Bridge Hackathon Feature Requests: TDs

NBOs, counties, and clubs are potential customers for a platform for some/all of these features

Prioritised Feature Requests

1.
2.
3.

Verbatim/original feedback in boxes as a source of FRs

Gordon Rainsford (EBU Chief TD and CEO)

Things that are necessary in order to comply with the laws of bridge:
- Ability to award weighted scores
- Ability to award split scores
- Neuberg adjustments for boards that include artificial scores

Things that are helpful/essential for TDs
- Dashboard of scores and progress of tables in play
- Full log of all actions and chat among players

Things that are necessary to enable us to run the same kind of events that players are used to from our offline games:

Results output in various formats:
- USEBIO
- Text
- HTML
- CSV

- Multi-session events with carry-forwards
- Ability to determine start lineups (connected with having seeding)
- Pairs: Movements:
  - Swiss
  - Two-winner Mitchell type
- One-winner Howell type

No need to be divided into sections

Scoring Methods:
- Cross IMPS
- VPs
- Handicaps/stratified events

Teams Allow teams to change lineups during a session, which means players might be in more than one partnership

- Teams: Movements:
  - Swiss
  - Multiple Teams
  - Knockouts — Ability to change opponents at half time
  - Leagues — Ability to change opponents at half time
  - Teams of eight

- Scoring methods:

IMPS
Aggregate
Continuous VPs
Discrete VPs
Point-a-Board
Hybrid

For spectators and security

Live results display with nothing displayed until all tables have completed the boards.

Built-in time-lag during auctions to reduce creation of UI

Un-prioritised braindump

Any online bridge should have vu-graph facilities with the ability to delay the display of any boards until they have been played at all tables;
It may well be that these are mostly things for the front-end, but I imagine that it's necessary to understand them in order to create a back-end that doesn't have unfortunate limitations accidentally built in.

Pairs events should be available with different scoring methods and movements suitable for the format. Since all events are barometer, there should be lots freedom and flexibility when it comes to movements, but instead all we can get at the moment on BBO are poorly-implemented very basic movements, artificially divided into sections for no benefit and with major downsides.

Teams events of different types should be available:
Swiss, multiple teams, head-to-heads with changes of opponents at half time. Support for teams with more than four members; teams-of-eight events. Point-a-board, hybrid scoring. Continuous VPs.

Multi-session events with carry-forwards.
The ability to determine starting positions.
Neuberg scoring adjustments. Weighted & split rulings.
Seeding, stratification & handicapping.
Results available in a variety of formats, including Usebio.
Features to minimise cheating & UI, such as short built-in time lags
Better information for TDs while running events, such as a dashboard of time-keeping.

Kathy Talbot

- Ability to run more than one section where allocation is not random: this is useful for flighting novices
- Ability to cut the movement short if required (ie end the event, important for juniors and novices)
- More control over setting the movement. Currently it just cuts into sections with more than 16 boards. If everything is last minute it might become impossible to change boards per round
- Ability to run the odd free tournament (eg to replace cancelled tournaments or for juniors)
- Ability to have a pair of robots if there is a half table
- Warning of slow play (to the director)
- A good chat manager for pre-recorded messages from director to players
- A substitutes desk: players could register to be subs if required
- A good way of asking for subs directed at people just hanging around
- Some good cheating detection would be good
- A way of chatting just to the people on your include list (ie your club members
- A better way of informing the director of tournament status: progress of play at tables
- A timer always visible for the director: the current way of hitting "Tournament status" is cumbersome and does not refresh
- An alarm for the director: 2 minutes to end of round

- The bots (GIB) are good: they allocate scores to unfinished boards, leaving the director to adjust only those which are queried by players or those the bot has not been able to do
- I hear that if play is too slow, the players are kicked out of BBO. There should be a facility for setting rate of play - some novices take a long time to play a board.

Matt McManus

To add to Gordon's list:
- non-Neuberg factoring on boards with artificial scores (for those NCBOs who decide to go down that path)
- Butler scoring in IMP-scored pairs events

Teams
- "pair datum" results and ranking using desired scoring method (Butler, cross IMPs)

Shen Ting Ang

Adding on to the list above:
Ability to award procedural penalties for TDs
Better user management - current BBO include/exclude lists are very crude
Dashboards: BBO has no good way of allowing TDs to look at results by board until the end of tournament
Ability to define correction period - BBO is fixed on 20 minutes which can be too long or too short.

David Stevenson

I find BBO is quite good so this list is based on improvements I should like to see to BBO
As a director:
. Easy switching sections
. Knowing where other TDs are
. Tournament status to be permanently visible
. If average given on unfinished board it should have a comment to player explaining it will be adjusted later
. Adjustments for unfinished boards need weighted scores
. Finding player's table should be easier
. Table history available from player's name
. Decision to allow Undos split between play and bidding
. Having robots available that play Acol
As a player:
. Chat Manager or equivalent to be linked to Explain in bid box
. Continuous logging on even when no action is taken for a short time
. Actually uploading a system card, eg in EBU format
2020-07-20-2233
. Ability to give Disciplinary and Procedural Penalties
2020-07-22-0137
. Set software to make announcements to duplicate at start of particular rounds automatically
. Chat manager to be available on separate screen
. Chat manager announcements should optionally just be sent straight to tournament before start
. Traveller to be available for each board
2020-07-24-1653
. Change colour of table when round finished
. Show disconnect in two methods, for red ones and others
. Directing must be as easy on iPad as on computer
. Call Director button available during Correction Period
. Chat Manager must be easily editable for order of items
. In Table History and Player History it says ***** bid ******: this should say called not bid
. Ability of director to chat to both members of a pair simultaneously
. When a director is called to a table it should be an immediate option for him to see the Table History for that round to date

. Chat to directors should have one nickname for any director
. Start of tournament show tables appear automatically
. Table History should automatically show sum of time taken by each player at the end of each board
2020-08-04-0108