



SOMERSET CONTRACT BRIDGE ASSOCIATION



SCBA Newsletter



February 2023

The Michael Coda Cup

The week commencing February 13th sees the start of the Michael Coda cup, a charity event which this year supports the High Sheriff of Somerset's Trust.

All club games played in Somerset f2f or online during the week beginning February 13th will count towards the competition. All clubs have to do is to send the same results file that they upload to Bridgeweb to Eric Cummings at ecummings@solstice-uk.com

After tabulation of all the scores, the top 20 pairs will be invited to take part in a final played over 18 boards on Realbridge to determine the winners of the Michael Coda Cup 2023.

Deal files are available for each night and clubs can choose to play these if they like. Note that it is not necessary to play the set hands. These files are available for dealing machines, for BBO and for Realbridge and are available from

Tony tonyruss@me.com These deals are different for each night so that players may play as many times as they wish. **Only one donation is requested however many times the player may enter.**

Confirmed clubs are playing as follows:

Monday – **Coxley, Frome, Crewkerne, Langport**

Tuesday – **Iminster, Kingston Seymour, Minehead**

Wednesday – **Axe, Clevedon**

Thursday – **Cannington, Castle Carey, Nailsea, Yeovil, Chew Valley**

Friday – **Fivespring, Winscombe**

National Pairs

Players scoring 55% or more in a club game between February 5th and 18th will qualify to play in the Regional Final on March 26th. Somerset will be hosting a session on BBO starting at 11.30 while Dorset will be hosting a regional final on Realbridge.

See the website for further details.

The Somerset Championship Pairs

To be played at Woolavington on Saturday March 25th with an anticipated 1pm start.

This is the county's premier competition, **green pointed** with the top pairs qualifying to play in the **Corwen Cup**. Played in two sessions over a minimum of 36 boards the cost is £10 plus £6 for one of Somerset's famous teas.

Entries can be made by clicking [here](#)

Results

The **Pairs** and **Teams** leagues are reaching their conclusion with the final matches due to be played in the next few weeks.

Eric Cummings and Ceri Pierce currently lead the Pairs League while the County League Division One has already been won by **Sweet** (Roger Sweet, Rob Lawy, Alan and Jette Bailey, Colin Flood and Sheila Coda) with a game to go.

Only one point separates the top two teams (**Cockram** and **Evans**) in Division Two. Similarly in Division Three, **Everson** and **Sims** are one point apart with one game to play.

The **Somerset Levellers** are taking **Division One** of the **National Teams** league by storm with three wins out of three having been promoted as winners of Division Two last season.

The current standings can be seen [here](#)

The latest **Western League** matches saw Somerset take on Cornwall followed by Dorset.

The A team beat Cornwall by 26 imps and lost narrowly to Dorset by 5 imps.

The B team beat Cornwall by 22 imps and lost narrowly to Dorset by 5 imps.

The C team lost narrowly to Cornwall by 5 imps and by 10 imps to Dorset.

A special mention must go to **Alan Atkinson** and **Michael Martin** who tied for second place in the cross-imps table.

The latest standings in the three divisions can be seen by clicking on this [link](#) and selecting A, B or C.

BridgeWhiz

Check out the details of a new teaching facility for aspiring young bridge players. If you have children or grandchildren between school years 7 and 13 there are a variety of sessions available to teach the game from complete beginners to those with an understanding of the basics.

All the details can be accessed on the EBU website [here](#)

CLUB DIRECTOR TRAINING COURSE

Club Tournament Director training- Exeter (Victoria Park Tennis Club, Lyndhurst Rd, Exeter, Devon EX2 4NX)

Day 0 (How to run a club duplicate) - 2023	Sunday 5 th March
Day 1 (Book rulings) - 2023	Sunday 19 th March
Day 2 (Book and judgement rulings) 2023	Sunday 2 nd April
Day 3 (assessment) 2023	Sunday 23 rd April

Price £68.50 per session for EBU members, £75 for non EBU members

EBU members can book via [myEBU](#), or by calling Lisa Miller (01296 317217)

◆ MASTER POINT PROMOTIONS ◆

Congratulations to the following Somerset players on their Master Point promotions!

Advanced Master:	Liz Tracy
Master:	Ueli Zellweger
County Master:	Paul Grierson, Roger Pimley
District Master:	Andy Rockett
Area Master:	Chris Smith
Club Master:	Diane Cornish
Local Master:	Karen Frost, Michael Watson

BBO VuGraph Special

♠ **A K 9 6**
♥ **Q 10 7 4 2**
♦ **J 7**
♣ **K 3**

♠ **8 5 3**
♥ **K 8**
♦ **Q 10 2**
♣ **10 7 6 4 3**

♠ **J 10 7 4 2**
♥ **9 6 5**
♦ **8 6 5 4**
♣ **8**

♠ **Q**
♥ **A J 3**
♦ **A K 9 3**
♣ **A Q 9 5 2**

This was spotted in the final of the Dutch Championship with both teams comprised of World Championship contenders.

The bidding went to **6 hearts** in both rooms played by North. As east you have to select a lead....

Both players (top internationals) went for an eight. Only one chose the eight of clubs. Declarer tried their best, playing ace and another heart hoping for a doubleton trump in the hand with the singleton club. No such luck and the ruff meant one down.

In the other room it was the eight of **diamonds** that was led (a super passive lead?) and the contract rolled home.

Benito Garozzo once opined that if you do not lead a singleton partner will never know that you had one. He also said that games can be defended passively but slams must be attacked. No argument from me there.

Remember – **Somerset online games** continue on Monday at 1pm (MP pairs) and Fridays at 1pm (IMP pairs).