

## **STANLEY TROPHY RULES 2019-20**

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

1. The competition shall consist of seven heats of Butler Pairs.
2. It is intended to cater for pairs wishing to play against a stronger more challenging field than that of typical club nights.
  - a) It is expected that most pairs will continue to be of two players each defined by the LCBA for Tournament prize purposes as expert players.
  - b) However entries from aspirant pairs wishing to improve their bridge, especially if with the ambition of possible selection to play for County Teams, are particularly welcomed.
3. a) A single overall ranking of pairs playing in at least 4 heats in the season will be generated.  
The ranking will be by their average Butler Imps per board across 4 heats. That is their actual Butler Scores in these 4 heats will be summed and divided by the total number of boards they played in them.  
In the case of pairs playing in more than 4 heats their average will be calculated from the 4 heats most advantageous to the pair, discarding their scores in the other heats.
  - b) The pair with the highest such ranking will hold the Stanley Trophy for one year.  
The highest ranked 2 pairs, not including a currently regular county player, will each be invited to play in at least 2 Midland League matches in the 2020-21 season, subject only to their total Butler over the 4 heats being positive.
  - c) Monetary prizes of £100, £80, £60, £40 and £20 respectively will be awarded to the pairs with the 5 highest rankings.
4. The entry to each heat is restricted to 24 pairs. Unless precluded by the number of tables and movements available all heats will be organised with pairs in a single field producing a single ranking list.
5. a) In each heat the LCBA will award local Master Points on the County scale based on ranking by Blmps per board each played in the heat. *[N.B. This ranking is the same as the Blmpf one recorded on distributed print-outs.]*
  - b) The LCBA will award additional local Master Points on the County scale based on overall ranking
- 6.. The scheduled dates of the seven heats are 18 September, 16 October and 13 November 2019 and 15 January, 12 February, 11 March and 8 April 2020, all at the Glenfield Bridge Club.
7. The playing charge for each heat is £4.00 per head.