



The 2010/2011 Worcestershire Grand Prix Teams Competition to be played at the Droitwich Working Men's Club

The Worcestershire County Night has been successful over the years especially with pairs events. Unfortunately teams events have never attracted the same level of interest with the possible exception of special events such as the Christmas Swiss Teams.

When we compete with other Counties it is usually in teams events. In the Dawes, Porter and Markham Leagues we field teams of 8 against other counties. In the Tollemache we select the best 4 or 5 pairs in the County to play teams. Yet we do not have an attractive regular teams event on a Monday Night.

The County Night has now moved to Droitwich, which is a much better venue and has attracted more players. We wish to interest our Affiliated Clubs in playing more regularly on a Monday Night. Last year we introduced the Grand Prix Teams event which proved to be very popular and successful and we wish to continue this event, hopefully, bigger and better than last year.

Our objectives:

- To promote teams bridge;
- To encourage EBU affiliation;
- To have a friendly competition which feels like 'no fear' but where systems can be used;
- To have a minimum entry of 15 teams;
- To publicise results;
- To have a main trophy but also other prizes;

Dates:

6th September, 22nd November, 17th January, 7th February, 14th March, 18th April

Format:

Multiple teams.

Event Organiser and Host:

In addition to the normal tournament director we will have an event host on each night. Their function will be to welcome players, ensure they understand the rules, allocate players from the Tollemache Players Pool, collect feedback on the event for future improvements, underpin the friendly atmosphere, and generally help the event to function.

Scoring:

The winning team on any one night will receive 20 points, the second team 19 points, etc.

Teams are expected to play in at least 5 of the 6 evenings. If they play in all 6 they can drop their worst score.

In the event of a tie the team scoring highest in the last event will prevail. If still a tie the head to head score in last event then the head to head over whole event will be used to split the tie.

Pairs:

We will keep a record of how pairs perform giving us a database of information for helping to select future County Teams. So if a pair do very well but happen to be playing with another pair that plays poorly we will have the information.

The Tollemache Players Pool:

The following players (all of whom have played for Worcestershire in the Tollemache in the last two years) will form a pool that is available to the teams should they not have a full team on any one night:

Richard Jephcott, John Sansom, Mike Theelke, Grahame Weir, Nick Forward, Steve Allerston, Stewart Fishburne, John Yuill, Mike Willoughby, Ian Thompson, David Thomas & Jimmy Ledger.

In the event that the above are not called upon to play on a particular evening then they will themselves form into teams for the night and play against the other teams, be awarded master points, but will not form part of the final result. By definition the Tollemache players will be host pairs and it is possible that one or more players will not get a game.

The Teams:

It is hoped that all last year's teams will play again this year.

The responsibility of a team captain is to ensure that a team is fielded on each of the 6 nights even if they are unavailable themselves. At least two members of your team must be present for the score to count.

They can email Richard Jephcott if they know that they are having difficulties so that players from the County pool can be allocated (but this must be the exception rather than the rule). The following list is last year's entrants:

Black Pears	Georgina Lineker
Three retirees & a worker	Ross Garratt
Moore's Marauders	Ronnie Moore
Polish Forcing Pass	Mike Vetch
Worcester Grant	Sue Evans
Spam	Alan Reid
Leada	Barbara Lee
Half a team	Brian Wilkes
Witley Wanderers	Dick Rutter
Norfolk Chance	Tony Gervis
The Bare Essentials	Tony Tidmarsh
Coppertoppers	Maureen Hannah
Spadesbourne	Monica Parker
John's Girls	Trish Mann
Bewdley Bridgers	Brian Varley

Anybody can enter and players can play for more than one team – we will not turn anybody away. However you cannot enter without having a starting team of at least 4 players.

Prizes:

- Overall Team Trophy and free entry for the following year;
- Wine prize for pair that bids and makes the most slams (2 points for grand, 1 point for small);
- Wine prize for team with the best performance on the final night that was lying 8th or below in the table.

Entry:

Teams enter by completing the entry form below. Entry fee is £40 per team payable on the 1st night covering 6 nights' bridge or pay on the night (N.B. This will cost you £48!)

Publicity:

Mark Stretch will feature the event in the newsletter and will also attempt to get it into the local press.

Entry Form:

Team
Name

Team
Captain
Player 1

Player 2

Player 3

Player 4

Entry Fee Up front / On night