

Dear Members

We are delighted to announce that restricted live bridge will recommence at MRBC from 7.30 pm Monday Evening 20th September.

The following general information should be read in conjunction with the two attached documents: 'Covid Mitigation Guidelines for Players' and 'How to pre-book a live MRBC Competition'.

- Initially, each session will be restricted to 9 tables (18 pairs).
- Pre-entry is required on pre-entry tool on Club Website – see instruction sheet “How to Prebook a ‘Live’ Clubhouse Competition”. This applies to ‘Live’ sessions only and no pre-entry is required for BBO sessions.
- Live sessions, including Mon AM and Fri Eve, are restricted to MRBC members only.
- Entry Fee will be 3 Euro per person and no cash prizes will be awarded at this time.
- **Payment must be by debit/credit card – no exceptions.** Receipts will **not** be provided.
- Covid Vaccination certs, (paper or electronic), **must** be shown at entry.
- Notwithstanding that a member has a Covid Vaccination Certificate, a member displaying symptoms should not attend a live session.
- **Masks/visors must be worn at all time while on club premises, including during play.**
- Bar facilities will not be available but members may bring own water bottles.
- Club house will be cooler than usual, as part of ventilation process, so members are encouraged to bring warm clothing.
- E/W will carry bidding box from table to table and members may bring own bidding box if preferred.
- See separate sheet for full details of Covid mitigation steps to be followed.

Live Session Playing Schedule

	Live Play
Mon AM	All Grades (begins 27 th Sept)
Mon Eve	Masters/A1 (begins 20 th Sept)
Tue Eve	B1/B2+ (begins 21 st Sept)
Wed Eve	A2 (begins 22 nd Sept)
Thu Eve	B2-/Novice (begins 23 rd Sept)
Fri Eve	All Grades (begins 24 th Sept)

- Live Play and Virtual play will continue in parallel for the foreseeable future.
- Please monitor club website for changes in both virtual and live play schedules.
- Numbers playing live bridge will be increased in line with on-going risk assessment review.
- Grades playing on given nights, (both live and virtual), will be subject to review based on attendance.
- Live Session will comprise two groups: Mon-Thur Eve (Blue on above chart) and Monday AM/Friday Evening (Green on above chart).

- **Mon-Thurs Eve sessions**
 - Based on their grade, members are allocated a session on one of the four evenings.
 - Having entered their allocated session, players may not enter a second or subsequent session until they have played the session already entered. This is to ensure as fair an opportunity for all members wishing to play live, to do so. (See “How to Pre-book a ‘Live’ Clubhouse Competition”).
 - Class captains and regular partner are exempt from this rule.
 - If your entry goes on the ‘wait list’ (see instructions), you may enter a subsequent session in same series. If you are subsequently promoted from the wait list you may play both sessions (luck of the draw).
 - Mixed grade partnerships ‘play up’. Thus, an A2/B1 pair will play on Tuesday.
 - B2’s will be split based on Masterpoints, with those having 0.5+ of a National Master Point, (B2+), being assigned to Wed, and those with less than 0.5 of a National Master Point, (B2-), being assigned to Thursday. A breakdown of the B2’s National Master Points will be posted on ‘CBAI. NBID & MRBC Numbers tab on club website.

- **Monday Morning and Friday Evening sessions.**
 - For pre-booking purposes these sessions operate independently of Mon-Thurs evening sessions, and of each other. Thus, if you are booked for (say) Wed evening, you may also make a booking for Monday AM and or Friday Evening. However, you may only have one live Monday AM and/or Friday Evening booking at a time. Thus, you may not enter a second or subsequent Monday session until you’ve played a session already entered.

We appreciate that there is a lot of content in this message and that this is going to a demanding time, especially for our Captains and their assistants. It goes without saying that we are counting on members to give their full cooperation to any directive given by Captains or Covid Monitors. We would especially ask that members do not all arrive at 7.25, as there will be considerable processing of members info at time of entry. Any congregating of people is to be avoided and this will impact our ability to increase numbers, other circumstances allowing.

Members will appreciate that the situation is both without precedent and dynamic. We are progressing with some caution, to test processes and to give assurance to members that, as we ramp up, our processes are robust.

Your Council is monitoring both national guidelines and membership response, with a view to amending our processes and, to the greatest extent possible, expanding live play in a safe manner.

Your Council will endeavour to address any concerns or clarify any issues raised by members as soon as possible.

Stay Safe

Your Council

Paul O’Brien, Donat O’Brien, Siobhan Stanley, Tom Gilligan, Peter Wilson, Maureen Haines, Declan Cahill, Catherine Sargent.

Dob 14IX21r1