

Penang Contract Bridge Society

Bridge Congress 2020

Hi Everyone,

I am writing to you to advise that with the increasing numbers of Covid-19 virus cases in Malaysia, Penang & SE Asia, plus the WHO Declaration of a Pandemic, the Malaysian Government, Health Ministry and Penang Authorities have this weekend issued further instructions regarding events. Consequently, we have no choice but to follow their instructions/guidance and postpone the Penang Bridge Congress 2020 to a later date.

We have been carefully monitoring the position and even last week we were still looking forward to welcoming you. So we have not taken this decision lightly and are as disappointed as are many of you.

However, hopefully the good news that it is only a postponement, not a cancellation, will soften the blow. So whilst we cannot refund any entrance fees, we are able to carry them over to the rescheduled event. We could not communicate with you earlier, as we have only just returned from a meeting with the Jazz Hotel to confirm that they would agree to a postponement, as we had to pay their charges in advance.

Realistically, it would not be prudent to consider dates earlier than mid-June as we do not know how the global situation will progress. Looking at the calendar and considering holiday periods, other events and the influx of all our overseas visitors, we think that 24/25th October 2020, would be a good choice.

So regarding the rescheduling, could you please let me know as soon as possible about the revised date and other weekends in October that you and/or your teammates/partners would be able to attend the rescheduled Congress.

We are very sorry for this announcement and hope that you understand the difficult position we have faced over the last few weeks and that our first responsibility has to be to the health & safety of all those playing and helping to run the Congress, as well as trying to minimise any financial costs to those involved. Many airlines and hotels are allowing rescheduling, so it is worth asking.

I know some of you have been apprehensive about travelling in the current climate, so hopefully this may reassure you about playing in the rescheduled event, when the health situation should have returned to normal.

Yours Sincerely,

Richard JN Brewer

**President
for & on behalf of the Penang Contract Bridge Society.**