

Dear member.

Our bridge club has a huge variety of lessons and playing sessions of which I get to see most of them. One of the comments I get occasionally: "How do we get more people joining the main sessions on Monday and Thursday evenings?" These sessions usually get around 6-7 tables and when I look around at these sessions, and I've done some research there is hardly ever a session where there is a player with less than 30+ years bridge experience. This has got to be a pretty unique experience for a normal session that anyone can join in with. So, if you want to learn from very experienced players then give Monday and Thursday evenings a try, it's very difficult to get that kind of learning from lessons or a book.

Whilst attracting players to Monday and Thursday evening is tricky the afternoon sessions and Wednesday evening is getting ever more popular, all these sessions getting up to 13 tables which is the comfortable capacity before we need to step back to the heady days of also playing upstairs, maybe it's better TV on a Monday and Thursday evening!

We are due to transfer over to EBU score the week commencing February 24th, most of you won't notice much difference but the scorers will need added training so please be patient. EBU score will allow us to score even more exciting bridge sessions. That's not to say that every other session is going to be a pivot teams event!

The ladies and men's pairs was well attended, so much so that we played the competitions in separate sections so ladies played ladies etc instead of recent editions that had ladies playing one direction whilst playing the men the other polarity. Well done to Catherine Thompson and Nicola Cockerill- Smith who won the ladies pairs and to Bob Marchbank and Kevin Higgins who won the men's pairs. Special mention to John Whiteley and Ian Hammond who did very well to come second in a strong field.

Good luck to everyone playing in the Harrogate Spring Congress this weekend.

Rob

8 Feb 2025