

STANLEY TROPHY RULES 2011-12

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1. All competitors must be paid-up Player Members of the EBU who meet the general LCBA conditions for participation in the Association's Members-only competitions for the year 2011-12.
2. a) The competition shall consist of seven heats of Butler Pairs.
b) Pairs comprising two players each defined by the LCBA for Tournament purposes as an expert player are entitled as of right to play.
The definitions of expert players/pairs are kept on files held by the Tournament Secretary, LCBA Qualified Directors and the General Secretary; and also published in the LCBA Yearbook and on the LCBA Website.
c) In addition applications to play from other players received by the CC will be considered in consultation with the Selection Committee. Acceptance will normally be made conditional on specific partnerships and/or made temporary and subject to review based on performance over a stated period.
3. a) Each player must provide a completed EBU 20/20A/20B style system card and hand this to the opponents for their use throughout each round. Pairs not having completed such cards should be furnished with EBU 20B style (or original) LCBA Simple System (Standard English) Cards and required to play in accordance with these until personal EBU style cards are completed. WBF style cards may not be used.
b) Pairs with properly completed (2 paged) EBU 20 style system cards, may employ EBU Level 2 (and 3) Permitted Agreements, as detailed in Section 11 of the 2006 Orange Book, incorporating amendments as per subsequent LCBA Yearbooks.
c) However pairs having properly completed full (4 paged) EBU 20A or 20B style system cards may also employ any Agreements permitted at Level 4, as detailed in Section 11 of the 2006 Orange Book, incorporating amendments as per subsequent LCBA Yearbooks. [These amendments are consolidated on the LCBA website.]
4. a) Any pair either wishing to appeal, or reserve the right to later appeal, against a decision of the Director or Scorer should inform the Director and the other pair of this and ensure that all relevant details of the hand and decision etc. are recorded on a witnessed statement before leaving the venue.
Whether the actual appeal is immediate, or made later after reflection or consultation, it must be sent in writing by email or post to the CC within two days of the event.
b) If a psychic bid is reported to the Director, he shall, on request, record the details of the board on which it occurred, and report the matter to the CC for the attention of the Laws and Ethics SC of the LCBA. The Director may also record and similarly report any departure from the system that he considers should be brought to its attention.
5. All results shall be treated as provisional until confirmed by the CC after receipt of the event records and the determination of any appeal.
6. a) The four pairs, playing in at least four heats, who obtain the highest average Butler score over the whole season will be invited to play in at least two Midland League matches in the following season. If three or more of these pairs include current regular county players then such invitations will be made to at least the highest placed two pairs that do not include such current regular county players, provided only that each must achieve a net positive Butler score over the season.
b) i) In addition pairs who play in a minimum of four heats during the season will have their best four scores aggregated, other poorer scores being discounted.
ii) The pair with the highest such aggregate over four heats will hold the Stanley Trophy for one year. Any tie will be split in accordance with standard EBU procedures.
iii) Monetary prizes of £80, £60, £40 and £20 will be awarded to the pairs with the four highest such aggregates.
iv) The Cup winners and runners-up will normally be invited to represent Leicestershire as a team of four in the Beck Cup (Oxfordshire CBA Invitation Event).
7. The LCBA will award local Master Points on the County scale in each heat.
8. The scheduled dates of the seven heats are 14 September, 26 October and 23 November 2011 and 25 January, 22 February, 11 April and 16 May 2012 at Glenfield Bridge Club.
9. The playing charge for each heat is £3.50 per head.
10. Each heat will normally be played over 24-27 boards, using a recommended movement. The absolute limits of the acceptable range, which will only be played in exceptional circumstances, are 21 and 30 boards.
Details of recommended movements are kept on files held by the Tournament Secretary, LCBA Qualified Directors and the General Secretary.