

Council members suggestions for improvements to NEBA – Council meeting 16.3.16.

- Introduce beginners event at NEBA Congress: Make more of beginners – be friendly to newcomers: Encourage newcomers by giving them as mentor (could ask for volunteers to mentor via email): Try to integrate beginners from lessons to club night: Consider how we encourage more younger people to play bridge: Hold a young people's bridge challenge: School teaching/bridge clubs: Session just for 'new' players, Help new players just finished lessons to improve: Improve the teaching/education of improvers (2-5th year of playing): Try introducing a bridge taster session in local youth clubs and schools, universities
- Have more fun at meetings/events
- A northern bridge centre
- Bridge tops (t-shirts)
- Show % scores on bridge mates in NEBA events
- Drop competitions that are not well attended
- Set a higher level for minimum number of tables at an event
- More teams events (2): Reintroduce aggregate pairs: Too many events on programme: Hold NEBA Sims pairs as in the past for charity perhaps (2)
- Visit more clubs: Help clubs learn from each other: Organise friendly visits between clubs – a few members from one club to visit another on their club night: Pass info between club members
- Explain simple rules at club level before play
- Cut out too many systems
- Cafe bridge – hold a meeting in a large coffee bar
- More social events (4) : Arrange a social night (rubber bridge): NEBA should arrange a non-bridge social function (3), Hold a bridge dance (2), Arrange a trip somewhere but no bridge, Hold a charity event, Introduce strip bridge: Play afternoon bridge sessions: Run a "race night" to raise funds for NEBA/clubs perhaps combined with a charity: Bridge competitions for groupings based on NGS
- Work with EBU staff more closely to see what support is available from them
- Produce newsletter for clubs – not just website, Do regular reports on NEBA events for the website – don't just publish the results: Support for Neil (2): Support Neil with more articles from across NEBA for website: Look for a replacements in case Neil retires
- Better prizes at events/Congress
- Introduce bridge name badges (really big in Canada and US) very useful at Congress
- Help on "How to think about bridge"
- Worth trying to get NEBA in the press: More publicity: Press releases extolling benefits of bridge
- Check to see if there is north east MP who plays bridge