

Where & When?

The club operates in the Virtual Clubs area of Bridge Base Online, an American website known as BBO. Their web address is www.bridgebase.com/v3/. Sessions will run on Friday afternoons through the autumn and winter, starting on October 4, 2024, at 2pm. The sessions are run by the North Devon Section (NDS) and any profit will be used by the NDS to support and promote Bridge in North Devon.

Who can play?

These sessions were originally set up for Devon players but players from outside the county are welcome to join us on the understanding that these are first and foremost friendly sessions. Before playing for the first time, all players will need a BBO account and user name, at least 3BB\$ in their account, and must have registered with the NDBC (see below).

What if I do not have an account with BBO?

It is easy to sign up to BBO, just go to www.bridgebase.com/v3/, click on 'Register' and following the instructions. If you want help doing this, just get in touch, see below.

How do I register with NDBC?

Before you can play, you need to register with the Club. Send your BBO user name, your EBU number (if you have one) and your mobile number to sjmunns@gmail.com. This information will only be used for the setting up and running of the sessions, including publishing results. Please get in touch if you need help, see below.

How much is it to play?

Table money is 3BB\$ per person per session payable in at the time you register, so you will need to have some BB\$ in your account beforehand. BB\$ are approximately equivalent to American dollars. Instructions for buying BB\$ are below but if you need help, or do not want to buy online from this site, do get in touch, see below.

How many boards?

We are currently playing 16 boards in a Howell movement with two boards per round. Each round is allocated 14 minutes so that the entire session lasts less than two hours. This seems to be the optimum amount of time to sit in front of a computer and most people manage to play within the time at least most of the time.

What if I do not have a partner?

I am happy to try and match pairs if you let me know as soon as possible that you need one. Alternatively, for a small fee payable on the BBO site, you can play with a robot (they play a standard American system and are very fast).

Will I get Master Points?

Yes, these are EBU run sessions with master points awarded. They will be registered in your MyEBU area as usual and will affect your NGS score.

What if I am not a member of the EBU?

As these are EBU run sessions, some of the table money goes to the EBU whether or not you are an EBU member. If you plan to play more than once, I can therefore assign you an EBU number by making you an honorary member of the Branton Bridge Club. Should you continue to play regularly, you will get member benefits, see www.ebu.co.uk/membership for more information. If you really don't want to be a member, let me know when you sign up.

How do I access the session?

Make sure you are already registered with the NDBC beforehand (see above). Log in to BBO **at least ten minutes*** before the start of the session, and ideally a lot sooner the first time you play! Click on 'Competitive', then 'All Tournaments', and then use the search term 'North' for North Devon. When you find the session, click on it, follow the instructions to invite your partner then wait for the session to begin. You will have the option to pay for your partner or just for yourself.

***This will give you time to buy BB\$ if you find that you have run out!**

Where can I see the results?

Results of sessions played on BBO are available to view in your 'History' on BBO along with the hands. In addition, results will be posted on the North Devon Section website – www.bridgewebs.com/northdevon/

Buying BB\$

Important – **do not use the app** for buying BB\$ as they are considerably more expensive on the app as compared to using a computer/laptop.

First, log into the BBO website www.bridgebase.com/v3/. In the top right-hand corner, next to your username, you will see a blue button with 'BB\$' and a shopping cart. Click this button then choose the option 'purchase BB\$' from the menu.

You will then be asked to login (using your BBO username and password) and once you have done this, you will be asked to enter your card details and to select how many BB\$ you wish to purchase from a drop-down menu. It is up to you how many you buy but \$15 will give you enough for 5 games, \$30 for ten, and so on.

Once you have completed the purchase you can choose to store your card details to make future purchases easier if you prefer. If you would like a helping hand the first time you buy, or are not happy buying online, please get in touch.

For all enquiries, please contact Jacqui Munns on 07734 219859 or email sjmunns@gmail.com