

Northern Counties Bridge League (NCBL) Review of 2007 Season

Notes of meeting held at Manchester BC on Friday 02 November 2007.

1. Welcome

Graham Jepson (GJ) welcomed delegates to the meeting. He thanked Manchester BC for hosting the meeting and all 2007 workers for helping the NCBL to function. The general consensus was that the 2007 league went fairly well. Thanks were especially due to Dave Mullany (scoring), Tony Woollin (duplimating), Stuart Knox (website) and Michael Byrne (overall coordination).

2 Venues

All 2007 venues were good though New Earswick proved to be crowded and the arrangements were rushed at the end of the session. This was unfortunate and due to another ensuing function though more than 2 TD's plus GJ were probably necessary.

3 2007 Results

	A	B	C	Under 25
1	Manchester	Manchester	Yorkshire S/E	Yorkshire
2	Yorkshire	Yorkshire	Lancashire	North East A
3	Merseyside and Cheshire	Lincolnshire	North East	Manchester
4	Lancashire	Merseyside and Cheshire	Cumbria	North East B
5	Cumbria	Lancashire	Manchester	
6		North East	Yorkshire N/W	
7		Cumbria	Merseyside and Cheshire	

The teams in bold will represent the North in the National Final to be held at West Midlands BC, Solihull, on Sunday, 13 July 2008.

4. 2008 Dates and venues

These were confirmed as follows - all dates are Saturdays – start time 1.00 pm.

	A	B	C
28 June	Brierfield	Darlington	Manchester
30 August	Manchester	Bradford	Blackburn
27 September	Blackburn	Chester	Keighley
25 October	Bradford	Bradford	Bradford

Appraisal meeting for 2008 season will be held on Thursday 06 November 2008 at Bradford BC at 11.00 am.

The Under 25 competition is to be tried as an annual teams of 4 event, at Darlington BC on Saturday 27 September starting at 1.00 pm.

5. New Leagues

	Yorks	Manc'	Lancs	N E	Cumbria	M/Ch	Lincs	N Wales
A	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓		✓
B	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
C	SE/NW	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		

6. Management

Bernard Kaye volunteered to act as League Coordinator for 2008 while hoping that Michael Byrne will assist with Under 25 matters and Jeff Smith in respect of technical issues. Graham Jepson will continue to act as Assistant Coordinator

7 Youth Competition

The age limit is to remain "under 25".

8. Costs

The fee per match will remain at £10.00 per player (A, B and C) and £5.00 per player for the Under 25 Competition with the expectation that Counties will pay this latter amount.

9. Failure to play

NB It is assumed that participating counties will play in every match

- Any notification of a failure to play with less than 7 days notice will lead to that county being charged a share of the catering costs.
- Any county A, B or C team not playing on a particular date will receive a VP award of one less than the bottom score of the day in that division.

10 Master Points

These will be calculated by Dave Mullany for all counties. They will receive a copy shortly in order to check accuracy and to forward to the EBU through their normal channels for such matters as recording and payment.

Master points are being awarded as follows:

A League	For each day 1 st 2 greens, 2 nd 1 green + 48 Local Points per winning match (24 for a draw). End of season bonus = 1 st 4 greens and 2 nd 2 greens if a player played at least twice
B League	For each day 1 st 1½ greens, 2 nd ¾ green + 36 Local Points per winning match (18 for a draw). End of season bonus = 1 st 3 greens and 2 nd 1½ greens if a player played at least twice
C League	For each day 1 st 1 green, 2 nd ½ green + 24 Local Points per winning match (12 for a draw).

End of season bonus = 1st 2 greens and 2nd 1 green if a player played at least twice

Under 25s 18 Local points per match if 4 or more teams plus ½ green for 1st and ¼ of a green for 2nd
End of season bonus = 1st 1 green and 2nd ½ green if a player played at least twice

11 Scoring etc

Captains need to take responsibility for greater accuracy to help ease the “Butlering” work. Easier to read captain’s sheets are required to promote accuracy. EBU numbers are required on name sheets.

ABC Leagues to be licensed at Level 4; no restrictions for Under 25s

Bridgemates to be used where possible (Jeff Smith will advise as necessary)

NB Where a board cannot be played, or is not played, then it should be scored if one NS and one EW section has played it (there may be a plus or minus adjustment from the other section).

12. Costs of 02 November 2007 meeting

The profit from the final match day has been deployed for travel and catering expenses with the consequence that the YCBA made nil profit from the event at New Earswick.

13 Website

This is <http://www.northernbridgeleague.org.uk> Stuart Knox will continue to manage the website. Thanks were expressed to him for doing so.

14 Duplimating

Tony Woollin will continue to organise this. The costs will be free if sent electronically plus £15.00 per section for boards and hand records. Thanks were extended to Tony for this work.

15 Movements (for teams of 8)

Alan Brown, Jeff Smith and Tony Woollin will liaise with Dave Mullany to create the easiest foolproof movements for 4, 5, 6 and 7 tables with 42, 40, 40 and 42 boards respectively.

NB All North / South pairs will be stationary.

Arrangements for Match Days

1. Start 12.30 arrival for 1.00 pm prompt
2. Easy as possible movements
3. Lancashire will bring boards if necessary – by 12.45 pm at latest
4. Host TD to be paid £50.00 maximum for the section, extra helpers £25.00 maximum – any profit to host county funds
5. 40 – 44 Boards to be played
6. All results sheets given or sent to Dave Mullany for Butler scoring
7. A scoreboard should be in place for players to view if possible
8. A good standard of tea is expected (as has always been the case so far)
9. Captains are to provide names with initials and EBU numbers for local/green points awards which will be produced at the end of the season by Dave Mullany. These will be forwarded to each county on completion for checking accuracy and sending on with payment to the EBU.
10. VP Scale for A, B and C Leagues – Teams of 8

	7 – 9 Board Matches	10 – 13 Board Matches	14 – 19 Board Matches
10 – 10	0 - 1	0 - 1	0 - 1
11 – 9	2 - 4	2 - 4	2 - 5
12 – 8	5 - 7	5 - 8	6 - 10
13 – 7	8 - 10	9 - 12	11 - 15
14 – 6	11 - 14	13 - 16	16 - 20
15 – 5	15 - 18	17 - 21	21 - 25
16 – 4	19 - 22	22 - 26	26 - 31
17 – 3	23 - 27	27 - 32	32 - 38
18 – 2	28 - 33	33 - 39	39 - 47
19 – 1	34 - 42	40 - 50	48 - 60
20 – 0	43 +	51+	61+

Under 25's League – Teams of 4 scale will vary. Imps are to be converted to VPs per match. Score if a team does not play has not yet been determined, but if ABC principle applies it will be 1 VP less than the bottom team on the day.

Butler scoring for under 25s is not a real option but a short chat at the end by someone as help may be well-appreciated by the juniors.

11. Other suggestions that were not discussed but will be implemented at the end of the season unless anyone objects are:
 - (i) 2 bottles of wine per top Butler scoring pair at each section on each day will be awarded funded from the profits from the final large venue.
 - (ii) A formal presentation of trophies will take place at the end of the season

**Northern Counties Bridge League
County Representatives/Interested Parties**

To prevent names and addresses being harvested by spam engines these details are not listed here, but may be obtained by sending an email request to webmaster@northernbridgeleague.org.uk