

## 1. Background

The WCBA accounts presented at the AGM in April show that the county made a loss of ca. £500 for the financial year 2018/2019. The reasons for this are manifold: increased EBU licence fees, slightly reduced numbers at the Green Point event, increased directors and venue fees, loss-making Sunday events, the need for new cards and laptop computer etc. On top of a loss of ca. £2,500 the previous year (due primarily to the cancellation of the GP event), this has resulted in the county's reserves dwindling from ca. £8K to less than £5K. There has also been much debate about replacing the county's duplicator, which is nearing its end-of-life, but that alone would cost around £2,800.

Your county committee is proposing a number of steps to halt this trend, including increasing the entry fees for the GP and Sunday county events, but also introducing a county fee to the EBU's Universal Membership Fee (UMF, formerly called Pay-2-Play). Our constitution requires approval of the latter by members, hence the reason for this EGM. This proposal is explained in detail below.

## 2. Proposed county element to the EBU's UMF

The table in Annex 1 shows the current level of the EBU's UMF which is 39 pence per player-session. This fee is automatically charged to affiliated clubs based on session details that are uploaded to the EBU and is covered by the table money that you each pay. Counties can also levy an additional fee and you will observe from this table that Wiltshire is the **ONLY** county that does not currently charge a county fee. Other counties charge between 1p and 15p on top of the EBU's 39p per player-session, with the counties that neighbour Wiltshire averaging more than 5p (Avon = 7p). **Your committee is proposing that Wiltshire charges 2p per player-session from April next year**, a figure that will be reviewed annually at the AGM.

What does this mean financially for Wiltshire's EBU-affiliated clubs? The table in Annex 2 shows the number of player-sessions held last year at each of Wiltshire's 15 affiliated clubs and the financial impact of the proposed 2p county levy.

In summary, the EBU currently raises more than £16,000 per annum from Wiltshire via the UMF. The proposed county levy of 2p per member-session from April 2020 would raise around £840 per annum for the county and would effectively cost its affiliated clubs between £219 (Bath) and £13 (Lyneham) annually. Note that this equates to slightly less than £1 per annum per Wiltshire member, but is considered to be fairer than a flat-rate county membership fee because it is directly related to the number of sessions that an individual member plays in the year.

# Annex 1

**THE ENGLISH BRIDGE UNION**  
**SUBSCRIPTIONS FOR THE MEMBERSHIP YEAR 2019/2020**  
**Fees valid from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2019 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2020**

	Direct Members UK			Club Subscription			Universal Membership Fees		
	EBU	County	Total	EBU	County	Total	EBU	County	Total
AVON	31.00	0.00	31.00	26.00	0.00	26.00	0.39	0.07	0.46
BEDFORDSHIRE	31.00	5.50	36.50	26.00	0.00	26.00	0.39	0.09	0.48
BERKS & BUCKS	31.00	0.00	31.00	26.00	0.00	26.00	0.39	0.04	0.43
CAMBS & HUNTS	31.00	5.00	36.00	26.00	0.00	26.00	0.39	0.08	0.47
CHANNEL ISLANDS	31.00	0.00	31.00	26.00	0.00	26.00	0.39	0.10	0.49
CORNWALL	31.00	3.00	34.00	26.00	0.00	26.00	0.39	0.08	0.47
CUMBRIA	31.00	0.00	31.00	26.00	0.00	26.00	0.39	0.01	0.40
DERBY	31.00	0.00	31.00	26.00	0.00	26.00	0.39	0.05	0.44
DEVON	31.00	3.00	34.00	26.00	0.00	26.00	0.39	0.04	0.43
DORSET	31.00	0.00	31.00	26.00	0.00	26.00	0.39	0.08	0.47
ESSEX	31.00	6.00	37.00	26.00	0.00	26.00	0.39	0.04	0.43
GLOUCESTERSHIRE	31.00	4.00	35.00	26.00	0.00	26.00	0.39	0.05	0.44
HANTS & IOW	31.00	0.00	31.00	26.00	0.00	26.00	0.39	0.04	0.43
HEREFORD	31.00	0.00	31.00	26.00	0.00	26.00	0.39	0.07	0.46
HERTFORDSHIRE	31.00	0.00	31.00	26.00	0.00	26.00	0.39	0.04	0.43
ISLE OF MAN	31.00	6.00	37.00	26.00	0.00	26.00	0.39	0.15	0.54
KENT	31.00	0.00	31.00	26.00	0.00	26.00	0.39	0.06	0.45
LANCASHIRE	31.00	4.00	35.00	26.00	0.00	26.00	0.39	0.02	0.41
LEICESTERSHIRE	31.00	4.00	35.00	26.00	0.00	26.00	0.39	0.08	0.47
LINCOLNSHIRE	31.00	5.00	36.00	26.00	0.00	26.00	0.39	0.07	0.46
LONDON	31.00	5.00	36.00	26.00	7.00	33.00	0.39	0.08	0.47
MANCHESTER	31.00	5.00	36.00	26.00	0.00	26.00	0.39	0.07	0.46
MERSEYSIDE & CHESHIRE	31.00	4.00	35.00	26.00	0.00	26.00	0.39	0.04	0.43
MIDDLESEX	31.00	5.00	36.00	26.00	0.00	26.00	0.39	0.07	0.46
NORFOLK	31.00	3.00	34.00	26.00	0.00	26.00	0.39	0.06	0.45
NORTHANTS	31.00	0.00	31.00	26.00	0.00	26.00	0.39	0.01	0.40
NORTH-EAST	31.00	5.00	36.00	26.00	0.00	26.00	0.39	0.05	0.44
NOTTINGHAMSHIRE	31.00	0.00	31.00	26.00	0.00	26.00	0.39	0.04	0.43
OXFORD	31.00	4.00	35.00	26.00	0.00	26.00	0.39	0.01	0.40
SOMERSET	31.00	0.00	31.00	26.00	0.00	26.00	0.39	0.02	0.41
STAFFS	31.00	5.00	36.00	26.00	0.00	26.00	0.39	0.06	0.45
SUFFOLK	31.00	0.00	31.00	26.00	0.00	26.00	0.39	0.07	0.46
SURREY	31.00	0.00	31.00	26.00	0.00	26.00	0.39	0.02	0.41
SUSSEX	31.00	0.00	31.00	26.00	0.00	26.00	0.39	0.07	0.46
WARWICKSHIRE	31.00	5.00	36.00	26.00	0.00	26.00	0.39	0.07	0.46
WESTMORLAND	31.00	0.00	31.00	26.00	0.00	26.00	0.39	0.06	0.45
WILTSHIRE	31.00	0.00	31.00	26.00	0.00	26.00	0.39	0.00	0.39
WORCESTERSHIRE	31.00	0.00	31.00	26.00	0.00	26.00	0.39	0.08	0.47
YORKSHIRE	31.00	0.00	31.00	26.00	0.00	26.00	0.39	0.05	0.44
<b>Direct members only:</b> UK £31.00 Overseas £39.00				<b>Club Fee, via County £52 for clubs who play less than 26 UM sessions per year.</b>					
<b>Junior members:</b> 26 and under on 1/1/2019 Free				<b>University: £5.00</b> <b>Schools: N/A</b>					

Updated 31/01/019

## Annex 2

<b>Club</b>	2018/19 Player-sessions	2 pence county levy
Bath Bridge Club	10948	£218.96
Semington Village Bridge Club	5338	£106.76
Trowbridge County Town Bridge Club	5198	£103.96
Chippenham Bridge Club	2786	£55.72
Devizes Bridge Club	2406	£48.12
Malmesbury Bridge Club	2311	£46.22
Swindon Bridge Club	2268	£45.36
Sarum Bridge Club Salisbury	2170	£43.40
Warminster Bridge Club	2036	£40.72
Marlborough Bridge Club	1370	£27.40
Bridge for All Marlborough	1270	£25.40
Corsham Bridge Club	1192	£23.84
Royal Wootton Bassett Bridge Club	1166	£23.32
Spire Bridge	1020	£20.40
Lyneham Bridge Club	634	£12.68
	42113	£842.26