



The 2011/2012 Worcestershire Grand Prix Teams Competition to be played at the Droitwich Working Men's Club

The Worcestershire Grand Prix Teams event has proved, over the last two years, to be one of the most popular events on the calendar. The atmosphere is friendly and competitive with a level playing field being created by removing the best 10 County players from the competition.

There is no doubt that playing in a teams event improves your bridge faster than any other form of the game and all players should be encouraged to take part.

The objectives of the Grand Prix Teams:

- To promote teams bridge in Worcestershire;
- To encourage affiliation to the EBU;
- 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:

11th July, 5th September, 21st November, 16th January, 13th February, 12th March.

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 6th event will prevail.

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, Nick Forward, Steve Allerston, Stewart Fishburne, 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. It is expected that each will commit to at least 3 of the 6 Grand Prix dates, if not they will be asked to join the host rota for Monday nights.

In addition, the following strong pairs cannot form a team together. The principle is that they should pair up with a less experienced pair to pass on their wisdom. Ross and Joyce, Val and Steve, Dennis and Sue, Brett and Clive

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 a 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 is a list of last year's team captains

Black Pears	Georgina Lineker
3 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
Unquote	Paul Hammond
Witley Wanderers	Dick Rutter
Norfolk Chance	Tony Gervis
Double Faults	David Horton
Great Expectations	Martin Gill
Spadesbourne	Monica Parker
Wyre	Heather Wescott

Anybody can enter and players can play for more than one team – we will not turn anybody away. However you cannot enter without registering a 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 6th 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:

Mike Willoughby 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
