

EBL Simultaneous Pairs General instructions

RECENT Reminders:

- a) PLEASE CHECK YOUR OWN RESULTS ARE ON THE SITE, ARE NOT DUPLICATED AND ARE ON THE RIGHT DAY! Go to www.ecatsbridge.com/sims and follow the links to the event you are uploading to and check it – your results should appear on the site within about 2 minutes of you sending them. If you have put your email address in you will also get an acknowledgement by email to tell you they are there and to confirm the session number. If you have the email but can't see the results, it means your browser is probably caching
- b) The session number is on the travellers
- c) Please **DO NOT throw away** the travellers until the event is finalised as we may need to check some scores
- d) Please (PLEASE) make sure the **contact email address** is filled in correctly when uploading the results as any queries about scores are automated and sent to that email address
- e) If the ECats Scoring Program or the FTP Client work for you, don't worry about the new email for results, as you won't need it – either of those methods of sending up the results are fine. But if you have a new firewall or new anti-virus they may not work, in which case, please look at the instructions for emailing results!
- f) The files we need are called p.txt, r.txt, e.txt and c.txt – we cannot use any other files for scoring! If you are sending them by email (see paragraph e above) then you should attach all four to one email without zipping them and send them to results@simpairs.com with no message. They should appear on the website within about 3 minutes – if they don't and if you haven't had an email saying they have failed, then please try re-sending them as we probably haven't got them!

The rest of this instruction sheet was first sent out September 2005 so if you received and read it then you probably don't need it except for reference. The formatting has changed a bit, but the information is all as before! If you haven't had it before then please read it carefully and phone me if there is anything you don't understand.

These instructions mainly address the majority of clubs who upload their own results to the system.



The important points to note are:

- **Results should be uploaded as soon as possible – ideally within 24 hours but certainly no later than 36 hours after playing the event**
 - **You can use** the free ECats Scoring program which can be downloaded from the website or one of the other programs that work with the ECatsBridge Scoring System.
 - If you are using (or even writing!) a new program, **please ensure it is thoroughly tested** before using it. **If you want to run a test, please use session 9999** – the link to the test area is at www.ecatsbridge.com/sims.
 - If you are using a program *other* than the free ECats program, the files created will be called **p.txt, r.txt, e.txt and c.txt** and should be sent either
 - **using the ECats FTP client or**, since the new firewalls and virus checkers can prevent them going through they can be emailed in a single email to results@simpairs.com
 - If you are using our program then you should be able just to use the **Send Results** option as normal, but if you do have a problem uploading, please use the option to save the files (in ver 6.2 this will be to a floppy disc, in ver 10 it is to the “My Documents” folder on your computer) and then email them.
 - **PLEASE DO NOT add any message** if you are emailing results to the new server, just attach the files to a blank email. If you need to tell me something, please send it separately to anna@ecats.co.uk
 - Remember if you send the files to me and not to results@simpairs.com they won't upload automatically and you will have to wait until I am in front of my computer!
 - Results emailed to results@simpairs.com should appear on the site within a few minutes. If they do not appear, please start by checking you have put the correct session number; then try sending the files again (it won't do any harm).
 - **Please check** that your results appear on the site!
- **FREQUENCIES** ... As normal, we will check for any strange frequencies, and will try and email with any queries – so to make this easy **please** be sure you **put your email address**

in the required field within the results program – **type it carefully**. **This will also mean** that when the files are imported you will receive an acknowledgement and if they fail, it will tell you *why* so that you can make any necessary corrections.

And please check your email regularly at least until the event is finalised!

- The minimum **number of tables** at any heat is **three**, and the **minimum number of competition boards** to be played by each competitor is **20**. If you have a problem with meeting either of these conditions please email anna@ecats.co.uk or phone me on 01787 881920. If it happens at the club on the night, play anyway, and give me a buzz in the morning.
- **MOVEMENTS ... You may use any movement you like** – the final overall results will be shown as single winner, of course, so you may prefer to use a scrambled Mitchell, but it really doesn't make any difference.
- **TWO SECTIONS ...** Remember if you are running two sections you **MUST** give them different "club" names or they will overwrite each other! Remember to send the four files from each section in two separate emails.
- **ADMIN PROGRAM ...** If you are using the ECatsBridge Program, **remember to run the Admin program** before you start to clear out the data from the previous event – deleting it as you go doesn't get rid of everything and you can find results with 27 boards when you actually only played 24!
- **PLEASE CHECK ...** Once you have uploaded, **please check on the site** to make sure everything is OK. If your results don't appear check your email first then if you haven't got an email telling you what has gone wrong, email a copy of the text files to me at anna@ecats.co.uk and I will investigate. But before panicking, check that you have the **correct session number** and also that if you emailed the files originally you sent them to results@simpairs.com.
- If you are using ver 6.2 of the ECatsBridge program and have Windows 2000 or XP, please download ver 10 from the website
- **INCORRECT SCORES ...** if you find a score that has been entered incorrectly or a player's name that is wrong, just **change it and re-upload**. **DO NOT make any changes to the club name or telephone number**, as this will result in

your results appearing twice. If you need the club name changing just email me and I will do it for you.

- **NOTE** that **we will remove scores** where it is obvious that they have been inadvertently allocated to a "sitout", and thus appear as "Pass". If we can we will email and let you know we have done it. We will also try to inform you if we **change an impossible score**.

This seems an awful lot to plough through, but on the other hand it should make life easier, so I hope you have managed to get this far OK, where I can say that the main thing, is for you and your club members enjoy the event! So finally, remember that there is only one "RULE" as far as I am concerned, and that is ... **don't panic!** I am here to help and we can sort most problems out.

So ... JUST ENJOY IT AND HAVE FUN – OK ???

All the best

Anna