

# Yorkshire Contract Bridge Association

## COMPETITION RULES

### Section A - ENTRY DETAILS FOR YCBA EVENTS

#### Dates and venues of competitions

1. The dates, venues and starting times of YCBA competitions are posted on the YCBA website

#### Entry forms

2. Entry forms for all events may be downloaded from the YCBA website

#### Entry fees

3. For [any](#) competitions devolved to clubs or that are part of the bridge development programme the entry fee will be decided by the organisers and published in the applicable entry form.
4. For other competitions the entry fees will be decided by the Management Board or [Tournament Committee](#) and stated on the applicable entry form
5. Junior players under 26 years of age on the 31 December preceding the date of the event will be allowed to play at half price irrespective of whether or not their partners or team-mates are also juniors.
6. Entry fees for non-qualification events may be paid as follows
  - in the case of devolved events, as decided by the organisers and specified in the applicable entry form
  - otherwise, using online banking to Yorkshire Contract Bridge Association, sort code 09-02-22, account number 10861509, quoting the event's reference number as stated on the entry form.

#### Closing dates for entries

7. Unless stated otherwise, the closing date for entries is two days before the date of the event. Late entries may be accepted at the organisers' discretion.

#### Inter-county competitions (Tollemache Cup, President's Cup, Pachabo Cup, Corwen Trophy and Northern League)

8. The YCBA may pay the whole or part of the entry fees for the above competitions, and the whole or part of the expenses incurred by players, as from time to time decided by the Management Board.

### Section B – GLOSSARY OF TERMS

The **EBU** means the English Bridge Union

The **YCBA** means the Yorkshire Contract Bridge Association

**Event Organiser** is the person designated by the Management Board or the YCBA's Tournament Committee to organise the competition or event in question

**Management Board** is defined in the YCBA Constitution

**Best Behaviour at Bridge** means the code of conduct with that name published by the EBU (Link to current version:  
<https://www.ebu.co.uk/documents/laws-and-ethics/articles/best-behaviour-at-bridge.pdf>)

**Blue Book** means the current edition of the Handbook of Permitted Understandings published by the Laws and Ethics Committee of the EBU (Link to current version:  
<https://www.ebu.co.uk/documents/laws-and-ethics/blue-book/blue-book.pdf>)

**White Book** means the current edition of the White Book - Technical Matters published by the Laws and Ethics Committee of the EBU (Link to current version:  
<https://www.ebu.co.uk/documents/laws-and-ethics/white-book/white-book.pdf>)

## **Section C - GENERAL RULES**

### **Powers of the Management Board**

1. The Management Board has the following powers:
  - to disqualify players who offend against any rules of the YCBA competitions
  - to refuse any entry for any of the YCBA competitions.
  - to make any alteration in the rules to facilitate the play of any competition, and to delegate this power to the tournament director
  - to delegate any of its powers relating to competitions, wholly or in part, to the Tournament Committee

### **Eligibility**

2. Unless otherwise stated, all competitors must be members of the EBU.

### **Conduct of play; systems and conventions**

- 3.1 Play in all YCBA competitions shall be conducted under the Laws of Duplicate Contract Bridge (2017), the regulations contained in the Blue Book, and the Best Behaviour at Bridge code of conduct.
- 3.2 The additional rules in section E apply to any competitions played online
- 3.3 In the following competitions, players may only use systems and conventions up to and including those having a Level Two licence as defined in the Blue Book:
  - any competition restricted to players with a NGS ranking of not more than Nine
  - any other YCBA competitions designated by the Management Board or the Tournament Committee as Level Two events
- 3.4 In competitions other than those referred to in the previous rule, players may only use systems and conventions up to and including those having a Level Four licence as defined in the Blue Book.

#### **Correction periods, appeals and dispute resolution**

4. Any questions or disputes whether arising in a competition supervised by a tournament director or in a match played privately shall be determined as provided in the Laws of Duplicate Contract Bridge 2017 and the White Book.

#### **YCBA qualifying events played in clubs**

5. Clubs hosting qualifying rounds of YCBA competitions should, if practicable, accommodate players from other clubs. It is not obligatory but desirable for such players to give the host club prior notice of their wish to play in the event.

#### **Number of sessions and number of boards**

6. Unless stated within the event description below the number of sessions and the approximate number of boards to be played will appear on the entry form. The exact number of boards will be decided by the Event Organiser or Tournament Director according to the number of entries received

### **Section D - CONDITIONS OF CONTEST**

#### **WADDINGTON SHIELD**

1. The Waddington Shield is the major county teams-of-four competition. It is also a qualifier for the EBU's Pachabo Cup competition (inter-county teams of four championship).
2. Entries should be submitted to the Event Organiser. The closing date will be specified on the YCBA website. Late entries may be accepted at the discretion of the Event Organiser.
3. The competition will be knockout throughout.
4. Teams may consist of up to six players. Teams containing fewer than six players may increase their number to five or six by registering additional players at any time, provided that notice is given to the Event Organiser before the player(s) concerned play in a match. Any player may withdraw from the registered team provided that the player has not represented that team in the competition. Notice of the withdrawal of a team member should be given to the Event Organiser.
5. By agreement between the teams, matches may be played online, but otherwise matches shall be played face-to-face.
6. Matches prior to the final shall be decided over 32 boards played in four sets of eight boards each and the final over 48 boards played in six sets of eight boards each.
7. Scoring shall be by International Match Points. If there is a tie, a number of boards equal to one eighth of the original number of boards scheduled for the match shall be played and, if necessary, this process shall be repeated until the tie is broken.
8. The Waddington Shield is a green point event.

## **YORKSHIRE TROPHY**

1. The Yorkshire Trophy was formerly a subsidiary competition for teams losing in the first round of the Waddington Shield but has been re-launched as a stand-alone competition,
2. Players ranked as Jack or below in the EBU's National Grading Scheme, on the first day of the month in which entries open, are eligible to play in the Yorkshire Trophy.
3. Entries should be submitted to the Event Organiser. The closing date will be specified on the YCBA website. Late entries may be accepted at the discretion of the Event Organiser.
4. The competition will be knockout throughout.
5. Teams may consist of up to six players. Teams containing fewer than six players may increase their number to five or six by registering additional players, provided that notice is given to the Event Organiser before the player(s) concerned play in a match. Any player may withdraw from the registered team provided that the player has not represented that team in the competition. Notice of the withdrawal of a team member should be given to the Event Organiser.
6. By agreement between the teams, matches may be played online, but otherwise matches shall be played face-to-face.
7. All matches are 24 boards played in two sets of 12 boards with a mandatory change of opponents for the second set.
8. Scoring shall be by International Match Points. If there is a tie, a number of boards equal to one eighth of the original number of boards scheduled for the match shall be played and, if necessary, this process shall be repeated until the tie is broken.

## **NELSON ROSE BOWL**

This is a women's teams of four competition, Further details will be posted on the YCBA website.

## **WADDINGTON CUP**

1. This is a teams of four competition. Clubs may decide that they will be represented by the winner of a local league, or hold a qualifying competition, or select their team or teams in any way they choose. Players must be members of the clubs they represent.
2. Each affiliated club may enter one or two teams in this competition.
3. The names and EBU numbers of the team members shall be notified to the Event Organiser not later than seven days before the date of the event,
4. The final shall be a two session multiple teams competition.

## **AFFILIATED CLUBS TEAMS OF FOUR**

1. Each affiliated club may enter one or two teams in this competition.
2. Players must be members of the clubs they represent.
3. The names and EBU numbers of the team members shall be notified to the Event Organiser not later than seven days before the date of the event,

## **YORKSHIRE PAIRS CHAMPIONSHIP**

1. This is the major Open Pairs competition in the county.
2. Subject to compliance with EBU rules on eligibility of individual players, the leading five pairs will be invited to represent Yorkshire in the Corwen Trophy (inter-county pairs championship of the EBU).
3. The event will comprise two or more sessions.
4. This is a green point event.

## **NINE HIGH YORKSHIRE PAIRS**

1. This is a pairs competition for players ranked as Nine or below in the EBU's National Grading Scheme,
2. Subject to compliance with EBU rules on eligibility of individual players, the leading pairs will be invited to represent Yorkshire in the EBU's inter-county pairs championship for players ranked Nine or below.
3. The event will comprise two or more sessions.

## **YORKSHIRE MIXED PAIRS**

This will be a two session event for mixed pairs, with direct entry. Details will be posted on the YCBA website.

## **NEW YEAR BONANZA**

This is a pairs and/or teams competition played online on New Year's Eve, New Year's Day or an adjoining bank holiday. It will be free of charge to members of YCBA. Further details will be posted on the YCBA website.

## **Section E - Additional Rules for events and matches played online**

### **1. Regulations**

- (a) The current editions of the EBU Online Knockout Match Regulations and the Blue Book apply, except where clearly inapplicable or inconsistent with these rules. The following important points should be noted:
- (b) Undos are allowed only for mechanical errors (misclicks) or misinformation during the auction. An undo may not be granted during the play of the hand.
- (c) Players should disclose their agreements properly to their opponents, in one or more of the following ways:
  - (i) exchange EBU20 system cards with each other before the start of play by email
  - (ii) at the start of match post in the chat function a link to the EBU repository where the partnership's EBU system card may be found

- (iii) use the chat function to give brief details of their system
- (d) Matches may be played using Bridge Base Online (BBO) or RealBridge.
- (d) In matches played using BBO, any artificial call at any level, as well as any call that would be alerted or announced in a face-to-face game, should be explained by the player making the call
- (e) In matches played on RealBridge, the rules for alerting or announcing calls made by a player's partner are the same as in a face-to-face game.
- (f) Players may consult their own system card and other notes at any stage

## **2. Setting up matches**

- (a) Unless otherwise agreed, online matches will be played using the platform chosen by the Home Team
- (b) Matches are set up by the Home Captain, or any other person to whom the Home Captain has delegated this responsibility
- (c) No later than the day before the match day, the Away Captain must send the Home Captain by email the following information: the names and, if applicable, BBO usernames of the Away Team
- (d) Unless otherwise agreed or specified in the competition rules, the Home Captain has seating rights for all stanzas of the match
- (e) For matches played using BBO, the scoring barometer and the option for kibitzers to chat to players must be switched off. Unless otherwise agreed, the option for kibitzers to view should be switched off.

## **Section F YORKSHIRE LEAGUE RULES**

The current edition of the Yorkshire League Rules, which are incorporated into the YCBA Competition Rules, may be found on the YCBA website under the Leagues tab.

## **Section G - ONLINE YORKSHIRE LEAGUE RULES**

The current edition of the Online Yorkshire League Rules, which are incorporated into the YCBA Competition Rules, may be found on the YCBA website under the Leagues tab.