

Lincolnshire Contract Bridge Association General Rules for Match Competitions

1. With the exception of the following, those rules in force within the EBU at the time of competition will apply.
2. All team members must be paid up members of the Association.
3. Teams may consist of up to six members, four of whom must be named at the time of entry.
4. When the draw (if appropriate) is published, the Away Captain must contact the Home Captain within seven days of receipt. At this stage a date may be agreed. If not, then the Away Captain should, within a further five days, offer three dates, confirmed in writing or, if agreeable by both Captains, by email. In the latter case, the Home Captain should acknowledge receipt of the email. Dates offered must not be on the same day of the week, should include a weekday, should not all be within seven days and should not clash with County Events. Dates may clash with National events if both captains agree. For matches up to 32 boards at least one weekend date (this includes Friday) should be included. For matches greater than 32 boards at least 2 weekend dates must be offered.
5. If the Home Captain has not heard from the Away Captain within seven days he should contact the Away Captain. Offers should be made and accepted within fourteen days of the draw, or disqualification may result. In the event of a dispute both Captains should notify the Competition Secretary in writing (or by email) for adjudication. In exceptional circumstances a seven day extension may be granted where both Captains request one. Any appeal to the decision made must be made in writing to the Honorary Secretary, giving full details, within five days of receiving it. The Appellant must also notify the Competition Secretary and the other party of their appeal, in order for them to send the Honorary Secretary their details. All facts will be passed to an Independent Appeals Committee. The Independent Appeals Committee will be selected by the Chairman and Honorary Secretary and will consist of three senior County Players.
6. Substitutes may be used, provided that the total number of players who have played for a team in the Competition does not exceed six, that the substitutes are fully paid up members of the Association for the year in which the Competition started and that they have not previously played for another team in the Competition.
7. Choice of seating, odd or even rounds, will be decided by Captains prior to play by tossing a coin.
8. Matches of 32 boards and above are to be played in sets of 8. Matches of 24 boards are to be played in sets of 12 against each pair, except when more than 4 players from a team are playing in a match, when it will be played in sets of 6 boards.
9. Results should be forwarded to the Competition Secretary within 48 hours of the match being played, using the official slip provided showing a) names of both teams, b) number of boards played by each member, c) the result and d) signatures of both captains. Results may instead be sent to the Competition Secretary by email, but the official slips must be retained by the winning captain (or, if a tie, by the home captain) and may be delivered *en bloc* to the Competition Secretary (eg at County events).
10. The Committee suggests that for matches up to 24 boards which are played in an evening, basic refreshments are suitable. If, for matches above 24 boards, the home team is not in a position to offer more substantial fare then they should let the away team know, so that they may make suitable alternative arrangements.
11. Should a team arrive 30 minutes or more late then its opponents have the following rights:
 - a) After 45 minutes of non-notified late arrival, or 90 minutes of late arrival the match is awarded to the non-offending side. Note that 1 member of a team being present within 45 minutes of scheduled starting time is an indication that the team has arrived.
 - b) After 30 minutes of late arrival (whether notified or not) the match is reduced by 2 boards awarding the non-offending team 3 IMPs per board. For each completed 15 minute period of notified late arrival further sets of 2 boards are removed and non-offenders continue to be awarded 3 IMPs per board. The maximum number of boards that can be removed is 12.
 - c) A short stanza is played first removing board 1 onwards in order to produce stanzas of the pre-scheduled boards thereafter.
12. A stanza of 8 boards, including scoring and the starting of the next stanza should take no more than 70 minutes from the start of the previous stanza. Stanza of 12 boards should be 100 minutes and 6 boards 50 minutes.
13. In the event that a match should be abandoned, after the start, for a justifiable reason (for example ill health, power failure, serious inclement weather) then the match shall be reconvened at a later date. The stanzas previously played and scored shall stand, and the match shall continue from that point. Both captains must agree to the match being abandoned. Under all circumstances the Competition Secretary *must* be informed, when a decision shall be made as to the number of further stanzas required to complete the match.

Lincolnshire Contract Bridge Association Competition Rules

Lincoln Gold

- 1) Up to and including Level 4 conventions and systems are allowed
- 2) All players *must* have nominated the Lincolnshire Contract Bridge Association as their primary county of allegiance.
- 3) The winners of the competition will represent the County in the Pachabo Cup, or, if unavailable, the losing finalists (or part thereof).
- 4) All matches to be scored in IMPs
- 5) Matches in the initial rounds shall be 32 boards. The semi-final and final shall be 48 boards, though this may be reduced to 40 boards if both captains agree. (See General Rule 8)
- 6) In the event of a tie a further set of 4 boards (for 32 board matches), 5 boards (for 40 board matches) or 6 boards (for 48 board matches) will be played. Extra boards are played in one set without changes of partnerships. Captains should, on separate notes, write their team seating.
- 7) The procedure above is repeated until the tie is broken.
- 8) Each team will, in turn, be allowed to seat its players last, as in General Rule 7, but except as in 6 and 7 above.

Davy Cup

- 1) Up to and including Level 3 conventions and systems are allowed
- 2) To be played in PIVOT TEAM style, ie. each member of a 4 player team partnering each other member for a number of boards.
- 3) Teams can consist of up to 6 players with no restriction on ranking.
- 4) Matches will consist of 3 stanzas of 8 boards.
- 5) Before the start of play the teams will go to their 'home' table and the captain will list on the back of their score card who will start East, South and West. The person named as Captain on the entry form will always sit NORTH.
- 6) The players will revolve clockwise round North. North will play stanza 1 with the original South, stanza 2 with original East and Stanza 3 with original West.
- 7) Should a team be playing a 5th or 6th member then the captain will write down the actual players playing in each stanza.
- 8) Once play commences there can be no change to the original line up.
- 9) Scoring will take place after each stanza and will be decided by IMPs
- 10) Matches in all rounds shall be 24 boards.
- 11) In the event of a tie then 4 extra boards will be played with the players that finished stanza 3, maintaining the same position.
- 12) If the tie has not been broken then total aggregate score will apply.
- 13) As a guide and based on N/S, should you wish to play with your usual partner during the first stanza then North will partner South, should you wish to play together in the second stanza North's partner should start East and if the third (and possible tie-break) stanza then West.
- 14) In the event of a team arriving late General Rule 11 will apply. However the boards will, as far as possible, be taken from each stanza starting from the highest numbered board down. This is to ensure that each of the three stanzas are as equal as possible.

Gold Plate

- 1) This event will be played as a knock-out and is usually only open to those teams which have been eliminated from the Gold Cup before Round 2
- 2) Up to and including Level 4 conventions and systems are allowed
- 3) All players *must* have nominated the Lincolnshire Contract Bridge Association as their primary county of allegiance.
- 4) All matches to be scored in IMPs
- 5) Matches in the initial rounds shall be 24 boards. The final shall be 32 boards. (See General Rule 8)
- 6) In the event of a tie a further set of 3 boards (for 24 board matches), or 4 boards (for 32 board matches) will be played. Extra boards are played in one set without changes of partnerships. Captains should, on separate notes, write their team seating.
- 7) The procedure above is repeated until the tie is broken.
- 8) Each team will, in turn, be allowed to seat its players last, as in General Rule 7, but except as in 6 and 7 above.

Lincolnshire Contract Bridge Association Competition Rules

League

- 1) Up to and including Level 4 conventions and systems are allowed in League Division 1. Up to and including Level 3 conventions and systems are allowed in other Divisions.
- 2) All matches will consist of 24 boards, however in Division 1 matches may consist of 32 boards if both captains agree.
- 3) Scoring in each Division will be by IMPs converted to VPs on the following scale:-

IMP	VP	IMP	VP	IMP	VP
0-1	10-10	13-16	14-6	33-39	18-2
2-4	11-9	17-21	15-5	40-50	19-1
5-8	12-8	22-26	16-4	51+	20-0
9-12	13-7	27-32	17-3		

- 4) The League programme will run from the start of the season until approximately one month prior to the AGM. A fixture list will be circulated designating a preferred completion date for each match. If it is not possible to complete a fixture a team should try and arrange a match with another team. If a team foresees difficulty in meeting any programmed dates they should try to arrange to play their matches early. In order that the programme reaches a successful conclusion it is important that team captains inform the Competition Secretary of any difficulties which they are experiencing in completing their fixtures.
- 5) In the case of a dispute the Competition Secretary will issue a final adjudication.
- 6) League winners are the team with the highest VP total. Ties will be split in accordance with current EBU regulations.
- 7) Any team refusing to complete a match which has already started is deemed to have withdrawn from the competition. All their matches will be null and void.
- 8) Any match which has failed to take place other than by agreement of both captains (such agreement not to be unreasonably withheld) shall result in the offending side being awarded 0 VPs and the non-offending side a score in line with current EBU regulations.
- 9) Teams failing to complete the programme will be awarded a score of 0-0 VPs. However the Management Committee reserves its rights to exercise its discretion in this (as in all other) matters.