

## **SCOTTISH BRIDGE UNION (SCIO)**

### **CLUB AFFILIATION AGREEMENT**

The Scottish Bridge Union (SBU) is a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO), number SC051361, recognised and regulated by the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR).

Our **mission** is to foster, promote and communicate participation and enjoyment of bridge as a mind sport in Scotland.

#### **Criteria**

The SBU offers affiliation plus accompanying services to any bridge club in Scotland (#1), provided it meets the criteria listed below ...

1. It is an entity independent of the SBU.
2. It is a properly constituted club, meaning it is either an association of members, a recognised charity, an incorporated entity or has another suitable legal persona.
3. Its Constitution states that all bridge-playing members of the Club will be members of the SBU. [Where a club's Constitution or its legal persona conflict with this, dispensation may be granted if the club notifies the SBU]
4. It has a set of elected officers, such as the President, Secretary and Treasurer, plus a bank account.
5. It has sources of income independent of the SBU and publishes annual accounts to its members.
6. It need not have fixed premises but has a known geographical location, such as a specific locality or a well-known geographical area.
7. It holds regular duplicate bridge events, face-to-face, online, or both.
8. It collects annual SBU member subscriptions from its members (those that are home members) and remits the funds received in bulk to the SBU bank account before 30 November each year.

Having commenced operations in March 2022, the SBU is now establishing a formal affiliation agreement with existing bridge clubs in Scotland. Clubs wishing to affiliate with the SBU should formally accept this agreement in a manner consistent with their Constitution. Acceptance of the terms of this agreement should be communicated by a club official sending a signed copy of this document to a separately identified SBU email address before the start of the 2022-2023 season (1 September). New bridge clubs can join at any time.

#### **Engagements**

The Club will respect the SBU mission, aims and intentions, as laid out in the SBU Constitution, SBU Bye-Laws, SBU Disciplinary Policies and Procedures, and this Club Affiliation Agreement.

When the SBU applies disciplinary penalties to one of its members and that player is a member of an affiliated entity, all such entities will similarly enforce these penalties. Likewise, when International Bridge Organisations (EBL and WBF) announce penalties on an individual bridge player, the SBU will do the same and require that each SBU affiliate follows suit.

The Club and the SBU will share data, including members' personal data, during their joint activities, conforming with current GDPR legislation. The SBU Data Privacy Policy is available on the SBU website. In addition, each entity will appraise the other if there is a data breach of members' personal data. If the SBU requests, the Club will appoint a Data Protection Officer.

## **Services to Affiliated Clubs**

The SBU will provide services to each affiliated club, including but not limited to the following ...

1. Clubs can benefit from SBU contractual arrangements with outside suppliers, examples being insurance providers (under certain conditions) and online bridge platform providers.  
Where Clubs benefit from these arrangements, they must accept the conditions imposed by suppliers upon the SBU as conditions upon themselves. Failure to do so may result in withdrawal of the benefit.
2. Clubs are entitled to participate in the SBU Master Points Scheme and can purchase Master Points credits in advance. A club must request a licence to issue Master Points using MP scales any higher than club level. The Rules and regulations of the MP scheme are published within the "Handbook Of The Master Points Scheme" (HOTMPS), which is regularly updated. Clubs wishing to deviate from HOTMPS must seek prior formal approval from the Member Services Committee.

SBU Policies, practices and operational activities change over time. Therefore, affiliated clubs should ensure they are up-to-date by regularly reviewing SBU website announcements and associated documentation.

## **Club Affiliation Fee**

The SBU may charge an affiliation fee to be paid annually by an affiliated club between the 1<sup>st</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> of September. The Board will decide and announce the fee amount with at least one month's notice.

## **Renewal and Cancellation**

All Affiliation agreements will automatically renew unless a notice of cancellation, with one month's notice, is received from a club. The Board of Trustees may update the terms and conditions, usually on an annual basis but will provide advance notice with reasons and then take account of views expressed. If the Board of Trustees wishes to cancel an agreement with an individual club, it will do so with a notice period until the end of the current season. The Board may impose a shorter notice period upon the recommendation of the Laws and Ethics Committee.

## **Explanatory Notes**

#1. Following an agreement with the English Bridge Union (EBU) and the European Bridge League (EBL), the Berwick-upon-Tweed Bridge Club is eligible for affiliation with the SBU. Berwick-upon-Tweed Club members who reside in England within commuting distance of the town centre will be considered equivalent to Scottish resident players. Home members can hold their MP records either with the SBU or the EBU, but not both.

## **End of Club Affiliation Agreement (7 July 2022 version 1)**

**Club Name** Berwick-upon-Tweed Bridge Club

**Club official Name & Title** Paul Gipson, Honorary Secretary

**Signature** *P S Gipson*

**Date** 1 August 2022