

NOTES OF OBA COMPETITIONS SUBCOMMITTEE

Monday 26th January 2026

Agenda

1. **Apologies**

2. **Minutes of previous meeting**, Matters arising
 - i) MC would like to promote Midland Counties 9H events and discuss at the next meeting
 - ii) Seniors. What is being currently sent out, how to attract more entries.
 - iii) to have one free or very low priced competition a year (Handicap Pairs might be suitable?), and/or to offer reduced entry fees to all OBA Primary members for open events such as Swiss Pairs.
 - iv) another idea would be for OBA to fund, or part-fund, some sort of club-based competition - so almost all members could be involved - with the top few pairs from each club given free entry into an OBA Club Champions event. We might run one for online and another for F2F.

3. **Wessex League** – Sandra Nicholson reports

4. **Presidents Cup** - 11 teams.
 - i) Match: Webley v Illingworth needs to be played and then the Plate can start with 6 or 7 teams competing
 - ii) Has the cup been located?

5. **Mercian League** – 7 teams

It has been decided to go with a single league and it has been set up on EBULeague for us

The regs were ready and the info to captains was sent out on 19th Jan. Regulations to be formally agreed

6. **EBU New Green Pointed Licenced Events Policy**

Such events should be events of national significance which might be run by a county like the Great Northern Swiss Pairs run by Yorkshire. Ther EBU is looking initially for something bigger or better than the County one-day events so either a significant larger entry or a significantly higher average NGS.

7. Review of recent competitions

i) Handicap pairs, RealBridge, 9th Nov 2025, 4.5 tables

Discuss: How to get more entries. Is the competition viable?

Handicap Pairs	9-Nov-25				
	Entries	Entry Fee		TOTAL	
	9	£12.00	0.42	£104.22	£92.64
FREE ENTRY	-1	£12.00	0.42	-£11.58	Paid into a/c
REALBRIDGE					10.11.2025
FEE	18	-£0.48		-£8.64 ✓	
EBU MP FEE	18	-£0.46		-£8.28 ✓	
SURPLUS				£75.72	

ii) Swiss Pairs, 7th December. 26 tables

SB was advertising a Kent one on 14th December and looking for standby pairs for both this and the Kent one on 14th December. So players from each county for anyone who was willing to be on standby and one was found for each. This allowed each other's event to be advertised in the other county and entries for each increased to 52 pairs in each. Win, win.

Swiss Pairs	7-Dec-25			1.4% + 25p	
	Entries	Entry Fee	Square Fee	TOTAL	
Via Square	52	£18.00	0.5	£910.00	Transferred
Refund fees	-1	£0.50		-£0.50	8-Dec-
				£0.00	25
TOTAL				£909.50	£909.50
PRIZES				£186.00	
REALBRIDGE					
FEE	108	-£0.84		-£90.72 ✓	
EBU MP FEE	216	-£0.79		£170.64 ✓	
TD FEE					
SURPLUS				£462.14	

iii) Mixed Pairs, 18th Jan 2026, F2F Roke, 7 tables

Improvements for next F2F event with catering.

- a) Collect any dietary needs on entry form
- b) Publicise and fix closing date (5 days before event?)
- c) Who has standing in this event and who is allowed to play without standing
- d) Refund of £6 or £12 for Peter Dyer (who did not inform Patricia that he was not playing) and Tim Wakeling who was playing with Lesley but was unwell and Lesley let us know. The website stated no refund for food for withdrawals after Tuesday.

Mixed Pairs	18-Jan-26	Entry Fee	Square Fee	1.4% + 25p	TOTAL	
Via Square	14	£24.00	0.59	£327.74		✓
Refund Fees	1		0.59	-£0.59		✓
Refund Fees	2	-£6.00		-£12.00		
		-		-		
CATERING		£194.10		£194.10		
ROOM HIRE	1	-£80.00		-£80.00		✓
EBU MP FEE	20	-£0.92		-£18.40		✓
TD FEE						
SURPLUS					£22.65	

ACTION: Book Oxford Bridge Club for Harwell Cup on Sunday 13th September 2026 and Mixed Pairs on Sunday 17th January 2027.

iv) County Pairs

TDs are confirmed for each semifinal. Currently 53 entries (around 50 at same time last year)

(Sunday 1st : 29 pairs, Thursday 5th: 9 pairs, Monday 16th: 15 pairs)

Lots of emails have been sent to those who have qualified.

Advertising for the 9H county pairs was sent out on (to the 750 player in Oxfordshire who were 9H on 1st January 2026, list provided by the EBU). 3 entries so far.

8. Dates of upcoming competitions

Confirmed

Sun 1 Feb 2026 \

Thu 5 Feb 2026 County Pairs Semis

Mon 16 Feb 2026 /

Sun 15th Feb 2026 Abingdon Swiss Pairs F2F

Sun 8 Mar 2026 9H County Pairs

Sun 15 Mar 2026 County Pairs Final

Sun 19th April 2026 Oxford Swiss Pairs F2F

Sun 17th May 2026 Home Counties Cup - Aylesbury Aces Swiss Pairs F2F

Sat/Sun 15/16 Aug 2026 Congress (Abingdon F2F)

Sun 30th Aug 2026 Friendly Pairs

Suggested

Sun 13 Sep 2026 F2F tbc Harwell Cup OBC ?

Sun 11 Oct 2026 F2F tbc Wallingford Swiss Pairs

Sun 8 Nov 2026 tbc Handicap pairs

Sun 6 Dec 2026 tbc Swiss Pairs Championship

9. Next competitions sub-committee meetings dates

Dates are: Mon 18 May 2026, Mon 19 Oct 2026.

2.30pm on Zoom. Suggested, OK?