



UPDATE FOR CLUBS ON UNIVERSAL MEMBERSHIP

Special offer to affiliated clubs who do not currently own a copy of ScoreBridge or do not have a subscription to BridgeWebs

The Board has approved a proposal from Margaret Eddleston, Club Committee representative for Essex, Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire as follows:

Any affiliated club that purchases a ScoreBridge single user licence on or after 1st February 2009 will receive a refund for that licence if they remain affiliated to the EBU when universal membership through Pay to Play is implemented.

Any affiliated club that purchases BridgeWebs, on or after 1st February 2009, will receive a refund for one year's hosting if they remain affiliated to the EBU when universal membership through Pay to Play is implemented

The refund for both these items will be given to clubs as a credit on the first Pay to Play invoice.

What is the relationship of the EBU with ScoreBridge?

ScoreBridge is the EBU's preferred scoring program for uploading membership data and duplicate session scoring for universal membership via Pay to Play. The EBU will provide, free of charge, one single user licence to those clubs who do not already have Scorebridge and who remain affiliated to the EBU when universal membership through Pay to Play is implemented.

Suffice to say, clubs who prefer to use other scoring programs can continue to do so and the EBU will provide them with the correct file format to enable them to upload their results to Ayelsbury.

What is the relationship of the EBU with BridgeWebs?

BridgeWebs is the EBU's preferred website for clubs. The EBU will provide, free of charge, one year's website hosting to those clubs who do not already subscribe to BridgeWebs and which remain affiliated to the EBU when universal membership through Pay to Play is implemented. Clubs who prefer to use other websites are welcome to do so.

Will the Pay to Play fee for 2010-2011 definitely be in the Club Contract when it is circulated in June?

Yes it will. It has always been our intention to provide the Pay to Play fee for clubs in the contract.

How much will the EBU Pay to Play fee be in April 2010?

It will be 29p increased by no more than the Retail Price Index over 2 years

How much will our county Pay to Play fee be?

Please contact your county of affiliation to request this information.

How will English Bridge be delivered to members?

This will be mailed directly to members. To receive English Bridge every 2 months and the 18 month diary every August, members will have to meet the qualifying requirements for this service - this will be set at a relatively low level – the equivalent to contributing 12 Pay to Play fees, through affiliated club or other events. However members who are unable to meet this qualifying level, for example, though illness, may apply to have this set aside. Initially, all members will receive the April 2010 and June 2010 magazines.



Are you still working to the timetable you published in September 2008?

We have brought the timetable forward as follows:

Spring 2009 Volunteer clubs test the new Pay to Play system

3 June 2009 The Pay to Play fee will be agreed at the Shareholders Meeting on this day so that it can be inserted in to the Club Contract which will be circulated in the week following this meeting.

June 2009 - first contracts go out to clubs with the national Pay to Play fee and county Pay to Play component, where counties have provided it, and will include information about Pay to Play guidelines and the package of benefits that will be available to affiliated clubs.

7 October 2009 - shareholders ratify the Pay to Play fee they agreed at their meeting on 3 June for financial year 1/4/2010 - 31/3/2011

April 2010 - Pay to Play system is launched

October 2010 - Pay to Play fee for financial year 1/4/2011 -31/3/2012 is announced

31 December 2010 - Cut off date for clubs who wish to give three months notice if they wish to resign membership.

In your last update you said that you were working to determine the simplest way for clubs to exchange membership data with the EBU. Have you found that way yet?

Yes we have. We are basing the data exchange system on the system we implemented in 2007 for county membership data exchange. Tom Garrett, Club Committee Representative for Berks and Bucks, Gloucestershire, Hampshire and Oxfordshire stated that he is very happy that this should be the basis for club data exchange as it has proved a very successful tool for those counties who use it.

How are your plans for development proceeding?

As promised in our mailing in September 2008, we have published our five year strategy plan which appeared in the December issue of English Bridge. There is an update about the strategy plan in the February issue of English Bridge, with the headlines as follows:

- Simplification of the Orange Book – ongoing with input from the Club Committee
- Free online teaching program available later this year
- Online tournament survey active on our website on 1 February
- The setting up of a parliamentary group to promote the benefits that bridge brings to society

Read all the details in the magazine.

Please make sure you and your club members read the March issue of Club Focus for an update on the activities of the Club Committee and the help that they can provide with the implementation of Pay to Play for your club.