

East District Simultaneous Pairs.

As there appears to be a fair degree of confusion about the scoring of the ED Simultaneous Pairs, I thought I would try to put together a brief explanation.

Liz McGowan selects 28 boards from a Scotland International match of the past - Open, Ladies or Seniors. She always selects a match where Scotland have done well, so that when scoring up with the Scottish team all participants should score highly. When played at your club, you score up with Scottish International team mates - the scoring being IMP's - as in normal teams format. The pair in your club with the highest plus IMP's score are the local winners - either 1st overall, or 1st E/W and 1st N/S.

These scores are then forwarded to the scorer - this year myself - entered into Scorebridge - and scored on a Butler basis. Butler scoring is used to mimic teams scoring while playing as pairs. Within your club the scores are used to obtain a "median" score. Your score on each board is compared against this median and IMP's calculated, just as in teams. Again, the pair (or pairs) with the highest IMP score do best. A printout of these scores was forwarded to each participating club. Seven venues participated this year - Berwick, Carlton, Dunfermline, Falkirk, Jedburgh, Melville and Peebles.

The results from all 7 venues are now merged and IMP scores recalculated over the whole field - using the same principles of calculating a median score and working out the IMP gain or loss. This results in different plus or minus IMP scores compared to the results for a single venue.

The last thing that now has to be done is apply a factor to the overall scores based on the number of boards played at each venue. 28 boards were available for play and were played at 3 venues. Other numbers used were 25 boards, 24 boards and one venue with a half table 21 or 24 boards. Scores were factored up where players played fewer than 28 boards. Overall results were also forwarded to each participating club. The net result of all the above is a fair overall comparison for all participants.

The thing to remember is that there are really two competitions - the 1st of which is entirely based in your club and you score up with international team mates from the past, the 2nd is a simultaneous event played and scored over the whole district where your scores are compared with the median scores for all players.

Donald Denoon