World Bridge Tour
THIS IS HOW WE PLAY

Online Contract Bridge League

OCBL JOURNAL

Issue N. 123. Monday, 30 August, 2021

SEPTEMBER CUP IS STARTING TODAY

Round 1. 16.00 CEST / 10.00 a.m. EDT

Levine	VS	Huang
Gupta	VS	Harris
Black	VS	New Amateurs
Donner	VS	ISR-TUR
Gillis	VS	Brasil
Parker	VS	Scorway
Flyfalcon	VS	Mixing It Up
Orca	VS	Mixed Tulips +
Barel	VS	Rippey
Fredin	VS	Ferguson
Compton	VS	Texan Aces
Cole	VS	Hoffa's bandits

Round 2. 18.00 CEST / 12.00 p.m. EDT

To be announced

Round 3. 20.00 CEST / 2.00 p.m. EDT

To be announced

All the tables will be open to kibitzers

The OCBL September Cup is starting today!
24 World Class teams will play a Swiss qualification stage (9 Rounds), followd by the Knockouts (Quarterfinals, Semifinals, Final).
Check the list of participants and all the details on pages 4-5.

LINE-UPs GENERAL RULE

The teams are expected to submit their line-up as soon as practical but, in any case, not later than 30 minutes before thestart of the round.
Teams who infringe this regulation will be subject to VP penalties according to this scale:

- 1st occasion: warning.
- 2nd and any subsequent occasion: 0.5 VP penalty

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World Bridge Tour
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Online Contract Bridge League

OCBL
UPCOMING EVENTS

OPEN LEAGUE
6 - 30 September, 2021

		CEST	EDT
Every Monday, Wednesday and Thursday at:		21.15	15.15
Qualification:	9 Rounds, 16 boards each		
KO:	3 Rounds, 20 boards each		

OCTOBER CUP
18 - 21 October, 2021

		CEST	EDT
Qualification:	Monday 18 October	16.00 - 18.00 - 20.00	10.00 - 12.00 - 14.00
	Tuesday 19 October	16.00 - 18.00 - 20.00	10.00 - 12.00 - 14.00
	Wednesday 20 October	16.00 - 18.00 - 20.00	10.00 - 12.00 - 14.00
KO:	Thursday 21 October	16.00 - 18.30 - 21.00	10.00 - 12.30 - 15.00

OPEN LEAGUE
25 October - 18 November, 2021

		CEST	EDT
Every Monday, Wednesday and Thursday at:		21.15	15.15
Qualification:	9 Rounds		
KO:	3 Rounds		

REGISTRATION IS OPEN!

https://www.ocbl.org/registration/

Online Bridge
NEWS

ONLINE EUROPEAN QUALIFICATION COMPETITIONS for WORLD TEAMS CHAMPIONSHIPS 2021 and EBL CHAMPIONS' CUP 2021

From the EBL Bulletins:
Message of the EBL President Jan Kamras:

Dear Bridge Friends

We have reached the end of an adventure that started early this year, when it became clear that Madeira could not organise the European National Teams Championships as planned in June 2021 (postponed from 2020). At that time the WBF hoped being able to organise the World Teams Championships already in September 2021, meaning the EBL was in a hurry to find a way to qualify the Zone 1 representatives.
Fully cognisant of the troubles surrounding such events in 2020 we decided to attempt an online event, of a scale we haven't seen before in official international events. We were navigating largely uncharted waters. We were obviously aware that preventing unethical conduct would be one of the biggest challenges. The first decision was therefore that no players would play from home, but that each country assembled them in domestic clusters, supervised by independent observers. The layout of the playing areas had to be arranged according to strict criteria, making unauthorised communication with partner virtually impossible. As a further security measure each Category played its own boards, allowing us to use "human shields" between members of the same team. We allowed kibitzing online, but with a 30 minute delay for a 75 minute match. It was also important to play on a platform that would allow us to basically tailor the playing environment to our strict standards. RealBridge was able to offer this and we are very grateful for their enormous support. Setting up real-time communication protocols between the EBL and RealBridge systems was a major challenge, which was solved admirably by the respective IT staff.

To illustrate the scale of this undertaking here are some numbers:
- 96 teams playing on 550+ individual computers in 31 countries.
- 58 Observers from 32 countries, with 20+ ready as reserves (of which several were used).
- 9 Tournament Directors from 8 countries.
- 5 Daily Bulletin journalists operating from different countries.
- 2 EBL Scoring staff
- 2 RealBridge IT staff.

This would have been a challenge in normal times but in the middle of a pandemic, with travel and entry restrictions constantly changing, it could have become virtually impossible. That we ended up with so few mishaps is somewhat of a miracle. All participants, NBOs, Observers, RealBridge and EBL staff have performed admirably. The players have never before in my experience been so well behaved. My initial impression is that this may have been the "cleanest" major international event ever! You all have my deepest gratitude.

You, the players, are the final judges of the success (or lack thereof) of this event. The controversy surrounding the matches against the Italian Open team was unprecedented but, fortunately, it didn't in the end affect the overall results of the qualification.

Finally, I want to congratulate all countries qualifying from this event; in alphabetical order:
WTC Women: England, France, Hungary, Poland, Russia, Spain, Sweden and Turkey
WTC Open: Bulgaria, Denmark, England, Israel, Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland.
WTC Seniors: Bulgaria, Denmark, France, Iceland, Netherlands, Norway, Poland and Sweden.
WTC Mixed: Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany, Israel, Poland, Portugal and Romania.
Champions Cup: Bulgaria, Denmark, England, Hungary, Israel, Italy, Netherlands, Norway, Sweden and Switzerland.

The host country of the WTC and CC respectively are also automatically qualified, as well as the defending CC title holder.
Some of the other Zones frequently cannot fill their WTC quota in one or more Categories, and this may certainly happen this time as well considering the ongoing pandemic. If this happens Europe gets the 1st, 3rd and 4th such spot. Consequently it is very possible that also the 9th and 10th finishers of the Qualifier ultimately get a spot.

STARTING TODAY!

OCBL SEPTEMBER CUP

FORMAT

Qualification Phase

The qualifying stage will be played in the form of a Swiss.
This stage will consist of 108 boards played in 9 matches of 12 boards each.

Knockout Phase

The top-8 teams from the qualifying stage will advance to the Final stage

#1 vs #8	#2 vs #7	#3 vs #6	#4 vs #5

Quarterfinal, Semifinal and Final will be played over one segment of 16 boards each.
There will be the following carry over:
In the quarterfinal no. 1 – 4 get a carry-over of 8.1 – 6.1 – 3.1 – 1.1 IMP.
In the semifinals and the Final no. 1 – 2 get a carry-over of 0.1 IMP as a tiebreaker.

USEFUL LINKS

Line-Up
http://lineup.ocbl.org/event/10

Results
https://www.ocbl.org/2021-ocbl-september-cup/#results

BBO Links & Handrecords
https://www.ocbl.org/2021-ocbl-september-cup-records/

Journal
https://www.ocbl.org/ocbl-journal

ROSTERS AND SCHEDULE

BAREL
Barel M. (mich-b)
Katz P. (paz_k)
Liran I. (inonli)
Zack S. (shaharz)
Braunstein A. (rel49)
Greenberg N. (ng77)
Kalish A. (kalish)
Bareket I. (bareket)

BLACK
Black A. (boggis)
Gold D. (dagold)
McIntosh A. (mcintosh)
Paske T. (thomas1000)
Hult S. (hultahult)
Hallberg G. (rerack)

BRASIL
Rodrigues A. (drinbet)
Campos J. (jpapc)
Junqueira G. (junka)
Duque R. (Rafinha01)
Nader J. (jnader)
Tusa G. (Gabriele)
Kladt F. (Fred_Kladt)

COLE
Cole M. (mtc146)
Bianchedi A. (alecuque)
Toledano O. (orentol)
Zamir A. (zamir1)

COMPTON
Compton C. (compton)
Kennedy S. (Kenprop)
Moses T. (hottodstl)
Smith R. (ronsmithsf)
Demirev N. (ndemirev)
Meltzer R. (rcm)
Moll C. (mollbridge)

DONNER
Donner G. (GDonnersc1)
Rimstedt S. (sandria)
Rimstedt C. (CillaR)
Dwyer K. (kdwyer)
Huang S. (precisebri)

FERGUSON
Van Lankveld J. (ennaji)
Van Den Bos B. (Berendbs)
Nadel J. (juliejoy)
Ferguson B. (bruceferg)
Snellers A. (asnellers)
De Boer W. (bukkum)

FLYFALCON
Wilson A. (flyfalcon)
Van Prooijen R. (riccovp)
Verhees L. (loukie)
Gronkvist I. (Halko)
Gronkvist M. (Mike_G)
Sprinkhuizen T. (thibos)
Mendes De Leon G. (guymdl)
Kiljan V. (Vkill)
Tijssen L. (luctijs)

FREDIN
Fredin P. (P_Fredin)
Apteker A. (alonap)
Sylvan J. (JoppeSyl)
Morath A. (andersm)

GILLIS
Gillis S. (Rayas78)
Rimstedt M. (Mikaelrim)
Svendsen O. (Pirrum)
Saelensminde E. (skaal1)
Rimstedt O. (olarim)

GUPTA
Gupta N. (nareng)
Mahmood Zia (Zia)
Korbel D. (dank)
De Wijs S. (sm1)
Muller B. (beukertje)
Lall H. (hemantlall)

HARRIS
Root S. (AsNuttyAs)
Harris J. (Jdache)
Igoe N. (ibraves)
Malhasyan E. (master DJ)
Gold M. (marusab)
Trendafilov R. (rumen)
Isporski V. (smileyv)
Tiholov T. (polborta)

HOFFA'S BANDITS
Charlsen T. (tcharlsen)
Hoftaniska T.E. (Kasper20)
Bakke C. (chrien)
Grude T.E. (teg91)
Bakke T. (torbak)
Høyland S.O. (soh2)

HUANG
Huang W. (wshuang)
Sheng M. (Kainsheng)
Kwok-fai Mak (Kfmak)
NG Chi-Cheung b. (baron_ng)
Xin l. (jq_sos)
Yan R. (rock_yan)
Han Y. (ynh)
Mou W. (wmou)
Zhang Y. (snake doc)

ISR-TUR
Zeitak A. (avivz)
Khutorsky N. (nir khut)
Tatlicioglu S. (Sinantos)
Baskan B. (baskanb)

LEVINE
Levine M. (mikerl)
Wold E. (womoco)
Meckstroth J. (jjmeck)
Garner S. (garner)
Helgemo G. (micelle45)
Helness T. (Helstokk)
Morris B. (bobat3333)

MIXED TULIPS +
Levin B. (Levin123)
Jansma J. (jan_jansma)
Jansma A. (aida_mk_nl)
Hop J. (Dutcho)
Cleeff J. (IMP_Jan)
Witvliet M. (donkeyM)
Smit Y. (Yke)
Van De Paverd T. (tim_p)

MIXING IT UP
Bauer T. (Marintlc)
Parker H. (tiger bait)
Delmonte I. (ishd)
Benner D. (dlbfsa)
Jacobs G. (georgej)
Lien O. (Olien)

NEW AMATEURS
Lo A. (aitail)
Chechelashvili D. (Dato)
Yang D. (hyang)
Falk A. (Allan Falk)
Cole B. (April2)
Schwartz A. (alansc)
Jiang Gu (Jiang_Gu)

ORCA
Plackett R. (hoofie)
Erichsen E. (espene)
Crouch P. (pitiful)
Cope S. (Copeyj)
Robson A. (arobson)
Allfrey A. (allfrey)

PARKER
Rubenstein S. (stewr)
Parker C. (cmp56)
Grossack A. (nevereast)
Grossack Z. (germs345)
Demuy V. (Okvince)
Kranyak J. (jkrans)
Tebha A. (anamtebha)

RIPPEY
Rippey M. (radiators)
Bedout P. (pi420)
Nowak K. (kamiln)
Wiankowski P. (vifon_e)
Vallet E. (rasko179)
Cima L. (100dog)
Percario G. (giacomopr)
Nawrocki P. (nawrot)

SCORWAY
Levinson S. (sc0tsteve)
Shenkin B. (Barnets)
Diamond D. (Derekd)
Kvangraven N. (Nils123)
Saur O. (Saurdino)
Silverstone V. (Odysseus69)
Stornes H. (helsto)
Brekka G. (kaninen)

TEXAN ACES
Venkatesh G. (texanace)
Padhye A. (oqonil)
Tommasini S. (Stefanot)
Thomas M. (hawai)
Hsieh D. (hsiehdh)
Chen L. (lc chen)
Tolani R. (suketbombi)
Khare a. (ajay_khare)

OCBL OPEN LEAGUE

6 - 30 September, 2021

Registered Teams

The OCBL September Cup will take place from 6 to 30 September, 2021.

HARRIS
Root S. (AsNuttyAs)
Harris J. (Jdache)
Igoe N. (ibraves)
Malhasyan E. (master DJ)
Gold M. (marusab)
Trendafilov R. (rumen)
Isporski V. (smileyv)
Tiholov T. (polborta)
Gross S. (sgross)

SKALMAN
Ahlesved K. (kruska)
Warne N. (nikwar2)
Elmroth G. (Turnip1)
Eliasson P. (PGEliasson)
Fallenius B. (Bf88)
Nilsland M. (Nilsland)
Karlsson T. (Charlie99)
Sandin A. (stridsvagn)

FLYFALCON
Wilson A. (flyfalcon)
Van Prooijen R. (riccovp)
Verhees L. (loukie)
Gronkvist I. (Halko)
Gronkvist M. (Mike_G)
Sprinkhuizen T. (thibos)
Mendes De Leon G. (guymdl)
Kiljan V. (Vkill)
Tijssen L. (luctijs)

SENIOR BALL
Fox Ji. (mmbridge)
Helms J. (lt70)
Chambers N. (neilc)
Graves A. (algraves)

FRENCH JUNIORS
Bellicaud L. (lbellicaud)
Guth R. (robinblood)
Bedouet P. (pi420)
Vallet E. (rasko179)
Grosset C. (cRi cRi)

JUNIOR SQUAD
Guichet T. (Krati_Lyz)
Bonin L. (louisbonin)
Basler R. (raph98)
Dufrene M. (melic13131)
Lebatteux A. (voldenuit)

BLACK
Black A. (boggis)
Gold D. (dagold)
McIntosh A. (mcintosh)
Paske T. (thomas1000)
Hult S. (hultahult)
Hallberg G. (rerack)

FREDIN
Fredin P. (P_Fredin)
Sylvan J. (JoppeSyl)
Morath A. (andersm)
Clementsson S. (237425)
Clemmensson J. (jannec69)

SCORWAY
Levinson S. (sc0tsteve)
Shenkin B. (Barnets)
Diamond D. (Derekd)
Kvangraven N. (Nils123)
Saur O. (Saurdino)
Silverstone V. (Odysseus69)
Stornes H. (helsto)
Brekka G. (kaninen)

BRIDGE42
Macskásy G. (macsek)
Talyigás P. (taliga)
Czímer C. (csabi)
Szalka T. (szalkat)
Trenka P. (trp42)
Kemény M. (markk12)
Kemény G. (kemeny)

Book your seat at:
https://www.ocbl.org/registration/

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OCBL OPEN LEAGUE

6 - 30 September 2021

Qualification + Knockout

Qualification:

9 Rounds x 16 Boards
Play every Monday, Wednesday and Thursday
at 21.15 CEST - 15.15 EDT

KOs:

Quarterfinals: 20 Boards
Semifinals: 20 Boards
Final: 20 Boards

Info and pre-registration: WWW.OCBL.ORG