



Surrey County Bridge Association

Newsletter # 26 June 2017

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President's Introduction

It was just over 2 years ago that I received a call from Graham Osborne asking me if I would consider taking over from him as President of SCBA. The President is elected at the AGM each year, but normally serves a 2-year term and then hands over to a new person.

My term will be ending at the AGM on July 2nd where I will be handing over to the new president. In my time on the committee I have seen many changes. We have a new website and a new Chairman, Trevor Hobson, who is doing a great job. The committee work very hard to make Bridge as enjoyable as possible for the members. It is an unpaid role so please remember this when making any comments to them.

The committee are always looking for more people to help them run the SCBA so if you are interested please contact any of the committee for more information.

I would like to invite you all to enter our flagship events at the Green Point Weekend

23 September	Surrey Green Point Swiss Pairs
24 September	Surrey Green Point Swiss Teams

Charles Chisnall

The 2017 Calendar

JUNE 2017

Sun	4	13.00	Surrey Leagues Finals	Oxshott
Tue	13	10.00	Mini-Bridge – Teach the Teacher	Bourne Club, Farnham
Sun	18	10.00	Mini-Bridge – Teach the Teacher	Bourne Club, Farnham
Tue	20		Richmond Café Bridge	Richmond
Sun	25	13.00	Surrey Wanborough Cup Final	Wimbledon

JULY 2017

Sun	2	13.00	Surrey AGM & Bridge	Oxshott
Sun	9	12.00	Wimbledon Blue Pointed Swiss Pairs	Wimbledon
Sun	30	13.00	Richard Currie Memorial Blue Pointed Swiss Pairs	The Maltings, Farnham

AUGUST 2017

Mon	28	13.00	Surrey Bank Holiday Blue Pointed Swiss Pairs	Oxshott
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SEPTEMBER 2017

Mon-Fri	11-15		Surrey Club Pairs Challenge Heats	Clubs
Sun	17	13.30	Richmond Blue Pointed Swiss Pairs	Richmond
Sat	23	12.00	Surrey Green Pointed Swiss Pairs	Guildford
Sun	24	12.00	Surrey Green Pointed Swiss Pairs	Guildford

OCTOBER 2017

Sun	8	13.00	Surrey Club Pairs Challenge Final	Oxshott
Sun	15	TBA	Woking Blue Pointed Swiss Pairs	Woking
Sat	21	14.00	Petersfield Blue Pointed Swiss Teams	Petersfield

NOVEMBER 2017

Wed	15	11.00	Surrey Chairmen's Lunch	Bookham
Sun	19	13.30	Richmond Blue Pointed Swiss Pairs	Richmond

DECEMBER 2017

Mon-Fri	4-8		Surrey Dorin Salver Sim Pairs	Clubs
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Please note that our AGM is to be held on 2nd July 2017 at Oxshott. The 36-board Pairs event will start at 13.00 and the AGM will be held in the break around 4 pm. The deadline for nominations for officers is 11th June 2017 and these should be sent to the Secretary, secretary.scba@bridgewebs.com.

For more information on events that Surrey County Bridge Association run [Click Here](#) or click on a link in the Calendar on the website. To enter an event either online using the [Event Hub](#), download an entry form, or contact the competitions secretary, Shirley Pritchard competitionsecretary.scba@bridgewebs.com

Hall of Fame so far

Competition	Winners
Mary Edwards	Peter Lee and Mike Scoltock
EBU Point-Board Teams	Frances Hinden, Graham C Osborne, Jeffrey Allerton, Chris Jagger
Affiliated Clubs Teams of 8	RICHMOND - BLUE: Margaret Page & Patrick Bohan, C Lambe & John Balson, Dan O'Farrell & Maureen Dennison, Ting To & Corneliu Rimboiu
Club Chairmen's Lunch	Marion Hart & David Sims
Club Pairs Challenge "A" Final	Peter Hardymment & Saji Ispahani
Club Pairs Challenge "B" Final	Ian Lewis & Derek Gunter
Dorin Salver Day 1 Monday	(70.12%) - Malcolm Oddy & Bob Guille
Dorin Salver Day 2 Tuesday	(70.44%) - David Burch & Liz Dunjay
Dorin Salver Day 3 Wednesday	(68.66%) - Simon Whiteside & Maxine Julius
Dorin Salver Day 4 Thursday	(74.82%) - Alan Webber & Mick Edwards (Dorin Salver)
Dorin Salver Day 5 Friday	(71.41%) - Derek & Alison Gardner
Ladies Pairs	Michelle Lundqvist & Sandra Cape
Men's Pairs	Richard Granville & Graham Sadie
Mixed Pairs	Marion Hart & Bob Guille
Seniors Pairs	Steve Lock & Graham E Osborne
Surrey Green Pointed Swiss Pairs	Christine Dyer & David Dawson and Stephen Brown & Stuart McPhee (Joint Winners)
Surrey Green Pointed Swiss Teams	Martin Garvey, Jeffrey Allerton, Frances Hinden & Graham C Osborne
Surrey Sim Pairs Feb Day 1 Monday	(69.01%) - Dip Dasgupta & Don Butt
Surrey Sim Pairs Feb Day 2 Tuesday	(65.12%) - Keith Oatway & Imelda Moore
Surrey Sim Pairs Feb Day 3 Wednesday	(66.85%) - Elaine & Ron Ewins
Surrey Sim Pairs Feb Day 4 Thursday	(70.91%) - Penny Webster-Smith & Sandra Cape
Surrey Sim Pairs Feb Day 5 Friday	(62.79%) - David & Connie Lofts

Our Website

It is now nearly two years since we began the migration to our current website and in that time, thanks to the hard work and dedication of Ian Lewis, we now have a website that we feel proud of. That is our view but as in all the things we do we would welcome comments and suggestions on how we may improve it still further.

All links to the old website have now been removed so if you have any bookmarks to the old site then please update them to: <http://www.bridgewebs.com/surrey/>

In addition, after a huge effort in developing our new website Ian has decided to step aside now that the main requirements are relatively simple maintenance. It is with our warmest thanks that we say goodbye to Ian and we would like to extend a warm hello to someone with experience of Bridgewebs that will help us maintain what Ian has created. So, if you have experience of the Bridgewebs system and are willing to help us then please either send an email to: chairman.scba@bridgewebs.com or use the Contact us facility on our website. We have detailed documentation covering all the activities needed to maintain the site so anyone with experience of Bridgewebs should be able to pick it up quickly.

Club Teacher Training

Bourne Bridge Club, Farnham
Wednesday 2nd and Thursday 3rd August 2017

To book a place on one of these courses, please contact **Lisa Miller** on 01296 317217

Neighbouring County Events

June

Sat, Sun 10 & 11 June - [Oxford Green Point Congress](#)

Sat 17 June - [Berks & Bucks Green Point Swiss Pairs](#)

Sun 18 June - [Berks & Bucks Green Point Swiss Teams](#)

Sun 18 June - [Dorset Green Point Swiss Teams](#)

July

Sun 23 July - [Dorset Green Point Swiss Pairs](#)

September

Mon - Thur 4 - 7 - [Oxford Bridge Festival](#)

Beginners Taster Session

Invite your friends and relatives; sons, daughters, nephews and nieces to Bridge Taster Sessions.

3 COUNTIES BRIDGE

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**WE'RE LOOKING FOR
PEOPLE WHO ENJOY
TRYING NEW ACTIVITIES**

Come to a taster session which will have you all playing a game of bridge. No prior knowledge or partner is required



Visit 3countiesbridge.com for more details on dates and locations, and to register your interest. Bring your friends for a drink and a free taster session, at our lovely venues

Contact Douglas Wright, on 01428 717869 or 07801 989630 or email events@3countiesbridge.com

WWW.3COUNTIESBRIDGE.COM

Strong Opening Bids – What is allowed

The purpose of this note is to help remove some confusion over what is, and what is not, allowed when opening with a strong bid.

Illegal bids

Illegal bids are bids disallowed under the Laws such as:

- Bids out of rotation
- Insufficient bids
- Bids after the final pass of an auction
- Bids when obliged by the Laws to pass.

So, in the context of an opening bid the only immediately illegal bid is one that is out of rotation.

However, the EBU make some restrictions on allowed partnership understandings, the details of which can be found in the EBU Blue Book. For artificial strong opening bids the EBU require partnership understandings to include only those hands that satisfy the Extended Rule of 25 (details below). So, while it is not illegal *per se* to open with a strong artificial bid on a hand that does not comply with the ER25, it is not allowed to have a partnership understanding that includes such opening bids.

Extended Rule of 25

To satisfy the Extended Rule of 25 a hand should meet one or more of the following tests:

- it should have at least 16 HCP
- it should meet the Rule of 25 (HCP plus the length of the two longest suits ≥ 25)
- it should have at least 10 HCP and should contain at least eight clear-cut tricks.

Clear-cut Tricks

Strong artificial opening bids that pass this test are usually made with a long suit. To determine how many clear-cut tricks a long suit can deliver the EBU require the following:

- assume a void in partner's hand
- assume the second-best distribution of the remaining cards
- assume the worst possible arrangement of the opponents' high cards. So, for example if you are missing Q10xxx you should assume they are split Q10xx – x and so must lose to both the Q and the 10. Note this last point is not stated in the Blue Book but is consistent with a recent ruling on this matter.

Can I open with an artificial strong bid on a hand that does not meet the Extended Rule of 25?

Well yes you can, but this must be as much of a surprise to your partner as to your opponents. In other words, it must not be consistent with your partnership understanding, whether through explicit agreement or previous experience. Your bid may be a psyche, a mis-bid, or a deliberate deviation from your agreed system. In the case of a psyche this will be obvious to the director and should be recorded as such. In the case of a mis-bid or a deliberate deviation you will need to convince the director of this and that may be difficult if you are not able to provide a convention card that makes your partnership agreement clear.

Can I open with a natural strong bid on a hand that does not meet the Extended Rule of 25?

Yes. There are no restrictions on permitted partnership agreements for natural 2-level opening bids. However, you are still required to disclose your partnership agreement of the strength of the bid on your convention card and in reply to any question from your opponents.

In summary

To avoid unnecessary confusion at the table it is best to make sure that all your artificial strong opening bids comply with the Extended Rule of 25, failing which you should be prepared to have a detailed conversation with the director

Bridge Hand

Always look for the extra chance (by Jeffrey Allerton)

As the Summer finally arrives, thoughts will turn to the EBU Summer Meeting which is being held earlier than usual this year: 4th to 13th August at Winter Gardens, Eastbourne. These earlier dates are good news for those who prefer to play locally: the late August weekend has been freed up, allowing the return of Surrey's Bank Holiday Swiss Pairs on Monday 28th August, which is being held at Oxshott. Back to the Summer Meeting: I was reminded recently of a hand I played when the event was held at Brighton. The theme was to always look for that extra chance. Credit must go to Frances Hinden for the original write-up.

Pairs

Game all ♠ 86
 dealer ♥ K10752
 North ♦ A432
 ♣ K5

♠ KJ7432		♠ 10
♥ 986		♥ J3
♦ J5		♦ 109876
♣ J10		♣ Q9842

♠ AQ95
 ♥ AQ4
 ♦ KQ
 ♣ A763

West	North	East	South	notes
	Pass	Pass	2NT	
Pass	3♦	Pass	3♥	3♦ was a transfer to hearts, without 4-card support South doesn't break the transfer
Pass	4♦	Pass	6♥	4♦ was a natural slam try.
Pass	Pass	Pass		

With a hand that was improved by hearing about diamond length opposite, but no real chance of a grand slam opposite a passed partner, South just bid what he thought he could make.

Look at it as a single dummy problem on a heart lead. The obvious route to a twelfth trick is to draw two rounds of trumps, unblock in diamonds, cross to the King of clubs and ruff a diamond in hand. If something goes wrong (trumps 4-1, the diamond being ruffed or over-ruffed) there is the spade finesse in reserve. So, win the trump lead with the Ace, cash the Queen of trumps and the KQ of diamonds. However, there is one extra chance - before crossing to the ♣K, cash the Ace first. Now, when you ruff a diamond in hand West can over-ruff - but has nothing but spades left, and has to lead round to your AQ. It's not very likely that West's shape is exactly 6322, but it's even less likely that clubs are 6-1 either way round (no club lead from a singleton or sequence in a 6-card holding) so why not pick up that extra chance. I'd like to say that South played this way, but in fact he got a club lead, which forced him to take the ace first, and after that the winning line was a lot easier to find.

Club News

3 Counties Bridge

Balmer Lawn Learning Weekend

Douglas Wright & Laura Porro invite you to a fabulous weekend of bridge at Balmer Lawn, a classic Country House Hotel set in the very heart of the New Forest National Park. Your bridge will improve as Douglas & Laura (International player and professional teacher) host a series of seminars aimed at social and duplicate players, together with several opportunities to play bridge.

Balmer Lawn, New Forest - 1, 2, 3 December 2017 - Competitive Bidding
For further details email douglaswright@3countiesbridge.com

Farnham Bridge Club

The annual Richard Currie Swiss Pairs Blue Pointed Charity event will be held on Sunday, July 30th at the Farnham Maltings. This year's charity is the Phyllis Tuckwell Hospice in Farnham.

The format is a 6 x 8 board match directed by Neil Morley. The £30 per pair entry fee includes a trophy for the winners, a plated tea and raffle. It starts at 1pm and finishes at approx. 8pm.

The event is limited to 40 pairs! Get your entry in soon. [Click here for the entry form.](#)

Horsham Bridge Club

On Sunday 30th July we are holding a Blue Point Stratified Swiss Pairs and also a Welcome Pairs, this is for district master and below. I have attached a poster for both events and this has details for who to contact in the event of queries. We hope to attract some young players.

[Click here for Entry Form Horsham Swiss Pairs and Welcome Pairs](#)

On Thursday 26 October Horsham Bridge Club have an evening with Andrew Robson.

[Click here for Horsham website](#)



Surbiton cafe bridge - Tuesday 8 August - now open

- The first cafe bridge in Surbiton is now open for bookings. This event is being run by Pauline Finn in aid of Surbiton Rotary local charities and African Vision Malawi. Book using the printable form at brianbridge.net/surb2017/EntryForm.pdf. This event is limited to 28 tables.

Richmond, Antwerp, Guildford - still places left

- **20 June (Tues) - Richmond** cafe bridge, book online here: brianbridge.net/rich2017
- **Weekend of 8-10 Sep - Antwerp trip**, more information here: brianbridge.net/antwerp2017/Information.pdf - still places left at the original price.
- **5 Oct (Thurs) - Guildford** cafe bridge, run this year by Lynn Paynter l.paynter@btopenworld.com in aid of Breast Cancer Now and LinkAble charities. Limited to 60 tables so book early. Booking info here: [Guildford flyer](#)

Brook Green, Esher, Wimbledon - save the date

- **12 Sep (Tues) - Brook Green** cafe bridge (LMBA)
- **16 Oct (Mon) - Esher** cafe bridge in aid of The Princess Alice Hospice
- **27 Nov (Mon) - Wimbledon Village** cafe bridge in aid of Orbis UK

For up-to-date booking instructions and full cafe bridge calendar, check regularly at brianbridge.net/cafe

Youth News

We're holding a MiniBridge taster session at **St John the Baptist School** in Woking on Thursday 6th July, and are hoping a club will start there from the autumn term. If you live within range and might be up for helping the children learn to play, please let me know.

Also in Woking, our new bridge club at **Greenfield School** is now in its second term, and with 14 pupils continues to thrive. We're always keen to find more helpers, even if you can only come along occasionally - you can contact SCBA's Youth Officer, Tim Warren, at TimjgWarren@gmail.com.

We ran some introductory sessions for the scholarship boys at **Rokeby Prep School** in Kingston in May, and are again hoping to start a full club next term.

On Tuesday 13th and Sunday 18th June, we'll be holding a couple of MiniBridge train-the-trainer courses at The Bourne club in Farnham. These have proved popular, and the first is fully-booked. But there's a few places left at the Sunday session, so if you'd like to learn how to get children started at MiniBridge, you can sign up via the [Competition Hub](#) on the SCBA website.

Tied in with this, we're trying to get schools in the south-west of the county to set up a club. If you have personal contacts in a school, you're much more likely to get their attention than I am - why not speak to them and let me know if there's a chance they may be interested.

We will be running more **FREE** sessions for all standards (including complete beginners). Come to Learn and Play MiniBridge and bridge at The Bourne Club, dates and times below - sign up early.

Monday 24th July 10am - 3pm

Tuesday 25th July 10am - 1pm

Wednesday 26th July 10am - 3pm

every **Thursday** from 27th July 3.30pm - 5.30pm

Please contact douglaswright@3countiesbridge.com for more information

Invite your youthful friends and relatives; grandsons, granddaughters, great nephews and nieces to Junior Bridge Taster Sessions.

LEARN & PLAY BRIDGE

HOW TO MAKE THAT LITTLE BRAIN WORK?

Does your little one enjoy puzzles and games? Join us in the Bourne Club, Farnham during summer holidays.



Visit 3countiesbridge.com for more details on dates and to register your interest. Bring your children, grandchildren, nephews, nieces or friends age 8-18 to Learn and Play bridge at our lovely venue.

Contact Douglas Wright, on 01428 717869 or 07801 989630 or email events@3countiesbridge.com

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Next Newsletter

The next newsletter will be in September 2017. News, views and interesting hands, what is happening at your club – please send them to Gail Norman at secretary.scba@bridgewebs.com