



SOMERSET CONTRACT BRIDGE ASSOCIATION



SCBA Newsletter



November Issue

Andrew Robson at Street

The great man returns for another one of his incredibly popular seminars. Wednesday 25th January will see him present two sessions at the Crispin Hall.

Morning session 10.30 until 12.30 am.

Afternoon session 1.30 until 3.30 pm.

This time the subjects will be Tips around the Table, Negative Doubles, Elimination and Throw-ins.

For anyone who has not attended one of his events before Andrew presents his topics with great lucidity and humour. There is plenty of audience participation so this is not so much a lecture but more of an assisted play experience with the assistance coming from one of the best players in the world. Advice from someone who has competed at the highest level for decades is normally hard to come by but is a mere £27.50 with your ticket benefiting your local county as well.

Lunch is available with a delicious beef stew or soup meal available at small additional cost.

Book your tickets on the SCBA website [here](#)

The day is limited to 22 tables and is normally over-subscribed so please reserve your ticket(s) early to avoid disappointment.

Be Quick

Entries are still open for the BLUE pointed Swiss Teams event at Woolavington on November 20th. Start time is 1pm with 6 seven board matches to be played so finishing sometime after 6pm with a break after 4 matches.

Cost is a very reasonable £6 per player (table money has been slashed to encourage a return to face to face games) and teas are available again.

Entries can be made [here](#)

County League Round-up

The competition is in full swing with many close (and some not so close) matches taking place on Friday evenings on RealBridge.

After three matches in Division One Team Hobhouse with a 100% record lead Team Sweet by 5 VP's.

In Division Two Team Stuttard lead the way with two wins and a draw but there is fierce competition for second place with only 4 points separating Teams Auld, Evans and Toogood.

Division Three sees Team Everson leading Team Critchley by 5 VP's with Team Holder only a single point behind.

Not even halfway through the season there is still much to be played for.

Keep updated on the EBU website [here](#)

The draw for the **Championship teams has now been made with all teams making the Quarter-Finals!**

Team Flood start at the top of the draw as defending champions and will play Team Preston.

Team Coltman play Team Down to complete the top half of the draw.

Team Cockram play Team Wigmore and Team Lanham play Team Critchley.

Keep up to date with the goings on [here](#)

Good luck to all and enjoy the games.

A quick shout out to **Barbara Biggin and **Gillian Toogood** who won the Somerset on-line Friday Imps game with a score of +69 which is some feat over 18 boards! Still great value at only**

\$3 for a game the Monday and Wednesday games are also a great way of spending a wet autumn afternoon.

Reasons to be Cheerful

♠ **A K J 9 3**
♥ **7 3**
♦ **A K 8 3**
♣ **K 6**

♠ **6**
♥ **8**
♦ **10 6 5 2**
♣ **A Q 10 7 4 3 2**

♠ **Q 10 7 5 2**
♥ **A K Q 9 6 5**
♦ **J**
♣ **J**

♠ **8 4**
♥ **J 10 4 2**
♦ **Q 9 7 4**
♣ **9 8 5**

This hand was played on VuGraph between Croatia and Lithuania.

With Lithuania NS NV against V and South dealer the bidding went as follows:

P – 3C – x – 3H

P – 4C – x – P

4H !! - P – 4S – x

5D – x – P P P

Declarer struggled on a lead of the 6 of spades (as he would on any lead really...) going 3 off. In the other room the bidding was more sedate:

P – 3C – x – P

3H – P – 3S – PPP

The contract failed by two tricks for a 9 IMP gain by Croatia.

Reasons to be Cheerful (Part two)

♠ K J 8
♥ J 4 3
♦ 8 7 4 2
♣ 9 7 5

♠ A Q 10 5 4 3
♥ 9 6
♦ J 3
♣ Q 10 8

♠ 6
♥ A K 10 8 7 5 2
♦ K 10 6
♣ 6 3

♠ 9 7 2
♥ Q
♦ A Q 9 5
♣ A K J 4 2

Another VuGraph hand had West dealing and opening 1H. The bidding proceeded thus:

1H – x – 1S – P – 2H – x – P – 2S ! P P P

A double would have let the catch off the hook but the 3-3 fit played surprisingly well for only 2 down. However team mates were also going 2 off (in 4H) and that cost 7 imps.

I think we can all be cheerful that our partner does not bid the opponent's bid suit as a suggestion to play with any great regularity....

Please send any feedback to paul.burgess738@gmail.com.

Let me know of any club news, interesting hands or general bridge related chit-chat.