



Happy New Year to all our readers

Michael Coda Cup 2021

The charity chosen by Sheila Coda for our support this year is Clic Sargent a charity for young cancer patients and their families.

**For details of the work they do please see their website
<https://www.clicsargent.org.uk/>**

We plan to run the event in a different way this year because it can only take place at clubs which have set up virtually, usually on BBO but also on Realbridge. We don't want to restrict players to playing at only one virtual club during the week and therefore the hands will be different for each event and the results will simply be combined to give a ranking order of percentages.

I am delighted that all eleven of our virtual clubs are supporting this event. The SCBA will support the cost of all the games and the players will be asked to donate a minimum of £3 each to the charity so in effect all table money is diverted to the charity for which we hope to raise a significant amount of money.

If you don't play virtually at one of these clubs then I am sure they would welcome guests for the evening - please contact the club. Alternatively if you would like to support the charity without playing the event then please get in touch with scbachair@icloud.com and I will be very happy to help.

Tony Russ SCBA Chair

The event will run week commencing February 1st 2021.

Participating virtual clubs are:

Axe (Cheddar, Wedmore & Winscombe) Wednesday

Castle Cary Tuesday

Clevedon & Portishead Wednesday

Coxley Monday

Crewkerne & Ilminster Tuesday

Fivehead Thursday

Frome Monday

Mendip (Chew Valley) Tuesday

Street TBD

Taunton Friday

Wells (Thursday group) Thursday

Each player is asked to contribute a minimum of £3 to the charity. This should be paid by

Internet banking to Somerset Contract Bridge Association 30-98-45 03080007 using MCC as the reference.

Alternatively, players may pay by PayPal to paypal.me/somersetbridge making sure that they choose **a personal and not a business payment** because those are not free.

Or players could send a cheque to Richard Feetenby at Bramble Court Barn, Whitehill Road, Newton Abbott, TQ12 6PR

CHAMPIONSHIP PAIRS

The Championship Pairs event will be held on BBO on Sunday February 14th. This is a green pointed event and is open to any EBU member with Somerset as their county of primary affiliation in addition to others who have been playing in Somerset Online games and/or in any of our virtual clubs.

The event will be an all play all event over two sessions but this format may be varied when the entry is known. For this reason those wishing to play must pre-register via the SCBA website.

Entries will be made on the day via BBO as usual and will cost \$10 per player. The first three pairs will be invited to represent Somerset at the Corwen Trophy event.

RealBridge

The EBU have made it clear that they will be using Realbridge to host their events in the future. Inevitably this will influence the organisers of other tournaments and events and there will probably be increasing use made of this website. For those who have got to grips with BBO or one of the other bridge sites this may take a bit of getting used to so please take the opportunity to have a go at the 6pm Sunday session hosted by SCBA to trial this resource.

RealBridge takes online bridge to the next level, with built-in video and sound, bringing the true face-to-face experience online.

- ♣ See and speak to your opponents - just like face-to-face bridge.
- ♣ Bid and play using a modern, intuitive interface.
- ♣ Connect with everyone at the table, or play with screens.
- ♣ Kibitz featured matches and watch vugraph.
- ♣ Browse deals with a versatile, user-friendly interface.
- ♣ No installation required - click a link, sit down and play.

For full instructions please see the home page of the SCBA website. Life is easier with a partner but if you would like to give it a go and need pairing up please contact scbachair@icloud.com

The Western League has now restarted in an on-line format and this will be hosted by Realbridge.

The various counties in the Western League have great disparities in the number of players available. When organising the League this year, we were keen to provide opportunity to play to as many players as possible, without having to be tied by the number of players available to the smaller counties. We have achieved a compromise solution which allows counties to enter variable numbers of teams. Note that this only applies to the current season. The format of the Western League beginning in September 2021 has not been discussed yet.

This year, the Western League is going to be played online using the RealBridge platform. The League will happen on four days - January 16, February 20, March 13 and April 17. Matches start at 14:00. and will be played online, using the RealBridge platform. Somerset has a total of 7 teams in the Western League. Matches in the Western League are played as simple head to head teams of four matches. On each match day, a team will play two matches, each of 12 boards played in two six board stanzas. There are eight teams in each division, which allows each team to play the other seven teams once. The final 12 board match of the season will be played based on ranking - first against second, and so on. There is a main competition with an A division, B division and C division. Somerset has entered one team in each of those divisions. There is a secondary competition which contains a B division and a C division. Somerset has entered two teams in each of those divisions. The Western League will supply a director for each match day, and results will be recorded using the EBU league tables.

If you would like to represent Somerset in one of these matches, please let us know by sending an email to [SCBA Selectors](#). I have already constructed a selection pool of over 60 players and if you are already receiving emails from the Selection Committee, you do not need to register a second time.

The Selection Committee is composed of Sheila Coda, Steve Fletcher, Andy Ridgers and Mike Smith.

Results can be found via the SCBA website

https://www.bridgewebs.com/cgi-bin/bwoo/bw.cgi?club=somerset&pid=display_page25

Andy Ridgers
Chair SCBA Selectors

People

Gayle Webb was resoundingly elected as Clubs' representative on the EBU board. Well done to her and we look forward to hearing about her experiences there.

Events:

Regular **SCBA** sessions:

Monday 1pm Pairs on BBO
Wednesday 1pm Pairs on BBO
Thursday 1pm Swiss Pairs on BBO
Friday 1pm IMP Pairs on BBO

Registration from 11am for all the above. Cost BBO\$3 per player.

Sunday 6pm Pairs on Realbridge – register via the SCBA website. Cost £2 per player by invoice.

Other Events:

Lockdown League 7 – there is still time to get involved before the commencement next week: get in touch with Tony if you have a foursome interested - scbachair@icloud.com

EBU – final call for **point a board teams** – see the website for details.

<https://www.ebu.co.uk/node/4051>

January 30th/31st **Dorset Green Pointed Swiss Pairs/Teams.**

<https://www.bridgewebs.com/somerset/GP Pairs-Teams - Online 2020-21.pdf>

EWBA February Congress – 20th & 21st February 2021

<https://www.bridgewebs.com/somerset/EDfeb.pdf>