

BRIDGE NEWS



Wimborne Online Bridge Club Newsletter

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Thank you

We asked for feedback about our newsletter and everything we do.....and we had it. So thank you. We will answer the questions and queries you raised in this and later newsletters. Keep your feedback coming.

Using alerts in BBO bidding box

At the heart of bridge is the principle of ‘fair competition’. In F2F bridge this is helped by alert cards and a partner making it clear what their partner meant by a bid. For example we are all programmed to say, “12-14 points”, when our partner bids 1NT. If our opponents don’t understand a bid then they can ask our partner what my bid meant. On-line the principle remains but the practicalities are different.

In the BBO bidding box we as the ‘bidder’ can state what our bid means. Only us as the bidder and the opposition can see the alert and not our partner.

Probably a bid of 1NT stating, “12-14 points” would be superfluous in our club. But if you play a strong NT (as a couple of pairs do) then stating, “15-17 points” would enhance the fairness of the bid. Equally an opening bid of 2D should be alerted by bidder as, “weak “ or, “strong” depending on the conventions you play.

Use of alerts has at least three advantages. First, it removes doubt for our opponents. Second, it minimises the risk of exchanges about the bid in the ‘chat box’. Third, it speeds up play.

Why do we allow undos?

We ask that you always allow any request for an undo...but why?

Simply to be fair. In face-to-face duplicate a request for an undo would never happen or be fair. But we are not face-to-face. We are all playing with different circumstances. Some play on a PC, others on a laptop, many on a tablet and at least one of us on a mobile phone. The cat, the dog or someone else may distract us which would never happen in a physical club. And as one of our members put it, “I have fat fingers and sometimes push the wrong button.”

We have never seen or heard of anyone asking for an undo to gain a technical advantage. If that happens then please tell us.

Tournament Schedule

- Monday at 7.30 p.m.
- Tuesday at 7.15 p.m.
- Wednesday at 7.00 p.m.
- Friday at 2.15 p.m.

Please register 15 minutes before start time.

Free Stuff

Free Tournament

We are continuing to run a free monthly tournament. This month it will be Wednesday, 13 April at 7.00 p.m.

Coffee Mornings

Spring is here and life is slowly returning to nearly normal. So we are bringing back our bi-weekly coffee mornings. This is an opportunity to meet and talk about anything (including bridge) and to meet people you have only met on-line. As we have members from far and wide it's impossible to find a good coffee-place that is near everyone. So we are going to alternate between two great places and hope that you can get to at least one:

- Tuesday, 12 April, 11.00 a.m.-12 noon at the Barn Café, Bere Farm, Lychett Matravers BH16 6ER
- Tuesday, 28 April, 11.00 a.m.-12 noon at Ferndown Forest Golf Club, Forest Links Rd, Ferndown BH22 9PH
- Tuesday, 10 May, 11.00 a.m.-12 noon at the Barn Café, Bere Farm, Lychett Matravers BH16 6ER
- Tuesday, 24 May, 11.00 a.m.-12 noon at Ferndown Forest Golf Club, Forest Links Rd, Ferndown BH22 9PH

Sturminster Marshall F2F ‘Chicago’ Bridge

We don’t run any F2F bridge and don’t have any intention to change that. But we do have friends who do....

Bob Grant (Windlecot on BBO) runs a very friendly and social ‘Chicago’ event every Tuesday, 10.00 a.m. - 12.30 p.m. at Sturminster Marshall Village Hall (BH21 4BQ).

Cost is £2 per head (including coffee/biscuits). Please bring a partner.

New Tournament

Poole U3A are having their spring break in April so we are bringing back our Thursday afternoon open bridge event from 24 March to 21 April. Each tournament will run from 2.00 p.m. and is open to all our members not just our U3A friends.

We also hope to run this event during the U3A summer break.