £80 will be awarded to the pair placed first in each division.  
d) The LCBA will award local Master Points on the County scale.
5. Any appeal against the allocations to divisions shall be to the LCBA Tournament Sub-Committee and shall be submitted within five days of the publication of the placements. Appeals shall be accompanied by a deposit of £20.00 which will not be returned if the LCBA Tournament Sub-Committee determines that the appeal is frivolous or otherwise without merit.
6. a) In a division of 8 pairs a typical evening will comprise three 8 board stanza; At the end of each stanza, each EW pair will score up in IMPs with each of the other NS pairs in their division, and convert their IMP score to Victory Points. EW pairs then return to their own table, and check the VP scores.  
b) Over the series in a division of 8 pairs each pair will play against every other pair in the division twice and score up with them six times. [The details in a larger division will depend on its exact size.] .
7. a) If a pair (or one of that pair) fails to turn up for a session without prior notice and without compelling reason then the pair will receive a score of 0 VPs for the session.  
b) If a pair gives advance notice that they will be unable to play or provide substitute(s) they may receive a score of up to a maximum of 8 VP (40% of 20 VP) for each 'match' not played.  
c) Please note that unacknowledged emails or answer-phone messages left do not constitute prior notification. Pairs unable to score-up due to opponent's absence will receive an allocation of 14 VP for each missing score.