

## **A note about EBED and Sims events**

**EBED** (English Bridge Education & Development) is committed to encouraging more people to take up bridge, especially young people, as well as building the infrastructure which will make that aim a reality. We know that Sims in aid of charity are popular, so we hope this event will be particularly well supported as the entry fees will go to supporting a charity dedicated to the development of bridge in England. The events are organised by the EBU on behalf of EBED.

### **The Hands**

We sometimes receive comments that some members are deterred from entering Sims events because they believe the hands are 'rigged' and are intentionally made to include abnormal distributions and awkward situations that they do not enjoy. This is not the case. The hands are computer dealt, and each set is used exactly as dealt by the dealing program (we use Big Deal for this). There is no manipulation of the hands, nor do we deal 100 and pick the 'strangest' 36. They are as natural as those that would be dealt (assuming adequate shuffling) at any regular club night. So, whilst there may be a 5-0 split, or an eight card suit, they are no more likely in these events than in any other event that has properly random hands. Some players who are used to hand-dealing, and do not shuffle well enough, may find these hands to be more 'lively' than they are used to, but that is not because these hands are fixed, but because the hands they deal for themselves are not properly random. We therefore believe that the hands can be enjoyed by anyone, regardless of their level of play.