



West Midlands Bridge Club

Host System

Purpose

To provide players with the opportunity to arrive without a partner up to 6 times per year (exceptions may be made at the discretion of the Bridge Committee).

Hosted Sessions

A host will only be available for the following sessions:

- Tuesday evening
- Wednesday afternoon
- Thursday morning
- Friday evening

Role of the Host

Hosts are not required to be experts, nor are they expected to know advanced systems or conventions. The host is not required to play anything other than a simple system – basic Acol. The player arriving without a partner must accept this, unless they both agree on different conventions.

The host should not leave until play commences, and the TD confirms that he or she is not required.

The host does not pay for a session in which he/she is acting as a host. If the host turns up, but is not needed for that session, he/she is able to claim a free session the next time he/she plays.

Multiple Players Arriving to use the Host System

If the number of people who turn up requiring a host is:

- Zero - the host leaves.
- One - the host plays with that person.
- Two, Four, etc - the players partner each other (the TD decides how they will be paired), and the host leaves.
- Three, Five, etc - the host plays with one, and the others are paired as decided by the TD.

NB It is important that the host is not simply paired off with the first person to arrive without a partner, as there may be other players arriving who require a partner, which will then make the situation difficult to manage. The host must remain 'available' until moments before play commences. This does not mean, however, that a tentative pairing cannot be made, but on the

explicit understanding that if anyone else arrives requiring a partner then the host must withdraw.

Host Rotas

During October each year, the Host Coordinator will draw up a rota of hosts for the following calendar year. This will initially be based on the host rota for the current year, with hosts allocated to similar dates.

The host rota will be sent to all hosts, displayed on the Club's website, and displayed on the upstairs notice board. It is the responsibility of each host to check their availability for the date(s) to which the host has been allocated, and if the host is not available for any date it is **the host's** responsibility to find a substitute (perhaps by arranging to swap a session with another host). For this purpose, all hosts will be provided with a list of other hosts and their contact details. Having found a substitute, the original host should update the host rota on the notice board (NB the host rota on the notice board is considered to be the published master list). If this is not possible then please notify the host coordinator of the amendment.

If anyone (host or player arriving to use the host system) experiences any difficulties outside of those normally dealt with by the TD, he or she should please inform the host coordinator.

As you know, there is now a requirement (byelaw) for all members to contribute some time in support of the Club. Many members will reasonably achieve this by hosting. Therefore, please ensure that you have entered the date(s) for which you are scheduled to host in your diary! Also, please remember that it is your responsibility to ensure that you attend, or arrange a substitute. If at the last minute (force majeure) you find you are unable to attend the Club, please notify the Club on 0121 704 9633.

PLEASE NOTE: It is the host's responsibility to turn up to host, or to find a replacement, and whilst efforts may be made to remind hosts of their commitment nearer the time, there is no guarantee that this will happen. Hosts must, therefore, not rely upon receiving a reminder

Whilst there are over 200 sessions a year there should be sufficient members so that it is only necessary for anyone to host one session a year. However, if you could do more that would be a huge help!

Host Coordinator

The Host Coordinator is:

Sue Johnson

Host@WestMidBridge.co.uk

Finally, thank you to all members who provide host services to the Club.

Updated: 14 April 2016