

## **SBU Academy (Summer Education Club) Next Steps**

### **Background**

Further to the paper submitted to the SBU Council suggesting an education club for students to register on a temporary basis over the summer, the SBU Academy was given the go ahead. Over the last couple of weeks there has been much progress made ensuring the registration forms contain all the necessary information and that the process of registration is clear. The Academy is indebted to Bill Whyte for his cooperation and assistance. Fiona Scully is the Secretary for the Academy and will be responsible for setting up communication links with all those registered. She will be assisted by Gill Roberts and Sarah Gunn

### **Components of the Academy**

Its main features are:

1. Offer students the opportunity to practise and play in a social and relaxed way on realbridge – preferably in a 4, organised amongst themselves. An open lounge will be set up with 20 random dealt boards and a maximum of 12 tables for students to access in their own time - *technical help only available in April on Saturday between 2-4pm* to assist “first timers” on realbridge. This lounge is open for use from Monday – Sunday.
2. Offer students structured play & learn sessions midweek – hands pre-dealt on a theme with commentary available to download after. The SBU Academy will need support to:
  - lead these sessions;
  - upload the hands
  - provide assistance at the table with bidding and play if the players want it
3. Offer students a monthly tournament to play against similar level players in a competitive environment and get them used to playing in tempo and without help – ready for club play, when they open.  
There will be 4 monthly tournaments over the summer – on the last Sunday of the month, May- August. These will be run by Victor Lesk.

### **Communications**

1. All interested students are asked to register their interest in the club via the form [here](#)
2. We are asking all teachers interested in helping with the sessions to also register their interest on the form. For clarity please make a note on the form that you are a teacher and may already be a member on mempad associated with another club but are interested in receiving communications about the SBU Academy.

All communication (including the Realbridge user link for the open lounge and single weeknight Play and learn sessions) will be emailed using details from these forms, so please make sure you complete one.

### **What do we need from you?**

- i) We are asking all teachers and experienced players to volunteer a little time to support these sessions. There are 20 midweek Play and Learn (structured play) sessions planned between 3/05 – 29/08 and the specific evening may change dependent on the availability of the TD. Please contact [academy@education.sbu.org.uk](mailto:academy@education.sbu.org.uk) if you can assist. If enough people volunteer you should only be required for 2 out of the 20 weeks.***
  
- ii) We are asking all teachers and club secretaries to “spread the word” to encourage students to register and take part.***

***Please email [academy@education.sbu.org.uk](mailto:academy@education.sbu.org.uk) with any queries as well as recommendations. This is a new venture which will have the flexibility to change to meet the needs of the majority of its users so please provide us with feedback.***