

Bridge: A MindSport For All
Connects People, Challenges Minds

UNIVERSITY of STIRLING

BAMSA Spring Webinar

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1

Bridge: A MindSport for All

Four player partnership card game & mindsport

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BAMSA:

- shift image of bridge
- increase participation
- enhance sustainability

@bridgemindsport

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2

Conference:
Bridging Academia, Policy & Practice

<p>Mon 28 June 13.00-15.00 (BST)</p> <p>(1A) Bridge as a Mindsport 16.30-18.30 (BST)</p> <p>(1B) Wellbeing, Happiness and Leisure Keynote Prof Martin Seligman, Psychology</p> <p>Tues 29 June 11.30-13.30 (BST)</p> <p>(2A) Impacts of a Global Pandemic on Bridge 15.00-17.30 (BST) Pairs event; Q&A with RealBridge Developers 19.30-21.30 (BST)</p> <p>(2B) Digital Bridge and Cheating</p>	<p>Wed 30 June 10.00-12.00 (BST)</p> <p>(3A) Ageing, Intergenerationality and Bridge 15.00-17.00 (BST)</p> <p>(3B) Gender, Sexism and Bridge 18.30-20.30 (BST) Bridge Taster (for those new to bridge)</p> <p>Thurs 1 July 13.00 – 15.00 (BST)</p> <p>(4A) New Approaches to Teaching and Recruitment: School and Youth Bridge 16.30 – 18.30 (BST)</p> <p>(4B) Marketing Bridge: How to Sell Bridge?</p>
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<https://bridgemindsport.org/>

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3

**A narrative analysis of a declining social world:
 The case of contract bridge**

Growth (1930s-1950s)

- Cheap & fun
 - at home entertainment
- Lack competing interests
 - cards popular pastime
- Trend and in public eye
- Top players: minor celebs
 - role models, promoters
- Understandable systems

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Decline in popularity (from 1960s)

- 1) Alternatives (TV, computer)
 - instant gratification/reward
- 2) Lifestyle changes:
 - mental work, physical play
- 3) More women in paid work
- 4) Lack media attention
 - spectating limited to players
- 5) Intergenerational tension
 - unwelcoming both ways

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Resulting in negative images of bridge

- For older people
- Dull & boring
- Lack wider appeal
- Complex, too hard

Theories of social change:

- Time: scarce commodity
- Accelerated consumption
- Deskilling of leisure

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Questions for June Conference

30 yrs on: has little changed in terms of the ageing bridge population?

What is happening in other countries?

What is being done to enable bridge to flourish?

What could be done to understand & promote bridge as both a social and serious leisure activity for all ages: intergenerationality?



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7

Questions Arising

How can we shift negative images of bridge & can research play a role in that process?

What, if anything, is unique when researching the social world of bridge?

What do you see as the key similarities and differences between recreation specialisation and the serious leisure perspective?




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Key Questions from Panel

How and in what way do you think digital bridge can be conceptualised as different to traditional face-to-face bridge? (Miriam)

Since 1990s, do you see any other 'types' of bridge players? If so, in what ways are they differentiated? (Jordan)

How does the partnership aspect of bridge affect the dynamics in comparison to other kinds of leisure and the idea of recreation specialisation? (Zoe)

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9



BAMSA Virtual Conference
Bridging Academia, Policy and Practice
28 June - 1 July 2021
Register for free at: <https://bridgemindsport.org/conference-2021>



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10