



BRIDGE

Competition Newsletter and Calendar



Welcome to the details of the 2023/4 SBU National Tournament Programme.

Normally the programme would have been out earlier but next year is not a normal year. Most events will be played face to face and a lot of work was necessary sorting out arrangements. We have tried to run events in different parts of the country and use Bridge Clubs where that is possible.

We feel that the programme we have come up with has something for everyone.

SBU NATIONAL TOURNAMENTS

The first events will be a weekend of bridge in Edinburgh: the **Stirling Pairs** and **Edwin Berry Swiss Teams** on the Saturday 16th and Sunday 17th September.

Seniors, defined as players who are 63 or over on the 1st January 2023, can play for the **Diamond Trophy**. This will be held online on Saturday 14th October.

The **Rayne** - our premier teams tournament - will be played over two days at Stirling Bridge Club on 21st and 22nd of October. The first day will be a qualifying session and the second day will be a final and a subsidiary tournament for the other teams.

The National competition for Bronze ranked players, the **Thea Teale**, will be held on Sunday 19th November. There will be six heats in Edinburgh, Glasgow, Ayr, Stirling, Dundee and Inverness.

The **Ranked Pairs** which are six separate competitions for players of different ranks will be held between Stirling and Dundee Bridge clubs on Sunday 3rd December.

Swiss events are popular and the **Mixed Swiss Pairs** and **Mixed Swiss Teams** will be held at the Melville Bridge Club in Edinburgh on the 20th and 21st January.

The **Winter 4's** - a double elimination team competition which will be held in the Melville in Edinburgh on the 2nd to 4th February. We need at least 16 teams to make this a viable competition. There will be a request in the Autumn for interested teams to sign up to ensure we have sufficient numbers.

There will also be the **Winter Swiss Teams** competition at the Carlton in Edinburgh on Sunday 4th February. Teams playing in the Winter 4's will get automatic entry but it is open to all members.

The **National Pairs** will involve heats on Saturday 16th March at six bridge clubs around the county: Edinburgh, Glasgow, Ayr, Stirling, Dundee and Inverness. The final will be in Glasgow on Saturday 13th April.

The popular **Ranked Individuals** will be run online on Sunday 5th May.

The **Men's and Women's Pairs and Teams** will be held together over a weekend in March or April. The **Scottish Swiss Pairs** will be held on a Sunday in May. We are still investigating venues for these events.

ONLINE BRIDGE

Online bridge lovers have not been forgotten. We are running a series of six National Online tournaments. We have generous sponsorship from RealBridge which we will pass on as prize money for the first two events on Sunday 8th October and Saturday 4th November. There will be National (red) masterpoints for these events.

SIMS

Autumn Sims for Lord Thomson Trophy 16th to 19th October

Celtic Sims 4th to 7th December (TBC)

Easter pairs 18th to 22nd March

These may be played online or face to face.

If played on BBO they can only be played after 6.00 pm as there is no provision to delay the posting of results on this platform.

NATIONAL CONGRESSES

The Peebles Congress will be held again this year from 8th to the 10th March.

The Overseas Congress will be held in Side, Turkey starting on the 16th April.

PRIZE MONEY

Following representation from members, Prize Money has been re-instated. There will be prizes for First, Second and Third and for the best Silver and Bronze pair or team. Details of the prize money for each event will be shown on the SBU website.

OTHER CHANGES

We are joining the 21st century - all events will have a link to allow payment to be made by credit or debit card. Remember that the person registering has to pay for the pair or team.

We will be publishing on the web site the masterpoint awards made for each event.

All Youth Players will be able to play without charge in SBU National events. "Youth" have been redefined by the World Bridge Federation as players who have not achieved their 30th Birthday by 31st December in the year that the competition takes place.

| Date 2023 | Event | Venue/Online | Type of Competition |
|-------------------|---|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Sat 16th Sept | Stirling Pairs | Melville | Pairs |
| Sun 17th Sept | Edwin Berry | Carlton | Swiss Teams |
| Sun 8 Oct | 1st National Online Competition sponsored by RealBridge | | All day Swiss Pairs on RealBridge |
| Sun 15 Oct | Diamond | BBO | Senior Pairs for the Diamond Trophy |
| Sat/Sun 21/22 Oct | Rayne | Stirling Bridge Club | Premier Teams Competition |
| Sat 4th November | 2nd National Online Competition sponsored by RealBridge | | All day Swiss Pairs on RealBridge |
| Sun 19 Nov | Thea Teale Pairs | 6 locations around the country | Bronze Pairs |
| Sun 3 Dec | Ranked Pairs | Dundee BC & Stirling BC | 5 competitions for different ranks |
| Sun 10th Dec | 3rd National Online Competition | | All day Swiss Teams |

| Date 2024 | Event | Venue/Online | Type of Competition |
|--------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------|---|
| Sun 14th Jan | 4th National Online Competition | | All day Swiss Pairs |
| Sat 20th Jan | Mixed Swiss Pairs | Melville | |
| Sun 21 Jan | Mixed Swiss Teams | Melville | |
| Fri/Sun 2/3/4 Feb | Winter 4's | Melville | Double Elimination Teams |
| Sun 4th Feb | Winter Swiss Teams | Carlton | |
| Sun 18 Feb | 5th National Online Competition | | All day Swiss Pairs |
| Fri/Sun 8/10 March | Peebles Congress | Hydro Hotel | |
| Sat 16 March | National Pairs Heats | | 6 Regional heats in various areas |
| Sun /31 March | 6th National Online Competition | | All day BAM Teams on RealBridge |
| Sat 13 April | National Pairs final | Glasgow Bridge Centre | |
| Tue /Mon 16th/22nd April | SBU Overseas Congress | | Side, Turkey |
| Dates & Venue TBC | Men's Pairs | | Separate events for Men and Women. |
| | Men's Teams | | |
| | Women's Pairs | | |
| | Women's Teams | | |
| Sunday 5th May | Ranked Individuals | Online BBO | |
| Dates & Venue TBC | Scottish Swiss Pairs | | Swiss Pairs is always fun. Red Points for every match won or drawn. |