

## **LCBA TEAMS EVENTS GENERAL RULES 2017-18**

These apply to ALL Teams of Four Events, except where specifically stated on Individual Event Rules in RED

1. a) All competitors must be paid-up Player Members of the EBU who meet the general LCBA conditions for participation in the Association's Members-only competitions for the year 2017-18.  
b) LCBA Table money of £4 per head is charged in centrally run heats, but no charge for home-play matches.  
c) Hand records of boards played in centrally run heats are published on the LCBA website alongside the preliminary results, but paper copies are printed for entrants who have specifically requested this service.
2. a) Each player should provide a completed EBU 20B style System Card and hand this to the opponents for their use throughout each round. Pairs having properly completed such cards may employ any Partnership Understandings permitted at Level 4, as detailed in Section 7 of the 2017 Blue Book.  
b) Pairs not having completed such cards will normally be provided by the Director with pre-completed EBU Standard English Foundation Level Cards, required to play in accordance with these and restricted to using only Level 2 Partnership Understandings (detailed in Section 6 of 2017 Blue Book) until fuller cards are completed.  
c) The Competition Controller (CC) may where he deems it appropriate personally authorize the use of Level 4 Partnership Understandings by pairs with only partially completed EBU 20B style System Cards, or EBU old style or other non-standard System Cards; or delegate this authority to the Director. However in no circumstances may WBF style cards be used.
3. a) Any team either wishing to appeal, or reserve the right to later appeal, against a decision of the Director or Scorer should inform the Director and the other team of this and ensure that all relevant details of the hand and decision etc. are recorded on a witnessed statement before leaving the venue.  
Whether the actual appeal is immediate, or made later after reflection or consultation, it must be sent in writing by email or post to the CC within two days of the event.  
(It is strongly recommended that in home-play matches each captain bring a standard LCBA Appeal Form, downloadable from the LCBA Website, to the match.)  
b) If a psychic bid is reported to the Director, he shall, on request, record the details of the board on which it occurred, and report the matter to the CC for the attention of the Laws and Ethics SC of the LCBA. The Director may also record and similarly report any departure from the system that he considers should be brought to its attention.
4. All results shall be treated as provisional until confirmed by the CC after receipt of the records specified in the event rules and the determination of any appeal.
5. The definitions of expert and non-expert players or teams are kept on files held by the Tournament Secretary, the CC and LCBA qualified Directors.
6. a) In the case of 'Home Play' matches, within seven days of the pairing being confirmed, the deemed away team captain should offer to the deemed home team captain, a minimum of three weekday evening dates, not clashing with any LCBA event, spread over a period of at least eight days, with a minimum of seven clear days notice of the first date. Not all dates offered should be for the same day of the week.  
Any failure to make a timely offer, or to accept a date within a further seven days, should be reported to the CC who will seek to expedite the playing of the match but who has the discretion to default one or both teams.  
b) In all cases the deemed home team will be responsible for venue arrangements, including the payment of any table money wherever the match be played.  
c) The results of these privately played matches must be notified by both teams to the CC within seven days, and never later than the closing date of the round.  
The return must include the names of the players in each team and if any substitution has been made how many boards each member played.  
d) In these privately played matches, unless a prior arrangement to the contrary is made, the deemed Away Team Captain or his nominee shall be designated as Director.
7. Should a team arrive more than 15 minutes late for a Home Play match its opponents have the following rights:  
a) After 45 minutes\* of un-notified late arrival, or 90 minutes\* of notified late arrival, the match is awarded to the non-offending side. 'Notification' may (obviously) be by message, but the presence of even a single member of the team is deemed to indicate an intention to play and constitutes 'notification' in the context of this rule.  
\* In the case of 32 board matches these times are increased to 60 and 120 minutes respectively.  
b) For each completed 15 minute delay within a scheduled play period, the match is to be reduced by two boards, awarding the non-offending side 3 IMPs per board (in the case of an aggregate scored match 100 points per board. Only the initial stanza is shortened, removing board 1 onwards leaving full standard stanza thereafter.  
c) If both teams are late the match shall be curtailed according to the time interval of the latest arrival after the other side became complete, again with the award of 3 IMPs per board removed (details as in b), or awarded to the first completed side subject to the 'time interval' before the second side becoming complete reaching the 'lateness' figures in a).
8. a) In the case of multi-team heats each team should arrive at least 15 minutes before the designated start time. The Director may disqualify later arrivals if necessary in order to facilitate a prompt start.  
b) In the case of lateness in a centrally run heats of pre determined head to head matches the Director will apply the principles of Rule 7.