



# BRIDGE NEWS

## Wimborne Online Bridge Club Newsletter

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## Questions..... and answers

We asked for questions and we have had lots that we have answered in this and our earlier newsletters. Please keep your questions coming... and your feedback... so we can keep the newsletter relevant.

### Play: Timings, movements etc

We like to keep things simple and consistent across all our tournaments. What does that mean?

Our informal soundings of members showed that most of you want to play 18-21 boards. We also know that everyone would prefer playing with robots rather than having a sit out...so we do.

Everyone wants a time limit for each board/round so we have adopted a 'goldilocks' time of 8 minutes per board or better. Many tournaments run at faster than this...driven by the speed of play of the players that day, not the system.

We also believe that everyone is happier playing each other pair rather than pairs sitting either N/S or E/W. So we always use a Howell movement and this element is pre-programmed into all our tournaments along with board timings.

So after everyone has registered 15 minutes before each tournament starts, the director makes the final adjustments to the tournament. The director sets how many rounds and boards per round based on how many pairs/tables within the 18-21 board range. So, for example, if we have 8 pairs that means 7 rounds so every pair plays all the other pairs, hence 3 boards per round and a total of 21 boards.

### Why watch the clock?

We usually have a standard message at the start of each tournament about keeping an eye on the clock....but why?

The tournament clock runs in the top left hand corner of your screen and shows how much time is left to play in that round. Our boards are set up to run at a rate of 8-minutes per board (unless there are technical challenges, for example with loss of the internet or a powercut, when the director may adjust the time).

If you run out of time then the system will then give you an adjusted score. Will it be fair? Yes. Will you feel happy? Maybe. Truthfully, you are unlikely to persuade the director to make an manual adjustment to over-ride the automatic adjustment. Our best advice is watch the clock.

### 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.

Our Thursday afternoon tournament is suspended and will return in July.

### New Director

James Dunn (tudorlady on BBO) has completed his training and has joined the directing team. Welcome James. We now have seven directors. There is still room for more so please let us know if you would like to join the team running our events.

### Ukraine

The war on Ukraine by Russia is unfair, unjust and illegal. We have all been appalled by the events unfolding in Ukraine. Most of us feel impotent about doing anything constructive. Although it is just a little we have donated £200 from Club funds to DEC Ukraine Appeal - Ukraine Humanitarian Appeal.

## Free Stuff

### Free Tournament

*We are continuing to run a free monthly tournament. This month it will be Friday, 20 May at 2.15 p.m.*

### Coffee Mornings

Let's be straight here: our two coffee mornings in April were damp squibs. One had a very small handful of people and the second had one person. We did have useful feedback that Tuesdays were not convenient for some and one person who said that coffee mornings were not for them (and that's fine). So we will alternate days and drop our new location as nobody came. Our May coffee mornings will be:-

- Tuesday, 10 May, 11.00 a.m.-12 noon at the Barn Café, Bere Farm, Lychett Matravers BH16 6ER
- Wednesday, 24 May, 11.00 a.m.-12 noon at the Barn Café, Bere Farm, Lychett Matravers BH16 6ER

We will decide at the end of the month how often and where we will run coffee mornings in June.

### Other Events

Sturminster Marshall F2F 'Chicago' Bridge

Bob Grant (Windlecote 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.

Merley F2F 'Chicago' Bridge

This will run in July/August.....full details to follow.