

Scottish Bridge Union



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Dear team captain

2016/17 Gold Cup

I am writing to you as Scotland's representative on Bridge Great Britain, which runs this prestigious UK-wide competition.

In recent years entries from Scottish teams has dropped significantly. I am told that potential long journeys, even within Scotland, and the perception that the event is "only for experts" have not helped. The fact that matches in the early rounds are **now 32 rather than 48 boards** – allowing an evening match in many cases – and that teams that lose their first match have free entry into the Marion Hill Trophy for only Scottish teams, may have been missed by some teams.

BGB has agreed to some changes in order to try to invigorate the competition whilst still allowing the top teams to pit their skills against the very best teams in Britain.

For next year onwards we will organise our own event up to the stage where the winners join the other teams from England and Wales. **Seeding and regionalisation within Scotland will mean that teams will not have long journeys in the early rounds and EVERY TEAM IS GUARANTEED AT LEAST TWO MATCHES.** [The winners of this consolation event will receive a prize and a trophy as well as entry into the quarter finals of the UK wide Silver Plate competition].

The winners of the main event in Scotland will also get a prize and a trophy and then join other teams in England and Wales who have played the same number of rounds – so if there are (say) 15 teams in Scotland, the winners will join the other UK teams in Round 5 [but will only be paired with teams from Northern England].

The Red Master Point allocations for this event will reflect its international status and I am sure that those teams with ambitions in the National League will wish to seriously consider entering.

Please feel free to contact me directly if you require any more information. Entries should be made by **Monday 6th June** via the BGB website www.bridgegreatbritain.org

Good luck in the Gold Cup

Mike

Mike Ash [contact](#)
SBU rep on BGB