

1 : Please give your county name.

This survey is intentionally not anonymous so we can consider how the size of the membership, or your geographical location, for example, may have affected your answers. This information will be used only when board mem...

Oxfordshire

2 : Respondent's name and position (optional)

Robert Procter, Chair

3 : What have been the high points and significant achievements of your county since the introduction of Universal Membership (2010)?

a) The recognition of the need to provide services to our new members who don't play in county or national competitions. The only success so far in this area has been an annual cafe bridge event, but we plan a festival this autumn to take the idea further.
b) A growing interest in schools through minibridge and other activities

4 : What have been the high points and significant achievements of clubs in your county since the introduction of Universal Membership (2010)? Was the county involved in this success, and if so how? - Achievements

More people are being taught bridge in our clubs and work is being done by some clubs to assist beginners in the transition from lessons to club duplicates. We have more daytime bridge sessions in our clubs. The youth programme is flourishing.

5 : What have been the high points and significant achievements of clubs in your county since the introduction of Universal Membership (2010)? Was the county involved in this success, and if so how? - County involvement

Yes, we have provided grants to clubs to assist with teacher training, purchased duplicate machines and run tester sessions. Abbey Smith, the proprietor of a club that has been successful in this area, was invited to share her ideas with others. The county also supports the youth programme.

6 : What have been the high points and significant achievements of members in your county since the introduction of Universal Membership (2010)? Was the county involved in this success, and if so how? - Achievements

Highlights must be the work done by Barbara Jordan and her team in making a success of Cafe Bridge and the work done by Joan Bennett, Alison Nicolson and Holly Kilpatrick in developing junior bridge both in schools and in two county clubs.

7 : What have been the high points and significant achievements of members in your county since the introduction of Universal Membership (2010)? Was the county involved in this success, and if so how? - County involvement

Yes. Full committee and financial support for both enterprises. The cafe bridge is self-financing. We have a budget of £1500 pa to support the juniors initiatives.

8 : Does your county have specific goals towards which it is working? - Yes/no, and if yes, what are they?

See the administration section of our county website at <http://www.oxfordshirebridge.co.uk/index.php/development-index> and the six subsections - will send this by separate email

9 : Does your county have specific goals towards which it is working? - How would you assess your progress in reaching these goals to date? If a timescale was given, do you believe they will be achieved in this period?

Subject to minor changes we have had these objectives in place for four to five years and have made modest progress towards some but not all of them. Their importance is in agreeing what we would like to achieve whenever it can be done. Their achievement depends largely on finding people with the ability and determination to make any one objective happen.

10 : Please outline the things which you think your county does well for your clubs and individual members

In addition to the ongoing work on expanding our services to include the social player and on fostering junior bridge I think we provide a reasonable range of competitions for the more seriously competitive player and the county team arrangements are well managed (even if there are always going to be those dissatisfied with the selectors!) Opportunities to learn bridge in Oxfordshire have grown.

11 : Please outline the things which your county would like to do better

We need to help our clubs to attract new members. In many clubs duplicates can be too daunting for the inexperienced player and they need help with setting up transition duplicates for the less experienced. Another area that we have started working on is that of improving communication with our members, both by closer targeting and by greater economy with words. Emails from the county probably go straight to junk mail in most cases. Our governance arrangements need attention - UM doubled the number of representatives that each club was permitted on the Management Committee and we need to arrange that most day-to-day decisions can be dealt with by a much smaller executive committee. This and other changes follow from carrying out a Best Practice review based on the recent CWG document.

12 : Please indicate the extent to which you agree that these factors present a 'challenge' to your county The number of volunteers available

Moderately agree

12 : Please indicate the extent to which you agree that these factors present a 'challenge' to your county The time that can be given by key volunteers

Strongly agree

12 : Please indicate the extent to which you agree that these factors present a 'challenge' to your county The key skills available within the volunteer group

Moderately agree

12 : Please indicate the extent to which you agree that these factors present a 'challenge' to your county The finances of the county

Strongly disagree

12 : Please indicate the extent to which you agree that these factors present a 'challenge' to your county The number of clubs within the county

Moderately disagree

12 : Please indicate the extent to which you agree that these factors present a 'challenge' to your county The number of players within the county

Strongly disagree

12 : Please indicate the extent to which you agree that these factors present a 'challenge' to your county The demographics of your membership

Strongly agree

12 : Please indicate the extent to which you agree that these factors present a 'challenge' to your county The level of engagement by clubs

Moderately agree

- 12 : Please indicate the extent to which you agree that these factors present a 'challenge' to your county The level of engagement by members** Strongly agree
- 12 : Please indicate the extent to which you agree that these factors present a 'challenge' to your county The need to evolve to meet the changing nature of bridge players and their requirements** Strongly agree
- 13 : Please list three things which you think clubs value most from membership of your county - Answer one** (A first guess only - this is why we need stronger communications and are about to put a new post in place to help with that)
Our inter-club league.
- 14 : Please list three things which you think clubs value most from membership of your county - Answer two** Our work with juniors.
- 15 : Please list three things which you think clubs value most from membership of your county - Answer three** The availability of advice or brokering with others on a range of topics including rulings, discipline and education opportunities.
- 16 : Please list three things which you think individual members value most from membership of your county - Answer one** (Another first guess)
Opportunities to play in county level competitions.
- 17 : Please list three things which you think individual members value most from membership of your county - Answer two** Our inter-club leagues.
- 18 : Please list three things which you think individual members value most from membership of your county - Answer three** The availability of someone to moan at.
- 19 : What three activities/services provided by the EBU does your county value most? - Answer one** Organisation - inter-county events and national competitions
- 20 : What three activities/services provided by the EBU does your county value most? - Answer two** Information and publicity - membership and club databases and website.
- 21 : What three activities/services provided by the EBU does your county value most? - Answer three** Advice - rulings, procedures, website queries, hiring kit and folk.

22 : What three activities/services provided by the EBU do you think individual members value most? - Answer one

Here the competitive player's answers would be very different to those of people who take no part in EBU competitions. The latter probably never look at the website and are unaware that the EBU exists or does anything for them. The former probably see the most valued services in the same light as for the county.

23 : What three activities/services provided by the EBU do you think individual members value most? - Answer two

See above

24 : What three activities/services provided by the EBU do you think individual members value most? - Answer three

See above

25 : Which of these reflect your views on the following within in your county (you can give more than one answer) Attracting new players to the game We're happy with our current situation

No

25 : Which of these reflect your views on the following within in your county (you can give more than one answer) Attracting new players to the game We would like to do more

Yes

25 : Which of these reflect your views on the following within in your county (you can give more than one answer) Attracting new players to the game We would like to do it better

Yes

25 : Which of these reflect your views on the following within in your county (you can give more than one answer) Engaging with unaffiliated clubs/players We're happy with our current situation

No

25 : Which of these reflect your views on the following within in your county (you can give more than one answer) Engaging with unaffiliated clubs/players We would like to do more

Yes

25 : Which of these reflect your views on the following within in your county (you can give more than one answer) Engaging with unaffiliated clubs/players We would like to do it better

Yes

25 : Which of these reflect your views on the following within in your county (you can give more than one answer) Teaching beginners We're happy with our current situation

Yes

25 : Which of these reflect your views on the following within in your county (you can give more than one answer) Teaching beginners We would like to do more No

25 : Which of these reflect your views on the following within in your county (you can give more than one answer) Teaching beginners We would like to do it better No

25 : Which of these reflect your views on the following within in your county (you can give more than one answer) Offering 'improvers', or 'advanced' lessons We're happy with our current situation Yes

25 : Which of these reflect your views on the following within in your county (you can give more than one answer) Offering 'improvers', or 'advanced' lessons We would like to do more No

25 : Which of these reflect your views on the following within in your county (you can give more than one answer) Offering 'improvers', or 'advanced' lessons We would like to do it better No

25 : Which of these reflect your views on the following within in your county (you can give more than one answer) Organising/developing youth bridge We're happy with our current situation No

25 : Which of these reflect your views on the following within in your county (you can give more than one answer) Organising/developing youth bridge We would like to do more Yes

25 : Which of these reflect your views on the following within in your county (you can give more than one answer) Organising/developing youth bridge We would like to do it better No

25 : Which of these reflect your views on the following within in your county (you can give more than one answer) Organising competitions We're happy with our current situation Yes

25 : Which of these reflect your views on the following within in your county (you can give more than one answer) Organising competitions We would like to do more No

25 : Which of these reflect your views on the following within in your county (you can give more than one answer) Organising competitions We would like to do it better No

25 : Which of these reflect your views on the following within in your county (you can give more than one answer) Organising 'social bridge' We're happy with our current situation No

25 : Which of these reflect your views on the following within in your county (you can give more than one answer) Organising 'social bridge' We would like to do more Yes

25 : Which of these reflect your views on the following within in your county (you can give more than one answer) Organising 'social bridge' We would like to do it better No

25 : Which of these reflect your views on the following within in your county (you can give more than one answer) Engaging with members We're happy with our current situation No

25 : Which of these reflect your views on the following within in your county (you can give more than one answer) Engaging with members We would like to do more No

25 : Which of these reflect your views on the following within in your county (you can give more than one answer) Engaging with members We would like to do it better Yes

25 : Which of these reflect your views on the following within in your county (you can give more than one answer) Using modern technology We're happy with our current situation No

25 : Which of these reflect your views on the following within in your county (you can give more than one answer) Using modern technology We would like to do more No

25 : Which of these reflect your views on the following within in your county (you can give more than one answer) Using modern technology We would like to do it better Yes

30 : In what ways has your county benefited from the activities and services provided by English Bridge Education and Development?

I think you should ask Joan Bennett that one re the juniors. Regarding getting older people into the game perhaps there should be a survey of why people started playing to find out whether EBED's activities have had any influence as yet. Their continuation of the EBU's work in teaching and developing teaching materials continues to have value.

31 : What three things would be key to bridge in your county thriving in future? - Answer one

Creating more opportunities for bridge with a more social (less competitive) atmosphere

32 : What three things would be key to bridge in your county thriving in future? - Answer two

Encouraging more social players to get involved in club and county roles.

33 : What three things would be key to bridge in your county thriving in future? - Answer three

Modernising our communication skills and techniques