Submission of entries

For ease in handling during checking and updating, and to ensure a fair draw, all entries are cut to about 1mm outside the grid/address panel perimeter (or rectangular equivalent if an irregular shape).

Every fold requires de-creasing for the same reasons. Since the enlargement of the normal printed grid, most entries are now folded, many more than once because of extraneous matter (clues, heading, other parts of page, etc.).

The grain of newsprint makes vertical folds much more difficult to de-crease than horizontal. Folds very close to the grid perimeter are also very awkward.

Stamps are all cut out and passed to charity, where unusual examples are particularly welcome.

Consideration of these factors would be much appreciated.

Late entries

Acceptance of late entries for personal records continues, with the proviso that their possibility, because of holidays, etc. is flagged prior to occurrence. Unflagged late entries, except for sudden illness or similar, will not be accepted. Entries recognisably delayed by national or international postal services are always accepted.

Facilities do not exist for electronic or faxed entries.

Non-entries

Solvers who would be expected to submit entries for all or most puzzles will normally be contacted in the event of a non-arrival. To keep this to a minimum it would be helpful if such solvers could add a brief note on the next submission, e.g. 'No entry for 3650'.

Alternative answers

These are very rarely allowed, whatever the arguments in their favour. Decisions are always made well in advance of solution publication, with which it would be hoped to indicate accepted alternatives, but this cannot be guaranteed.

Appeals are therefore futile.