**N INVITATION TO ALL MEMBERS of S&SCBA TO PLAY BRIDGE IN A FRIENDLY CLUB ATMOSPHERE ON LINE**

We are setting up a virtual “Club” with the help of the EBU and BridgeBaseOnline (BBO), and we intend to hold these sessions on a Wednesday evening (a traditional County night).

**Our first Club session will be on  Wednesday, 10th June 2020, at 7 p.m.**

*If you are already registered with BridgeBaseOnline (BBO)you will not need to read all the information below, most of which relates to registering and playing on BBO, but we would be grateful for any help you can give to those who need it to register with BBO.  You will, of course, have to let the Membership Secretary know that you wish to play in this Club, as outlined below under Next Steps.*

We invite you to register with BBO now, if you are not already registered, so that you can become familiar with using it and have practice sessions on your own or with friends before going “live” in a club environment.

If you would like personal help on registering with BBO, please contact by email or by phone one of the people at the end of this email, giving a contact telephone number;  or you can ask anyone in your own club you know could help you.

The attachment headed **How to create your BBO account** will help you to do just that.  Please include your normal name.  Not mentioned in the attachment, is the area called Other where you could put a brief summary of the system you play.    (Take no notice of the last line, suggesting you look elsewhere on the web for more – I’ve taken this off the Cheltenham Bridge Club’s website!)

After you have logged in correctly you can then begin to play:  choose Casual, where you can play solitaire or make up a table with friends, with no fee payable.  At the start we suggest you play solitaire just to get used to using it, and when you are ready you can “start a table” to play with friends.   See attachment called **Starting to Play**.

**Guidelines for Play** (attached) is also important:  it covers chatting, alerts, undoing mistakes, losing connection, as well as when you are actually playing at your new Club.

When the Club is set up and we are nearly ready to start we will contact all the players who have registered with us, sending out instructions on how to join in the game.

There is a lot of easy-to-use information about BBO on the Cheltenham Bridge Club website   ([cheltenhambridgeclub.com](http://cheltenhambridgeclub.com/)), and we shall have some information of our own on the S&SCBA website – www.bridgewebs.com/staffsshrops .

**NEXT STEP**

**If you would like to be a member of this “Club” please email the Membership Secretary –  John Withers on jwithersx@gmail.com, with your real name, your BBO user name (exactly as you print it), EBU number, contact telephone number and email address.   (**This has to be done also by those players already registered with BBO.)

**This is important, because only members of the County who have registered with this Club will be allowed to play in these sessions for now**, which is why we need to keep a register;  and the EBU will need to have this list of names & EBU numbers of our playing members.

Cost:

1.   The County will pay £40 to the EBU for providing a Director and a Host who will set up the game and generally help us to run various competitions and deal with money from BBO.     Results will go to the EBU for master points and to the County’s website.

2.   The players will each pay BBO$3 (about £3) for each game.     To see how to set up an account with BBO, open the attachment called **Money into BBO Account,** but this doesn’t need to be done immediately.   It is recommended to you put $10 or more in this account rather than pay each time.   BBO will keep a proportion (30% now, but increasing later), the rest goes to the EBU, who will take P2P from that and forward the balance to the County.

Details on how to join the session of Club bridge will be sent to those registered with our Membership Secretary and will be put on our website.

Those willing to help you register with BBO are:

Pam Booth Jones – pamelaboothjones@gmail.com 01952 222421

John Withers – jwithersx@gmail.com  01384 271089

Paul Cutler – paulcutlersscba@yayoo.co.uk  07939 977499

Judy Mitchell – mitchellmj@btinternet.com  01743 235374

Ann Sleightholme – ann.sleightholme@gmail.com   01785 822233

Geoff Davies – g\_davies42@sky.com  01785 246666

James Vickers – J.Vickers@wlv.ac.uk 01902 757568

We hope to have information about future events, such as leagues, in due course, and they will be announced on the County website.

If you have a problem with accessing the attachments, please let me know, and please contact me if you have any other problems.

We hope to hear from you very soon, and keep safe and well

Judy Mitchell

S&SCBA Secretary.

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