WELSH CUP REGULATIONS 2025

1. The advertised double elimination format continues for 2025. Apart possibly in the final, no team exits the competition without having lost two matches. Prior to the final undefeated teams play undefeated teams and once defeated teams play once defeated teams. Teams can consist of four, five or six players. Teams originally entered with fewer than six players can, prior to any 32 board match, add additional player(s) so long as the total number in the team does not exceed six.

2. For all matches prior to the final the default is playing online. Captains can agree to play face to face. The final will be on Saturday 6 December at a venue to be determined by the competition organiser. For other matches captains should arrange with one another a suitable date within the deadline for each round. To make the task of finding a mutually convenient dates easier, each round has a recommended 'play on' date and all captains and players are encouraged to make note of these dates. Upon receipt of the draw captains should promptly notify each other whether the recommended dates are suitable.

3. Captains are encouraged to use the telephone as well as email to arrange matches promptly once the draw for each round is available. If the captains experience difficulty in arranging the match, they should both contact the competition organiser, who may then grant a brief extension or, if appropriate, authorise the use of substitute or late additional players.

4. Except for the final and the semi finals (the semi finals being the matches between the last two undefeated teams and the last two once defeated teams) matches are of 32 boards played in 4 stanzas of 8 boards. The semi finals have 48 boards played in 4 stanzas of 12 boards. The final is at least 48 boards, played in 4 stanzas of 12 boards. If in the final the undefeated team is behind after 48 boards then there will be an extra 16 boards. If both captains agree, the stanzas for the semi finals can be played on two days, with 2 of the 4 stanzas each day.

5. Prior to the start of each match, the captains should arrange a coin toss, via a third party in the case of online matches. The winner of the toss can choose to have seating rights on either the odd or even numbered sets.

6. If in any match there is a tie at what would have been the end of the match, extra boards will be played in a single stanza: 4 boards in the case of 32 board matches, 6 boards in the case of longer matches.

7. For 32 board matches default start time is 6.30pm and for the semi final matches, default start time is 4.00pm, and for the final 11am. Default break times between the 2nd and 3rd stanzas are 10 minutes for the early rounds, 30 minutes for the semi finals and final, with a further 10 minute break if the final extends to 64 boards.

8. Promptly after each match both captains should complete the online results form. As well as green points of 1 for the early round, 4 for the semi finals and 8 for the final, there will be .28 of a green point for each stanza of at least 8 boards played in and won.

For any query not covered by the above, please refer to the competition organiser: welshcup@welshbridgeunion.org 07761 054255