



The Surrey County Bridge Association

Rules and Regulations for the Lady Rose Cup and Plate

1. General

A Green Pointed knockout competition for teams of four. Up to six players may be nominated and play in any one match including the final. Teams knocked out in the early rounds of the Lady Rose Cup will automatically be entered to the consolation Lady Rose Plate knockout competition, see Section 10 for further details. The Lady Rose Cup is used to determine the team to represent Surrey in the Pachabo Cup.

All team members must be a member of the EBU and either: have Primary or Secondary Affiliation to Surrey; or be a member of a Surrey club and have Primary Affiliation to any county (as defined by the EBU) that is contiguous with the county of Surrey. No-one may be paid to play at any stage of the competition.

Only Primary Surrey Members can represent Surrey in the Pachabo Cup. Surrey's representation in the Pachabo Cup will be determined as follows:

1. The four, five or six Primary Surrey Members in the Lady Rose Cup winning team.
2. Alternatively additional Primary Surrey Members from the runners-up team may be added to the winning team, or the runners-up team may completely replace the winning team, all at the discretion of the SCBA selection Committee.

Each player must play at least one third of the boards in the match to qualify for master points.

At the Lady Rose Organiser's discretion, the draw may be seeded based on any combination of the following:

1. Teams reaching the latter stages of the previous year's Lady Rose Cup.
2. Team rankings according to the EBU's Gold Point, master point and/or NGS ranking lists.
3. Any other factors applicable to the current year's competition.

The number of entries will determine the exact format of the knockout; Any seeding rules applied will be secondary to this overriding consideration.

Both face-to-face and online matches are permitted as agreed by the captains. Should no agreement be reached, then online will take precedence. The rules for online play are available in the separate document found on the SCBA website or by contacting the organiser.

2. Dates for Matches

Matches should be played in accordance with the schedule provided by the organiser and must follow the requirements below for arranging matches. Any difficulty in arranging a match should be notified to the organiser at an early stage. The organiser is empowered to award results for matches un-played, taking into account the circumstances in each case.

The home team should offer a minimum of five dates spread over at least three weeks and over at least three different days of the week (of which at least three dates should be weekday evenings) and the earliest should be at least two weeks away. The Away team then has one week to select the date of the match from the dates offered. If there is a difficulty in fixing a match, the organiser must be consulted.

If a team fails to arrange a date for a match or cancels a match without a valid reason, they will concede the match.

3. Late Arrival

If a team is 45 minutes late, or 90 minutes late having notified late arrival, the match is awarded to the non-offending team. If a member of a team is present within 45 minutes of the starting time, that is an indication that the whole team intends to arrive and constitutes 'notification' within the meaning of the clause.

After 30 minutes of late arrival, whether notified or not, the match is reduced by 2 boards and for each further complete 15 minute period the match is again reduced by 2 boards. The maximum numbers of boards that can be removed is eight (which occurs after 75 minutes of late arrival). The non-offending team is awarded 3 IMPs per board.

4. Play

In the first two rounds each match shall consist of 32 boards, or 28 boards by agreement, and be played in two stanzas of 16 boards (or 14 boards) or with the agreement of the captains in 4 stanzas of 8 boards (or 4 stanzas of 7 boards). Pairs change opponents after each stanza and scoring is by IMPs. If the scores are equal after all the boards have been played, a further 4 boards should be played to break the tie. For subsequent rounds the match shall consist of 32 boards. No correction of scores is permitted after both captains have agreed the result. The winning captain is responsible for entering the result via their MyEBU page.

The Lady Rose Cup final will consist of 48 boards played in 6 stanzas of 8 boards. The winner of the toss chooses "odds" or "evens" (sets 1, 3 & 5 or 2, 4 & 6 stanzas) to have seating rights. If the scores are equal after 48 boards have been played, a further 6 boards should be played to break the tie.

5. Fouled or cancelled boards

In the event that both pairs in a team sit in the same polarity, the score for all unplayable boards will be zero. No additional boards will be added. Both pairs at the table are equally responsible for making sure that they sit in the correct positions.

If a board is fouled or cancelled for any other reason in the first stanza of the match, a substitute board is added to the second half with the same dealer and vulnerability. If a board is fouled or cancelled for any other reason in the second stanza of the match, a substitute board is to be played, but only if no player is aware of any of the results from the other table.

6. Systems and Conventions

Systems and conventions permitted by Level 4 as set out in the current EBU Blue Book may be played in the Lady Rose Cup and Plate.

7. Refreshments

The home team is expected to provide light refreshments for matches played face to face.

8. Nominated players and replacements

A team that nominates fewer than six players at the time of registration can elect to add additional players, up to the maximum of six, until the team has played their Round 3 match (in either the Cup or Plate as applicable). Each such player must meet the same eligibility criteria as detailed in Section 1. Additional players cannot be added to a team after this time under any circumstances.

In exceptional circumstances, a team may request any of the following team amendments by request to the organiser:

1. A temporary replacement of one or more players. Temporary replacements are eligible for Master Points but do not take the position of the member being replaced.
2. A permanent replacement of one or more players. Permanent replacements are both eligible for Master Points and take the position of the member being replaced, including for the purposes of representing Surrey in the Pachabo Cup.

This clause is intended for situations such as a sudden and unavoidable change in availability after a match date has been agreed, or an illness that prevents a team member from being able to participate. The organiser has the sole discretion, with guidance from the wider committee if appropriate, to determine whether exceptional circumstances apply and will do so in the spirit with which this clause is intended.

If a replacement is approved, a substitute player must meet the eligibility criteria in Section 1 and must also have both a) an NGS no higher than the player being replaced, and b) an NGS no higher than the original NGS average of the team. Permanent replacements cannot have represented another team in either the Cup or Plate competitions.

Any player who has represented the winning team of the Lady Rose Cup in at least one third of the boards, or at least one third of the boards in the final, is considered to be a winner of the Lady Rose. Any player who has represented the winning team of the Lady Rose Plate in at least one third of the boards across both the Cup and Plate competitions, or at least one third of the boards in the final, is considered to be a winner of the Lady Rose Plate.

9. Lady Rose Qualifier

Subject to demand, a qualifying stage may be played prior to the start of the main draw. Entry to this stage would be restricted according to NGS as determined by the organiser. Matches in the qualifying rounds shall consist of 24 boards and have the same eligibility to Master Points as stipulated in Section 12. Losers in the Lady Rose Qualifier remain eligible to join the Lady Rose Plate as per Section 10.

An NGS restriction, roughly opposite to that applied to the qualifying rounds, will be enforced

for direct entries to the main draw. It is intended and expected that the majority of, although not all, teams will only be eligible to enter the Lady Rose via one of the entry routes available.

10. Lady Rose Plate

Generally, any team that loses in the first or second round of the Lady Rose Cup will automatically be entered for the Lady Rose Plate, which runs on the same lines as the Lady Rose Cup with the following exceptions:

- the first two rounds shall consist of 28 or 24 boards by agreement of the captains
- all subsequent rounds shall consist of 28 boards.

The number of rounds from which losers will enter the Lady Rose Plate may be varied according to the exact number of entries in any given year, and will be confirmed by the organiser at the start of the competition.

The Lady Rose Plate draw is not seeded, subject to the following:

- teams losing in the second (or later) round from the Lady Rose Cup will be given first preference for any byes required in the Lady Rose Plate
- repeat fixtures from the Lady Rose Cup will be avoided wherever possible

Teams not wishing to play in the Plate should inform the organiser as soon as possible. The Lady Rose Plate is not a Green Point event.

11. Scoring and tie breaking

IMPs scoring will be used and the team with the greatest number of IMPs will be the winner. In the event of a tie after completion of the scheduled number of boards, the second half of the match shall be extended by playing extra boards. The number of extra boards shall be one eighth of the scheduled number of boards for the whole match, with a minimum of two boards. If the teams are still tied then this process shall be repeated.

12. Master Points

Master Points will be awarded for each match won according to EBU rules for Major County teams events.

13. Other regulations

The EBU White Book will apply in all situations that are not otherwise covered by the regulations above. The organiser will contact participating teams in the event of a material update to either the SCBA or applicable EBU regulations.

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