

Congratulations to

Paul Janes and Mark Elliott topping the Leader Board for February with an impressive 72.29%. They were closely followed by Richard Dewe and his partner with 71.04% on Wednesday 19th February and in third place were Brian Gould and Julia Brown with 70.16% on Wednesday 26th February. Yet another month with the top three scores in the 70's. Well done all of you.

February's Achiever of the Month award goes to Anna Pontonutti, ably supported by her partner Paul Janes, who was 2nd on 3rd February with 56.79%. Well done Anna, keep improving.

Dates for your Diary

SCCBA Welcome Pairs

Sunday 8th March Horsham Bridge Club

For players who have learnt in the last 5 years with an

NGS rating of 5 or less

SCCBA Spring Congress

Saturday 4th and Sunday 5th April

Entry forms for both events available at the Club

Club Directors

Anthony Andrews: Barbara Herold: Patrick Hutley:

Enjoy your bridge whenever and wherever you play

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East Sussex Bridge Club

Affiliated to the English Bridge Union

Newsletter

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Editorial

The EBU has sent all clubs its guidelines on what we may do to help stop the spread of the new coronavirus. Their suggestions are as follows:

- *Provide hand sanitisers for members to use as often as they feel the need – (these will be available on the coffee table)*
- *With a Mitchell movement East/West may take their bidding boxes with them at the end of each round if they wish to although playing Devil's Advocate you will still be handling the cards everyone else has touched*
- *With a Howell movement both pairs may take their bidding boxes with them at the end of each round*

The above is not mandatory just a suggestion.

Obviously, if you have recently returned from an area that has confirmed cases of Covid 19 you should follow the advice being given out.

Anyone with cold or flu symptoms please do not come to the club but treat yourself to a little TLC at home. A hot toddy is usually very good treatment for most symptoms.....

It should be obvious but please bin any used tissues rather than leave them for the director to deal with. Thank you.

Following the advice being given out by the NHS the best protection seems to be thorough and frequent washing of hands with soap and water especially after coughing and/or sneezing.

Update on Norman Taylor – he will be moving to the Normanhurst very shortly with the expectation of a return to the Bridge Table as quickly as he can get there.

Stratification Upgrades for March

The players below all have NGS rankings of honour cards at the end of February and will therefore be upgraded to an "A" status for the month of March in addition to those players who have a life-time ranking which puts them into the A grade.

*Richard Dewe Raquel Berdichevsky Mike Wood
John Revell Patrick Hutley John Clark
Mark Elliott Tony Dwiar*

Master Point Promotions January 2020

Club Master

Mark Elliott

Improvers

There are now a number of Improvers regularly playing duplicate and hopefully a few more will be persuaded to come along and “dip their toes in the water” after some Improvers’ Sessions currently on the go. They would all benefit from the confidence of playing with someone more experienced than themselves and a few kind souls are already doing this. If you feel you could give up one session a month to help someone new to duplicate improve, please let me know.

**Data on the Computer Dealt hands used during February
North 9.70 South 10.01 East 10.28 West 10.02**

So far looking at the stats for January and February this year, the last place you want to sit if you want “points” is North!!

NO BRIDGE

Regrettably there will be No Bridge on Thursday 7th May due to the PCC Elections when once again the Tennis Club becomes a Polling Station.

Master Class in Defence

Judging by the increasing number of scores in the 70’s I think a Master Class in defence is called for to help prevent the less experienced players handing “gifts” to the “Sharks”.

I therefore propose devoting the first Wednesday in JUNE to this end, concentrating on the pitfalls that contribute giving the opponents tricks they are not entitled to – something I am well opposed to..... If you are not already on the list please let me know if you would like to come along. Cost will be the same, £5.00.

March’s Impossible Hand

<p>♠ AKQ84 ♥ 1043 ♦ K ♣ Q842</p> <p>♠ - ♠ J1065 ♥ QJ872 ♥ AK65 ♦ AJ1098762 ♦ Q43 ♣ - ♣ 53</p> <p>♠ 9732 ♥ 9 ♦ 5 ♣ AKJ10976</p>	<p>Board 18 : Dealer East : NS vulnerable</p> <p>This monstrosity of a hand appeared on Monday 3rd February. With East unlikely to open the bidding unless playing a mini No Trump, South is likely to open 3♣. So what will West do? Personally I favour 5♦ which may well prompt North to bid 6♣ if in a suicidal frame of mind (horrible hearts). So what next?</p> <p>Six pairs played in 5♦ doubled or not, one pair in 5♣, one pair in 5♠ x and one pair in 6♦ (well done Linda Farrell and Marion Nicholls). Tell me, did you jump? Were you pushed? Or have you got a super system you would like to share with the rest of us?</p>
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