

NIBU Council

Proposals for Premier Leagues 2013-2014

Use of Bridgemates

It is proposed that Bridgemates be used in the Premier Leagues from the start of the 2013-2014 season. This will provide two main benefits:

- For competitors; we already have hand records, with this proposal players will also be able to review what happened in the other matches hence enhancing their competitive experience. In the light of the significant increase in the entry fee for this competition in the current year the provision of improved scoring and information is a reasonable expectation.
- For the selectors; the proposal will enable cumulative cross-imping thus providing a valuable source of information when selecting representative teams. As the majority of pairs wishing to play representative bridge participate in the Leagues the results achieved against the other 7 top teams could be factored with the results of any trials.

The Bridgemates will of course have to be set so that results from other tables are not shown, this is already the practice in NIBU team events where Bridgemates are used.

Adoption of New WBF 20 Point VP Scale

The following is an extract from the WBF website:

'As announced at the 2012 World Championships in Lille a Scoring Committee was set up by the WBF President in January 2012.

After careful analysis, the committee proposed — and the WBF Executive Committee accepted — the following:

1. The adoption of a 20–point victory point scale with the following features:
 1. The scales are continuous and given to two decimal places
 2. Subject to a cap, each IMP margin translates to a specific VP award
 3. Each additional IMP in the winner's margin is worth no more than the previous one
 4. Relative to the current WBF scales, the "blitz" margins in the new scale will be approximately equivalent to the 25–2 in the old scales. There is no reduction of VPs for the loser when the margin exceeds the blitz margin.
2. The new scales correct perceived weaknesses and anomalies in the old scales
3. It is recommended that the new scales be used in all future World Bridge Championship (including Youth tournaments) and are made available to all NBOs. NBOs are encouraged to adopt the new scales, although they are under no obligation to do so.
4. Also, the Committee will prepare new "discrete" scales (whole numbers) to be used by NBOs if they wish to during the transition from the old to the new VP scales.'

BGB have decided to adopt the continuous scale for use in next year's representative fixtures; EBU are adopting this scale for the English Premier League and the discrete scale as an interim measure for other EBU competitions.

A spreadsheet is available to calculate the appropriate scales for any number of boards; attached are scales for 28 board matches.

It is proposed that the WBF continuous scale is adopted for the Premier Leagues to bring NIBU into line with WBF competitions and with the English Premier League.

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