

Busbridge

Duplicate
Bridge Club



To : Chris Stableford
Chairman, Surrey County Bridge Association

***EBU Strategy Proposal for the Future of the EBU and Duplicate Bridge in England:
Feedback from Busbridge Duplicate Bridge Club (BDBC)***

Background

On behalf of Busbridge Duplicate Bridge Club (BDBC), we are responding to your request for feedback on the final EBU Strategy Proposals.

This feedback was arrived at following a careful examination of the proposals at each stage of the consultation, and agreed by our membership at the club's AGM on 22 April 2008. Our club has 108 members and we trust that our feedback will be weighted appropriately when considered alongside the feedback you receive from other clubs, individuals and interested parties.

Feedback

We recognize the hard work and commitment that has gone into creating the strategy proposals. We also can see that the proposals themselves have many merits.

Unfortunately the membership has only been asked to vote For or Against the proposals as a whole. No alternative has been offered and no negotiation appears to be possible.

BDBC therefore feels it has no option but to vote Against the proposals for 2 main reasons:

- ♣ the proposals are divisive and will drive some members away from EBU clubs and some clubs away from the EBU. In fact the proposals reduce the number of players directly or indirectly affiliated to the EBU, rather than increase it;
- ♣ the proposals carry a significant implementation cost and risk.

Nevertheless we hope and believe that it will be possible to achieve the benefits envisaged in the strategy through a program of evolutionary change which avoids the risks and divisive nature of the proposed approach.

Gerald Searle, Chairman

John Spiers, Treasurer

On behalf of Busbridge Duplicate Bridge Club

23 April 2008