

**Staffs & Shrops Online Bridge Club,
starting play at 7 p.m. on Wednesdays**

**S&S No Fears Online Bridge Club,
starting at 2 pm on Wednesdays**

HOW TO PLAY AT THE BRIDGE CLUB

Each duplicate session will open for registration **2 hours before the start of play** (at 12 noon and 5 p.m). Some time in those 2 hours both players in a partnership need to log on at the same time to BBO for them to register their wish to play in that session. One of the pair finds the session *Staffs & Shrops* and registers as follows:

Log on to BBO:

- Click “Competitive” under Play or Watch Bridge.
- Then click “All Tournaments”.
- In the Search box (above where it says “Entries” type **Staffs & Shrops** for both events, and up will pop up the event you wish to enter – either the No Fears in the afternoon or the ordinary event in the evening.
- Click on the event on the list.
- When prompted type the BBO **username** of your partner.
- Click “Invite”. Your partner must also be logged on to the BBO – so talk to your partner about this – and must accept the invitation quickly.
- You will be able to see that this has been accepted. Or you can check by going to Competitive, then All Tournaments, then typing in Staffs & Shrops: the event will come up: click on entries and a box will appear. This will confirm the entry, but also give you the opportunity to cancel.

YOU CAN THEN LOG OFF if you wish, **but** you both have to log on to the Club session **by at least a quarter of an hour before the start of play**. This is because it can be a busy. Having logged in again, both players must be in the Competitive/AllTournaments area of the site. If you miss the registration deadline or are late logging on you will **not** be allowed to play.

All you need now is patience. On the hour (of 2pm or 7pm) the screen will suddenly change as if by magic (but actually by the Director), and you can start the first hand.

If you have problems logging in, are looking for a partner or miss the start, see below. This also tells you why you may come across a pair you don't recognise during the session. If there is a half table, the EBU will provide a stand-by pair in the event of a half table.

Results will appear on the County Website www.bridgewebs.com/staffsshrops within an hour or two of play or the next morning.

PROBLEMS?

(<http://www.ebu.co.uk/ebuscore-wiki/virtualclubfaq>)

Whoops! If –during login -you receive the message “This tournament is private - only select usernames are allowed to participate” then you need to contact your club (John Withers) to be added to the list. Possibly your username is in the list but has been misspelt.

Is there a partnership desk? There is a partnership desk to help you find a partner which is available from the time when registration opens i.e. 2 hours before the start time. Follow the instructions above to go the event. Click on the event and then there is a Partnership Desk tab. Here you will be able to see anyone else who has already registered as looking for a partner. If you wish to add yourself to the list then click the button for 'I will pay for only myself'.

What happens if there is a half table? BBO can start a game with a half table but cannot move to round 2 with a half table. BBO has a list of people who have indicated they are willing to act as substitutes for any tournament, the usual procedure is to use two people from the list to make up the half table. These people will probably not be from UK and therefore will probably not play Acol but it avoids the need for the club to have a designated standby pair. If the club has a designated standby pair then they can be brought in if the game the game starts with a half table. In this case they would not pay an entry fee. Whichever substitutes option is used the club will be charged UMS (P2P) for the substitutes. Robots cannot be used as substitutes.

If a pair have registered but then miss the start will their entry fee be refunded? It is very unlikely that the Director will allow a pair to start late and latecomers have no right of appeal against the Director's decision on this. On the more positive side, they will not be debited for the session.