



15 ABSP rated games 2-3 Divisions by ratings

Free challenge for lower divisions (A-division to be announced) 25 minutes p/p

Where: Sefton Hotel, Harris Promenade, Douglas IM1 2RW, Isle of Man

When: 9 -10 May 2020 PLUS optional informal Scrabble activities and workshop on Bank Holiday Friday 8th May

Prizes: A range of cash (not less than £2500 total) and non-cash prizes will be offered in all divisions

Timings: Registration will be from 9.30 Saturday morning. To allow for Saturday flight arrivals, play will begin at 11am. 2 games before lunch, 5 games before the evening meal followed by 1 game after, finish at 9.15pm. Sunday play will begin at 9.00am with 4 games before lunch and 3 games after lunch, Prize giving will be 5.00-5.30pm. Experienced players are invited to help and play at a beginners workshop Friday evening.

Equipment: The Isle of Man has a lack of rotating boards and clocks. If enough boards are not brought over, people may have to play on non-rotating boards. Consider asking those coming by ferry to bring your boards, or club together for one person flying to pay for hold luggage.

Catering: Tea, coffee and finger lunches (Chef's Selection of sandwiches & chips) plus Saturday's evening meal, are included in the Tournament fee. On Saturday evening, players will have a choice of lasagne or fish pie with garlic bread and salads. Please provide allergy advice. Within reason, attempts will be made to cater for all. Breakfast is included if you stay at the Sefton. Elsewhere, check whether breakfast is included as some are "B & no B's". For self-catering there is a Marks and Spencers Food Hall open till 6pm, a Co-op open till 10pm Friday and Saturday (6pm Sunday) and plenty of restaurants and take-away options. On Friday and Sunday evenings please make your own catering arrangements.

Entry Fee: £75 pp (Note, this has been reduced from £95 thanks to our major sponsor*) - Non-ABSP members** pay a levy of £2 - A discount of £5 will be given to anyone who brings a rotating board and clock. Catering is included in the entry fee.

Cancellations: The tournament entry fee is fully refundable up to 14 days before the tournament. After that an admin fee of £10 will be deducted from the refund. Expenses relating to travel and accommodation are your responsibility. Travel insurance is recommended.

**ABSP Membership: Membership for 2019 is £15 (cheques payable to ABSP). If you would like to join, or to receive further information, please write to the Membership Secretary, Nuala O'Rourke, 22 Kestrel Road, Oakham, Rutland, LE15 6BU or contact by email via orourke114@btinternet.com

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Payment: See Direct Debit details below. Email entries including all the information in the entry form below can be sent to manxscrabble@gmail.com . Alternatively, completed application forms with cheques made payable to Manx Scrabble can be sent to Manx Scrabble, 20 Richmond Grove, Douglas, Isle of Man IM1 3JZ. Include an addressed envelope (NO stamp) and add £1 to your fee for mail confirmation.

Enquiries: Email manxscrabble@gmail.com or phone: +447624322773 between 5 & 7pm British time.



Name:		Phone:	
Address:		Club:	
		Equipment (board & clock):	Yes No
		ABSP member:	Yes No (add £2)
	Postcode:		
Dietary requirements:			
Email (for entry confirmation and any further information about this tournament):			
Direct Debit - Account: 33461432 Sort code: 202674. Account Name: Manx Scrabble OR I enclose a cheque for:			
If paying by Direct Debit, please put your name as reference AND email manxscrabble@gmail.com			

TRANSPORT AND ACCOMMODATION

I hope that many of you will take the opportunity to have an extra few days here and explore this beautiful Island with its many quirks – and perhaps give a Scrabble-deprived Islander a few more games too. For the best prices I advise you to book early.

You can get to the Island by sea or air. There are usually 2 ferries a day from both Liverpool and Heysham. Early bird foot passenger tickets from Liverpool start at £19 one way on weekdays and £23 on weekends. There's no limit for luggage on the ferries. Look up Steam Packet Company for times and more details. Cars can be brought on the ferries, deals vary according to the number of passengers. For a short visit, it is easy to get around without a car and the Sefton Hotel is very central for everything you should need.

Early bird flights can vary from as little as £29 one way from Liverpool to 3 figure prices if left till the last minute. Most flights from England will be less than £100 return if booked early enough. There are daily flights to the Isle of Man from London Gatwick, London Luton and Birmingham and multiple daily flights from Manchester and Liverpool. Flights from Ireland are also available. For those who need to be back at work on Monday morning, this table shows a current sample of what is available in 2019:

Day & Time	Arrive at	Day & Time
Sunday 18:55	Liverpool	Sunday 19:35
Sunday 18:55	Manchester	Sunday 19:40
Sunday 21:20	London Luton	Sunday 22:30
Sunday 21:05	London Gatwick	Sunday 22:20
Monday 9:55	London Gatwick	Monday 11:10
Monday 7:00	Manchester	Monday 7:45
Monday 7:10	Liverpool	Monday 7:50

Transport on the Island: The regular Bus Vannin buses from Ronaldsway airport to Douglas run every 15 minutes (20 minutes on Sundays and Bank Holidays). They take about 30 minutes to get to the Sefton Hotel on Harris Promenade and cost £2.70 each way. Other transport includes a steam train to the South of the Island, a horse tram and a 120 year-old tram that goes to the North of the Island and also up Snaefell Mountain. A 3, 5 or 7 day Go-card, available from the airport and sea terminal, will give you access to all of these, or you can pay per trip. For more detail look up Isle of Man transport. There are also a number of taxi companies.

Accommodation: Please make your own arrangements. The Sefton Hotel, where the event is being held, is offering a good deal for people attending the tournament, especially if you are sharing a room: £85 per room per night for up to 3 nights for 1 or 2 people includes breakfast. For the special rate, call +441624697070 and mention that you are coming for the Scrabble Tournament. There are also plenty of options available nearby including self-catering and guesthouses. For self-catering I have had good reports of the Cunard Apartments on Loch Promenade, less than a 5-minute walk from the Sefton. There are also cheaper B&Bs around that may suit those on a budget who don't want to share a room. Anything on Broadway, Loch Promenade, Harris Promenade or Central Promenade is an easy walk to the Sefton.

Telephones and Wifi: Please note that with or without Brexit, the Isle of Man is not part of the European Union and is not bound by the same laws. Some UK phone companies charge roaming rates here and some don't. Please check with your phone company before you leave if coming from the UK. There are two phone companies (Manx Telecom and Sure) on the Island if you wish to get an Isle of Man sim card while you are here. The Sefton Hotel has free WiFi for guests. Free WiFi is also available at the Sea Terminal and airport, as well as many cafes.

EXPERTS WELCOME, NOVICES WELCOME, LOCALS WELCOME, TRAVELLERS FROM AFAR WELCOME



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If you would like to hear about a range of sponsorship opportunities for this event, please contact Gillian Street, manxscrabble@gmail.com or call +44 7624322773 (British time) between 5 and 7pm weekdays.