

Competitions & Events Brochure 2018



Bridge is not only about the cards ...

Clare Bridge Club Summer Party, July 2017

Contents

1. Introduction
2. SCBA Competitions
3. 2018 Events Calendar
4. General Competition Rules *
5. SCBA Committee Members

** Note that the Rules, including explanatory notes, as shown on the SCBA website (www.suffolkbridge.co.uk) are the definitive sources of information.*

Any updates to this document will be included in the version displayed on the above SCBA website.

Updated November 18, 2017

Suffolk Contract Bridge Association

Bridge clubs within or close to the County of Suffolk may affiliate to the Association (SCBA) and thereby to the English Bridge Union (EBU). The SCBA has a constitution agreed with the EBU. The AGM is held in May.

COUNTY COMPETITIONS

The SCBA organises County Championship events and a variety of competitions for members. Details are given in the following pages and entry forms are distributed by the Competitions Secretary and are on the SCBA website www.suffolkbridge.co.uk. Details of any Club changes should be sent to Chris Chambers at chris@dubiouslogic.com.

Enquiries about competitions should be directed to the following:

Felixstowe Congress &	
East Anglian Bridge Weekend	Jeff Orton
Winter League	Rick Hanley
Summer League	Mike O'Reilly
Championship Pairs	Paul Rickard
Eastern Counties League	Jill Tattersfield
All other competitions	Chris Rickard

COUNTY TEAMS

Suffolk has three teams in the Eastern Counties League (ECL). Players in the ECL and the Tollemache Cup are selected by the County Captain.

TEAM SELECTION: The County Captain welcomes players who would like to play for Suffolk in the ECL matches.

If you are interested, please contact Rick Hanley ghanley@essex.ac.uk.

All volunteers will usually play at least one match during the season. Green Points are awarded in County matches - $\frac{3}{4}$ for an A team win, $\frac{1}{2}$ for a B team win and $\frac{1}{4}$ for a C team win.

SCBA Competitions

1. Pairs Events

SENIORS PAIRS A single-session pairs event for the Stokes Cup, open to pairs who are both 60+ by Dec 31 of the competition year. An embedded Veterans Prize event is open to pairs who are both 70+ and are not the overall winners.

LADIES & MENS PAIRS Two single-session events, played in parallel, for the Ladies Bowl and the John Gudge Trophy, respectively.

SUFFOLK PAIRS CHAMPIONSHIP Played as heats in Clubs, a single-session Semi-Final and a two-session Final for the Alexander Cup. The top three finishers qualify to represent Suffolk in the Corwen Trophy.

MID-ANGLIA PAIRS A two-session event for the Mid Anglia Rose Bowl.

MIXED PAIRS A single-session event for the Ringer Cup with an embedded competition for **MARRIED PAIRS** who are not the overall winners competing for the Lang Cup.

JYL MARSH INDIVIDUAL A single-session simple-systems event for the Waters Cup, each player partnering as many of the other players as possible.

AGM PAIRS A single-session event following the AGM.

REALLY EASY PAIRS or TEAMS Single-session events for players with fewer than 1000 Masterpoints run in parallel with one or more SCBA Pairs or Teams events.

2. Leagues

WINTER LEAGUE A Teams-of-4 competition played in members' homes.

SUMMER LEAGUE A Teams-of-8 inter-club competition typically played in clubs on regular club evenings.

EASTERN COUNTIES LEAGUE Three teams of 8 are selected by the County Captain to represent Suffolk.

SCBA Competitions

3. Teams Events

SUFFOLK TEAMS CHAMPIONSHIP for the Jim Pettit Cup. Two rounds are held on one day. Round 1 qualifies approximately half the field to play in Round 2. Those not qualifying contest the Suffolk Plate. The top four teams from Round 2 enter a knock-out stage of head-to-head matches. The winners qualify to represent Suffolk in the Pachabo Cup.

CLUB TEAMS OF 8 CHAMPIONSHIP for the Abbeygate Shield. A two-session event, the winners qualifying to represent Suffolk in the Regional Final of the Garden Cities Trophy.

CLUB TEAMS OF 4 CHAMPIONSHIP for the Thornway Cup. A two-session event in which Clubs are invited to enter as many teams as they wish.

4. Green Pointed Weekend Events

FELIXSTOWE CONGRESS

DAY 1 Two-session **Green Pointed Pairs** event for the Committee Cup, the Markwell Trophy and the Coastal Council Shield.

DAY 2 Two-session **Green Pointed Swiss Teams** event for the David Price Trophy and the Jack Barnard Trophy and a single-session **Really Easy Pairs** event for players with fewer than 1000 Masterpoints.

2018 CALENDAR

2018	EVENT	TIME	LOCATION
JANUARY			
Thursday 11	Championship Pairs Open Heat	7.00 pm	Kesgrave
Sunday 21	Mid-Anglia Pairs	11.00 am	Woodbridge
Sunday 28	Bury St Edmunds Swiss Pairs	11.00 am	Gt Barton
FEBRUARY			
Sat 10/Sun 11	Tollemache Final	<i>See note 4</i>	tbe
Friday 16	Championship Pairs Semi-Final	7.00 pm	Elmswell
Sunday 25	Jyl Marsh Individual	2.00 pm	Framlingham
MARCH			
Sunday 4	Club Teams of Four & Really Easy Teams	2.00 pm	Elmswell
Fri 9 – Sun 11	Norfolk Congress	<i>See www.bridgewebs.com/norfolk</i>	
Sunday 18	National Pairs Regional Final	1.00 pm	tbe
Sunday 25	Portland Pairs	12.00 noon	tbe

Note: Any revisions will be shown in RED

CONTACT DETAILS FOR SUFFOLK COMPETITIONS - CHRIS RICKARD
 Email: paulandchrisrickard@gmail.com Tel: 01206 331599 Mobile: 07514 249430

2018 CALENDAR

2018	EVENT	TIME	LOCATION
APRIL			
Sunday 8	Championship Pairs Final	2.00 pm	Nayland Village Hall
Sat 14 / Sun 15	National Pairs Final	2.00 pm Saturday	Wyboston Lakes
Sunday 15	Little Clacton Swiss Pairs	11.00 am	Weeley Village Hall
Saturday 21	Garden Cities Regional Final	See Note 1	tbe
MAY			
Sunday 6	Clare Swiss Pairs	11.00 am	Lavenham
Sunday 13	AGM Pairs	Following AGM	Nayland Village Hall
Wednesday 30	Bridge with Lunch	1.00 pm	Elmswell
JUNE			
Sat 2 / Sun 3	Corwen Trophy	See Note 2	Daventry
Sat 9 / Sun 10	Pachabo	See Note 3	Daventry
Wednesday 13	Mixed Pairs, incorporating Married Pairs	7.00 pm	Lavenham
Saturday 23	Garden Cities Final	See Note 1	Solihull
JULY			
Wednesday 11	Seniors Pairs	7.00 pm	Clare
Sat 21 / Sun 22	Essex/Herts GP Weekend	See www.bridgewebs.com/herts	Ware
AUGUST			
Friday 3 to Sunday 19	EBU Summer Festival	See EBU website www.ebu.co.uk	London + tbe

Note: Any revisions will be shown in RED

2018 CALENDAR

2018	EVENT	TIME	LOCATION
SEPTEMBER			
Wednesday 12	Ipswich Swiss Pairs Ladies' & Men's Pairs	Cancelled 7.00 pm	Lavenham
Sat 15 / Sun 16	Essex/Herts GP Weekend	See www.bridgewebs.com/herts	
OCTOBER			
Sat 6 / Sun 7	Felixstowe Congress Pairs Swiss Teams Really Easy Pairs	Sat 1.00 pm Sun 11.00 am Sun 3.00 pm	Felixstowe
Club session	Championship Pairs	Club session	In Clubs
NOVEMBER			
Sunday 11	Club Teams of 8	2.00 pm	Colchester
Sat 17 / Sun 18	Tollemache Cup Qualifier	<i>See Note 4</i>	tbe
Mon 19 - Fri 23	Suffolk Sims	Club session	In Clubs
DECEMBER			
Sunday 2	Suffolk Championship Teams	2.00 pm	Nayland Village Hall

Note: Any revisions will be shown in **RED**

- Colours identify **Blue Pointed** and **Green Pointed** events.
- *Note 1:* Top team from November 2017 Teams of Eight competition qualifies for Regional Final.
- *Note 2:* Top three pairs from Championship Pairs competition qualify.
- *Note 3:* Winner from knock-out competition between top four teams in December 2017 Suffolk Teams competition qualifies.
- *Note 4:* Inter-County competition for Teams of Eight – team selected by County Captain.
- Dates for Eastern Counties League (ECL) matches will be posted on the SCBA website: www.suffolkbridge.co.uk

CONTACT DETAILS FOR SUFFOLK COMPETITIONS - CHRIS RICKARD
Email: paulandchrisrickard@gmail.com Tel: 01206 331599 Mobile: 07514 249430

General Competition Rules

1. Competitions Secretary

- 1.1 The Competitions Secretary's decision is final in interpreting or varying these rules where they do not explicitly specify a course of action.
- 1.2 The Competitions Secretary may vary the calendar and, in exceptional circumstances, cancel events. If entries have already been taken they shall be refunded in full.
- 1.3 The Competitions Secretary is responsible for liaising with clubs involved with the running of SCBA events. Terms of reference for both parties are separately documented.
- 1.4 The Competitions Secretary is responsible for ensuring, though not necessarily effecting, the submission of onward data to the EBU.
- 1.5 The Competitions Secretary is final arbiter of disputes other than those which are the purview of directors and appeal committees. A designated committee member overseeing a competition arbitrates but the Competitions Secretary may overrule.
- 1.6 Any member may apply to the Competitions Secretary for clarification and amplification of any rule applicable in the Suffolk Association.

2. Eligibility

- 2.1 Individuals: all SCBA events are open to Full Members of the association. Additionally, all but a few events – those with the potential for Suffolk representation in national competition - are open to Adopted Members and bona fide members of overseas National Bridge Organisations.
- 2.2 Clubs: SCBA events for clubs are open only to those affiliated to Suffolk. Clubs are free to select representatives subject only that they be club and English Bridge Union members. That includes non-SCBA members even though the club might qualify to represent Suffolk in a national event.
- 2.3. Novices and newcomers: the association may run events for those new to competitive bridge. For these events only, participants need not be SCBA or EBU members.
- 2.4. Open events: where the SCBA runs an open event licensed by the EBU, for example the Felixstowe Congress, eligibility is per an EBU national-level event.

3. Entries

Entries to be made, unless otherwise stated, at least four days prior to the date of the competition, by post, email or telephone. Late entries accepted at the discretion of the Competitions Secretary. An entry to a competition is a commitment to pay the competition fee. A refund will be made if an entry is withdrawn at least five days before the date of the competition.

4. Rules of Play

- 4.1. All events, including league matches, are subject to the normal rules of duplicate bridge maintained by the EBU.
- 4.2. Only systems and conventions licensed by the EBU may be used and, unless stated otherwise, up to EBU Level 4 conventions are allowed. Players are required to complete system cards.
- 4.3. In team matches played in stanzas cancelled boards (whether as a result of a director's ruling, mis-boarding, etc.) shall be added to the next stanza. Those anomalies that come to light after the start of the final stanza are not replaced.
- 4.4. In the event of a team arriving more than 30 minutes late for the start of play a reduction of the match and award of IMPs to the non-offending side is appropriate. In the event of 90/45 minutes late arrival with/without notification the match shall be forfeit. The Competitions Secretary should be informed during the waiting period.

5. Directing and Disputes

- 5.1. The SCBA Chief Tournament Director is responsible for appointing directors for each event.
- 5.2. At events the Tournament Director is responsible for rulings and the conduct of play.
- 5.3. To obtain a ruling of first instance during a match played at home:
 - 5.3.1. Captains may agree upon an outcome.
 - 5.3.2. Before 10pm the Chief TD will endeavour to give a ruling in the first instance over the telephone.

- 5.3.3. Should the Chief TD be unreachable, either the League Secretary (if appropriate) or Competitions Secretary will arrange for a director to call back.
- 5.3.4. If no-one is available, teams may consult the EBU panel directors.
- 5.3.5. In the event of a ruling being unobtainable, the captains are to complete the standard form recording full details of the deal, bidding, systems, conventions, alerts and play and a description of the dispute. Both captains to sign and submit to the Competitions Secretary.
- 5.4. Rulings from both events and matches played privately may be appealed, and a copy of the Appeals Procedure will be supplied on demand. Appeals are normally subject to a financial deposit retained only when the petition is deemed frivolous.

6. Results

- 6.1. A match result is final when the result card is completed and signed by both captains.
- 6.2. Other events are final on distribution of results, unless an objection is lodged within the shortest possible time.
- 6.3. Ties shall be broken only for qualification purposes. Where onward qualification forces tie-breaking, the EBU approved mechanism shall be employed.

7. Master Points Awards

- 7.1. Master points will be awarded at all SCBA events in accordance with the EBU MP Handbook.
- 7.2. For venue-events it is the responsibility of the director on the day to make the appropriate MP awards.
- 7.3. For other competitions, either the committee-member with responsibility for the event (or league etc.) or the Competitions Secretary is responsible for MP awards.
- 7.4. For team-of-four events, up to six players are permitted but Master Points will be awarded only if the player has completed at least one third of the total number of boards.

8. Suffolk Championship Teams

This event is open only to Full Members of Suffolk and the winners may represent the county in the Pachabo Cup.

There is a qualifying stage and a Plate competition, usually in December. Four qualifying teams enter a knock-out stage of head-to-head matches.

- 8.1. There are two rounds, each a session of multiple teams, held on a single day.
- 8.2. Round One qualifies approximately half the field into Round Two. Those not qualifying contest the Suffolk Plate.
- 8.3. There are no carry-overs of score from Round One into the Plate or into Round Two.
- 8.4. The top four teams from Round Two form the two semi-finals to be played by arrangement. The winning team may select any opponent from the teams finishing second, third or fourth and must exercise that choice within two days.
- 8.5. The higher-placed team in Round Two is at home for the semifinal. The team with the larger winning margin in the semi-final is at home in the final (in the event of equal margins, the higher ranked team from Round Two).
- 8.6. Each semi-final to be of 32 boards, the final of 40 boards, all matches played in quarters. The allocation of seating-rights shall be in accordance with EBU recommendation.
- 8.7. In the event of knock-out match being tied at normal duration extra boards shall be played (and repeated as necessary). The rule is one eighth of the match-length (therefore four in the semi-final, five in the final). There are no seating rights and the extra boards are played in a single stanza.
- 8.8. In the case of a winning team with more than four members, only those playing more than one third of the boards in each of the semi-final and final shall be credited as Suffolk Champion.

9. Suffolk Championship Pairs

This event is open only to Full Members of Suffolk and high-finishers may represent the county in the Corwen Trophy. Players qualify from clubs, each club holding a single heat over a limited period (usually in October). There is a semi-final (February) then a 12-table final (April).

Qualification from the club-stage is subject to the following:

- 9.1. An individual may make only one attempt to qualify. Earlier participation disqualifies both members of a partnership making a later attempt.
- 9.2. At the club-stage, pairs may qualify only at a club where they are both members.
- 9.3. All pairs scoring 50% or more qualify for the semi-final.
- 9.4. Where the nominated session includes a mixture of those trying to qualify and those not, players must be made aware that to make a qualification attempt, they must opt in before play starts.
- 9.5. A club which meets more than once a week may run a heat in each session but note 9.1 continues to apply.
- 9.6. There will be an Open Heat, usually in January, for those unable to play earlier. The restriction of note 9.2 will not apply in the Open Heat.
- 9.7. There are no reserves from club qualification.
- 9.8. Although a qualifying attempt from a club does not require Full Member status, players are encouraged to bear in mind that only Full Members may take a place in the semi-final.

10. Winter and Summer Leagues

The Winter League is an open team-of-four competition with matches typically held in a player's home. Teams of up to six may be drawn from eligible players.

The Summer League is an inter-club team-of-eight competition with matches typically played alongside a club evening. There is no limit to the number of players who may represent a club during the season but all players must be bona fide members of that club. Separate regulations cover both.


11. Suffolk Representation

- 11.1. The winners of the Championship Teams represent Suffolk at the Pachabo Cup.
- 11.2. The top three from the Championship Pairs qualify to represent Suffolk at the Corwen Trophy.
- 11.3. The club winning the Club Teams-of-Eight, the Abbeygate Shield, represent Suffolk in the Garden Cities Trophy.
- 11.4. Any pair, team or club thus qualified subsequently finding themselves unable to compete must notify the Competitions Secretary as soon as possible to afford sufficient time to arrange replacements.
- 11.5. The make-up of teams in the Eastern Counties League and all parts of the Tollemache Cup is the sole remit of the County Captain.

12. Playing Conditions

The SCBA playing conditions are in line with those of the EBU; of particular note:

- 12.1. No animals other than guide dogs may be brought into the playing area.
- 12.2. Competitors at SCBA events are expected to dress properly and appropriately.
- 12.3. In matches played privately, smoking is prohibited at the playing table throughout. However, the match host may designate an area where smoking is permitted during scoring breaks. If such an arrangement is to be made, prior notice must be given to the visitors and both captains agree how it will be managed.
- 12.4. Players are requested to turn off mobile phones at events and during matches. If a mobile phone rings during play a pair or team may be penalised. The tournament director may prohibit other electronic devices.
- 12.5. The SCBA supports the EBU in their efforts to ensure Best Behaviour at Bridge. Anyone who thinks they have been affected by bad behaviour should call the director immediately.

 Suffolk Contract Bridge Association**COMMITTEE & OFFICERS**

Chairman	Jeff Orton jeffortonbridge@gmail.com
Vice Chairman	Richard Evans Old Village Hall, Lower Street, Stansfield, Sudbury CO10 8LP 01284 789546 richardevans53@me.com
Secretary	Peter Bushby pr_bushby@hotmail.com
Treasurer	Roger Tattersfield 1 Parklands, Coggeshall CO6 1SW 01376 561241 tattersfield632@btinternet.com
Membership Secretary	Chris Chambers 12 Wingfield Street, Ipswich IP4 1AR 01473 218366 chris@dubiouslogic.com
Competitions Secretary	Chris Rickard Olivers Barn, Olivers Lane, Colchester CO2 0HH 01206 331599 paulandchrisrickard@gmail.com
Chief Tournament Director & EBU Delegate	Malcolm Carey 6 The Limes, Rushmere St Andrew, Ipswich IP5 1EA 01473 727537 mrcarey@uwclub.net
Winter League Sec'y & County Captain	Rick Hanley Dept. of Psychology, University of Essex, CO4 3SQ 01206 874331 rhanley@essex.ac.uk
Summer League Secretary	Mike O'Reilly Flinders, The Green, Tostock, Bury St Edmunds IP30 3NY 01359 270337 mik-oreilly@msn.com
Championship Pairs	Paul Rickard Olivers Barn, Olivers Lane, Colchester CO2 0HH 01206 331599 paulandchrisrickard@gmail.com
Club & ECL Liaison	Jill Tattersfield 1 Parklands, Coggeshall CO6 1SW 01376 561241 tattersfield632@btinternet.com
Committee Member & EBU Delegate	Malcolm Pryor 07766 597358 mhpryor@btinternet.com