



EUROPEAN BRIDGE LEAGUE

SUPPLEMENTAL CONDITIONS OF CONTEST

19th EUROPEAN CHAMPIONS' CUP PEZINOK, SLOVAKIA

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1 INTRODUCTION, FORMAT AND TIMETABLE

1.1 Introduction

The 19th European Champions' Cup ("the Championship") is to be played under the auspices of the European Bridge League ("the EBL") in the Palace Art Hotel, Pezinok, Slovakia commencing on Thursday 11th November 2021 and ending on Saturday 13th November 2021.

The Championship will be governed by the Laws of Duplicate Bridge 2017, the EBL General Conditions of Contest ("the GCoC", as published on the EBL website) and these Supplementary Conditions of Contest ("the SCoC"). Unless otherwise stated, or illogical in context, the definitions used in the GCoC apply also to these SCoC.

These SCoC may be amended and/or augmented, at the discretion of the EBL, if circumstances so warrant in order to ensure that the Championship can progress in a smooth, efficient and fair manner.

Any restriction, requirement or condition resulting from Covid-19 measures announced by the EBL will be part of these SCoC.

1.2 Format

The Championship consists of 3 stages.

1.2.1 Qualifying Round Robin:

The 12 participating teams (see Section 2) play a complete round robin consisting of 11 rounds of 10 boards each.

1.2.2 Semi-Final Stage (knockout)

The teams will be divided into 3 groups according to their ranking at the end of the round robin. In each group there are two matches. Group A consists of teams ranked 1-4. The 1st ranked team chooses its opponent from teams ranked 3 and 4.

Group B consists of teams ranked 5-8. The 5th ranked team chooses its opponent from teams ranked 7 and 8.

Group C consists of teams ranked 9-12. The 9th ranked team chooses its opponent from teams ranked 11 and 12.

Each match will be played in two 16 board stanzas.

1.2.3 Final Stage (knockout)

Each match in this stage consists of two 16 board stanzas. The two winners in each group will play each other, and the two losers in each group meet. This allows a complete ranking from 1 to 12.

1.2.4 Withdrawal from Final Stage

Teams may withdraw after the first stanza of the final stage and the opponent will be declared winner of the match.

Teams ranked 5th or below may withdraw before the start of the first stanza, but will forfeit all master points and prizes awarded for that stage. The opponents will be declared winners of the match and receive any master points and prizes awarded to the winner of that match. Should both teams withdraw no masterpoints or prizes will be awarded for that stage to those teams.

1.3 Draw

Prior to play an official draw for numbers in the schedule of play will be made and published on the EBL website for the Championship. Teams from the same country will be drawn to meet as early as possible.

1.4 Program and Timetable

Captains' Meeting	Thursday 11/11/21	09:30
Opening	Thursday 11/11/21	09:50
Round Robin Rounds 1-3	Thursday 11/11/21	10:00 – 14:45
Lunch	Thursday 11/11/21	14:45 – 15:55
Round Robin Rounds 4-6	Thursday 11/11/21	15:55 – 20:40
Round Robin Rounds 7-8	Friday 12/11/21	10:00 – 13:05
Lunch	Friday 12/11/21	13:05 – 14:15
Round Robin Rounds 9 -11	Friday 12/11/21	14:15 – 19:00
Semi Finals 1	Saturday 13/11/21	09:30 – 11:45
Semi Finals 2	Saturday 13/11/21	12:00 – 14:15
Lunch	Saturday 13/11/21	14:15 – 15:15
Finals 1	Saturday 13/11/21	15:15 – 17:30
Finals 2	Saturday 13/11/21	17:45 – 20:00
Prize Giving, Closing	Saturday 13/11/21	20:30

2 PARTICIPATION

2.1 Right to participate

The NBOs from the top ten ranked teams in the Online Qualification Tournament (August 2021) will be invited to send their most recent National Teams Champions to participate. In addition, the defending Champion from 2019 and a team from Slovakia (the host country) will be invited.

Teams may add a non-playing captain and/or a coach at their discretion.

The members of a team need not be members of the NBO submitting the team (but see Sec. 2.4).

Each participating team must play against all other participating teams. Refusal to play may result in disqualification and a report will be sent to the EBL Disciplinary Committee. (But see Sec. 1.2.4 regarding withdrawal from final stage).

2.2 Entry fees

There are no entry fees.

2.3 Confirmation and Registration

2.3.1 Confirmation

NBO invitees must confirm their acceptance electronically via the event microsite at <http://db.eurobridge.org/repository/competitions/21Pezinok/microsite/Participants.asp> by latest 14th September 2021. If confirmation is not received by this date the team may be considered to have withdrawn and will then be replaced by a team from the

11th ranked Online Qualification Tournament August 2021. The same principle will be followed if there are further withdrawals.

2.3.2 Player Names

Names of players (and NPCs and coaches if applicable) must be submitted electronically via the event microsite by latest 28th September 2021.

2.3.3 Team names

The name of the club to which the team belongs, and the email address of the person authorized to receive further information, must be submitted by email to the EBL Secretariat at secretariat@europeanbridge.org by September 28th latest.

(If the team is composed of players from different clubs the team will be named <NBO> Champion).

2.4 Credentials Committee

The names of members of each team (and captain and/or coach if applicable) as submitted in accordance with 2.3.2 above will be transmitted to the Credentials Committee for consideration for approval of participation.

2.5 Competitors' Commitment

Attention is drawn to Article 2.8 of the EBL GCoC. Players, captains, coaches and other team officials in team championships are required to have signed the EBL Competitor's Commitment Form (see Appendix I) before the start of the event.

3 SYSTEMS

3.1 Systems Policy

The EBL's Systems Regulations and Systems Policy (Revised January 2020) apply to this Championship, which is a Category 2 event. Details of the Policy and the Guide to Completion of the System Card - which players should refer to when completing their cards - can be found at <http://www.eurobridge.org/regulations/systems/>.

Both members of a partnership must adopt the same auction and carding methods.

Systems must be described on System (Convention) Cards and Supplementary Sheets in accordance with Section 11 of the GCoC. Particular attention is drawn to Section 11.2 (a) and (b) concerning the proper completion of the Card. See also Appendix II for Instructions for filling in the System Card, and Section 3.2 below.

Cards must be in the correct format. Template blanks in MS Word and MS Excel format can be downloaded from <http://www.eurobridge.org/regulations/systems/>. Players are asked not to use the old WBF CCE format. Apple Pages or Numbers format will not be accepted.

The maximum number of Supplementary Sheets is six.

Pairs submitting Brown Sticker Methods must use the special forms provided which can be found in Appendices I and II of the EBL Systems Policy

<http://www.eurobridge.org/regulations/systems/>

3.2 System Cards

3.2.1 Pre-scrutiny of System Cards

Pairs/Teams desiring pre-scrutiny of their System Cards may send the cards to the EBL Systems Administrator anna@ecats.co.uk for advice and corrections if necessary.

These must be received at least two weeks before the submission deadline in 3.2.2.

3.2.2 Submission of System Cards

Systems must be registered with the European Bridge League by email to the Systems Administrator: anna@ecats.co.uk (See Section 11 of GCoC) before October 27th 2021.

Any System Card that deviates from the requirements of Guide to Completion of the System Card (see Section 3.1 and Appendix II) will be subject to a 2 VP penalty for the team.

System Cards not received by the deadline will be subject to a penalty for the team, 2 VPs for a delay of up to one week, 3 VPs for more than a week.

Additionally, System Cards which have been submitted late, or are not properly filled in, may be subject to further sanctions, at the discretion of the Championship Committee or its designee. Such sanctions may include restrictions on bidding and play agreements.

Minor changes to systems (which may be clarifications, amendments, minor additions and/or cosmetic revisions) will be accepted until November 8th, 2021.

Revised cards submitted should have the revisions highlighted to ensure that other teams are able to see easily what changes have been made. Revised cards will be published on the website with the other systems, marked as REV1 or REV2 etc., thus giving captains the opportunity to compare them with the original submission.

The link to the website where the systems are displayed will be sent to the captain of each team once all the systems for that team have been registered. The captain may also request that it is sent to other team members (e.g. the coach) by informing Anna Gudge (anna@ecats.co.uk) of the names and email addresses that they wish it to be sent to.

It is the obligation of each team to print and bring a sufficient number of copies of both opponents' and their own System Cards and Supplementary Sheets to the Championship. The EBL provides no facilities for teams to make copies at the venue.

4 RULES FOR RUNNING THE MATCHES

4.1 Seating of teams – Round Robin

4.1.1 Designation of teams

The team listed first on the program's match schedule is designated as the Home Team. The Home Team sits in the North/South positions in the Open Room and in the East/West position in the Closed Room.

4.1.2 Line-up procedure

Both captains submit their line-up without knowing the line-up of their opponents. Line-ups for a round must be submitted no later than 5 minutes after the previous round ends and failure to comply will be subject to VP penalties as follows:

- 1st occasion warning
- 2nd occasion ½ VP penalty
- Subsequently 1 VP penalty for each occasion.

These penalties will be applied automatically by the scoring system and can only be waived by the Championship Committee or its designee in exceptional cases.

4.2 Seating of Teams – Knock Out stages

4.2.1 Designation of Teams

In the semi-finals, the higher ranked team from the round robin is designated as the Home Team. In the finals the brackets are fixed. For example, if no.1 loses the semi-finals, then their opponents take over no. 1 (or nos. 5 and 9 respectively) and the lowest number is designated as the home team.

The Home Team sits in the N/S position in the Open Room and in the E/W position in the Closed Room.

4.2.2 Carry-over

In the semi-final and final stages, the team with a higher round robin ranking will receive a carry-over of 0.1 VP.

4.2.3 Seating Rights

The home team selects in which stanza it wants to have seating rights; the opponents then have seating rights in the other stanza.

4.2.4 Line-up Procedure

The team without seating rights submits its line-up within 5 minutes after the previous round has ended, and the opposing team within 5 minutes thereafter. If the team

required to submit its line-up first is late, the other team shall be allowed 5 minutes from the time of such late submission in which to submit its line-up.

Teams that infringe this regulation will be subject to a penalty of 1 IMP for the first occasion and 3 IMPs for the second occasion.

4.3 *Period of Play and penalties for slow play.*

4.3.1 *Start of the round*

Playing time is 1 hour 25 minutes for 10 boards, and 2 hours 15 minutes for 16 boards. The period allowed is calculated from the commencement of the period of play and includes the time for system explanation and scoring procedure. All players are requested to be seated before the scheduled start of play. Any team that is not seated and ready to play at the start of a period of play will be fined 0.2 VP (0.6 IMPs in KO play) for each completed minute. In the case where a player enters the playing room after the commencement of the broadcasting of the match, the Director will take necessary measures unless satisfied that no useful information about already shown boards could have been passed to the late player. Any team not seated within 20 minutes for a round robin match and half an hour for a knockout match, after starting time by its own fault forfeits the match.

If any team has been fined for being late at the commencement of a round, the fines for slow play in the same round will be based on the time at which all players were seated at the table and ready to play.

4.3.2 *End of the period of play.*

If at the end of the allocated time play has not been completed the procedure and penalties outlined in the GCoC Section 20.1 and Sections 20.1.1 (round robin) or 20.1.3 (knockout) will apply.

4.3.3 *Penalty warning*

Except for a penalty under GCoC Section 21.1.1 (Unnecessarily Slow Play) all penalties for violations of time procedure and slow play require no previous warning to the players that penalties will be applied.

4.4 *Penalties*

If a player leaves the playing room during a match without the permission of a tournament director, that player's team will be fined 2 VPs (6 IMPs in KO play.)

If a board is fouled and it can be determined that one side is clearly at fault that side shall be subject to a procedural penalty of 1 VP (3 IMPs in KO play).

4.5 *Playing Area*

The Playing Area, as referred to in the GCoC, means the rooms where play takes place, as well as the corridors, toilets and area in the vicinity.

Smoking is prohibited throughout the Palace Art Hotel except in designated areas.

4.6 End of rounds, results

4.6.1 IMP scale

The difference in the total point scores on each board is converted to International Match Points (“IMPs”).

4.6.2 VP Scale

For each match in the round robin stage there will be 20 Victory Points (VPs) at stake, to be apportioned between the two teams in accordance with the continuous VP scale published on the EBL site.

4.7 Protest time

In respect of scores in the qualifying round robin stage the protest time for all matches ends 30 minutes after the official finishing time of the Round 11 match.

In the knockout stages it ends 30 minutes after the official finishing time for that stage.

The time for a request for a TD ruling or a review of a TD ruling already given ends 30 minutes after the end of the match.

4.8 Byes, Ranking and Ties

4.8.1 Byes

A team will receive 12 VPs for any match that is a “Bye”.

4.8.2 Ranking

The teams will be ranked from 1 – 12 in accordance with section 1.2

4.8.3 Ties

(i) Round Robin stage

In order to determine their grouping for the knockout stages, a tie between two teams will be broken by the result of the match between those two teams. If there should still be a tie, then the highest IMP quotient of all matches against the same opponents will be taken into consideration to break the tie. Where more than two teams have the same number of VPs the tie will be broken by the result of the matches between those teams. If one of the teams has defeated all the other teams involved, it will be ranked ahead of the others regardless of the number of VPs obtained.

The other tied teams will be ranked according to the VPs obtained in the matches between them. If a further tie should still exist, then the highest IMP quotient of all matches against the same opponents will be taken into consideration to break the tie.

(ii) Knockout Stages

A tie in the knockout stages will be broken by playing one additional board at a time until the tie is broken. ("sudden death")

5. DRESS CODE

The players must be dressed appropriately. This would, for example, be an open-necked shirt, or a smart polo or sweatshirt worn with trousers or skirt. Team members cannot wear shorts or open-toed sandals.

6. AWARDS

1 st Ranked Team:	EBL Gold Medal and Trophy
2 nd Ranked Team:	EBL Silver Medal
3 rd Ranked Team:	EBL Bronze Medal

The winning team will receive the title of European Champion Club and be invited to participate in the next edition of the Champions' Cup.

Master Points will be awarded in accordance with the EBL Master Points scheme provided that the player has played at least half (fractions rounded down) of the boards played by the team in the round robin stage and at least half the boards played by the team in the last KO match won by the team.

7. CONFLICTING REGULATIONS

In case of a conflict between these Regulations and the GCoC, these Regulations prevail. Matters not regulated here are governed by the GCoC and the Laws of Duplicate Bridge 2017.

8. SUPPLEMENTARY REGULATIONS APPLICABLE TO THE EVENT

The following can be found on the EBL website at www.eurobridge.org

The EBL Systems Policy

The EBL Alert Procedure

The EBL Psychic Bidding Guidelines

The EBL Disciplinary Code

The EBL Bidding Boxes, Bridgemates and Screen Regulations

WBF Guide to Completion of System Cards (on WBF site at <http://www.worldbridge.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/04/Guidetocompletion.pdf>)

APPENDIX I



EUROPEAN BRIDGE LEAGUE

A ZONAL CONFERENCE OF THE WORLD BRIDGE FEDERATION
International Sport Federation (IF) recognized by the International Olympic Committee

COMPETITOR'S COMMITMENT

First Name: _____

Family name: _____

Address: _____

NBO and EBL Code No: _____

Gender: _____

Date of Birth: _____

I wish to play in European Bridge League ("EBL") events

If a minor, name and address of the legal guardian(s) and date of birth:

1. I agree and commit myself to participate in such EBL events that I apply to play in and/or that I am nominated by others to play in and to compete with respect for the EBL rules and fair play.
2. I am aware that the EBL events are governed by the Laws of Bridge, the Conditions of Contest, the EBL Disciplinary Code and all other Rules & Regulations of the EBL and I undertake to comply with such rules, all of which are fully known to me, and/or any amendment of, or addition to, the same that is published on the official website of the EBL.

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3. I therefore agree to be submitted to such rules, regulations, and procedures to the jurisdiction of the bodies and persons that are in charge of applying them. After the exhaustion of internal remedies within the EBL system, I acknowledge that the Court of Arbitration for Sport (Lausanne, Switzerland) has ultimate jurisdiction for all disputes in connection with the EBL events and agree that recourse to the ordinary courts of law is prohibited.
4. I undertake to behave properly under all circumstances and contribute in all aspects to the good image of the EBL events and of the hosts of such events.
5. Through my participation in the EBL events I commit to promote the celebration of bridge in an international community with respect for cultures and customs from all over the world.
6. I agree that I will abstain from all public display of political actions, statements or comments within any EBL event and acknowledge that the EBL will not, without limitation, be responsible for any political, financial or other sanctions that any local or national authorities may impose on me.
7. I accept that EBL has the final authority to exclude me from its events in cases of non-compliance with this commitment (including any applicable EBL rules and regulations) or in cases of misconduct, the meaning of which shall take into account local customs and traditions.
8. I confirm that I have not received any information including, without limitation, advice by a physician or another person that my health might be negatively affected or that my level of fitness may not be sufficient to participate in any EBL event.
9. I agree that I will be personally responsible for any damage that I may cause to persons or property and that I will be liable for indemnifying such damage. Therefore I accept that EBL (including its members, directors, officers, employers, staff operators, volunteers, contractors or agents) shall not be liable under any circumstances in connection with any damage that I may cause during any EBL event.
10. I accept and agree that if I participate in any EBL event it shall be at my own expense except for such costs as EBL, the Host City, and/or any other party explicitly accepts to bear.
11. In particular and without limitation to the foregoing, I accept that all the expenses concerning the travel to the Host City and back and all the costs of my stay, including accommodation, meals, transfers etc. are not in the responsibility or at charge of EBL or the host.
12. I agree to follow the regulation in the General Conditions of Contest or Supplemental Conditions of Contest for each particular event in which I participate concerning the use and possession in the playing area of electronic devices (for example mobile phones, pagers, smart phones, pocket computers etc.). I accept and agree to be inspected in order to ensure compliance with the present clause.
13. I accept and agree not to smoke or to consume alcoholic beverages at the competition venue, except in such areas where smoking or consuming alcoholic beverages might be explicitly allowed and, in such case, only after the end of the segment, match or game in which I am participating.
14. I accept to be subject to the anti-doping rules of the WORLD BRIDGE FEDERATION (WBF). In particular I accept to submit to doping control by or at the request of WBF or EBL and I accept

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consequences and sanctions as well as the jurisdiction of WBF and EBL and of the Court of Arbitration for Sports as provided for in the anti-doping rules of WBF which I can consult on www.worldbridge.org

15. I agree to be photographed, filmed, identified and otherwise recorded during any EBL event, both during and outside the competitions. I accept that such photos, films, footage and other recordings may be published and broadcast worldwide by any means (TV, internet etc.) and may be used by EBL and the host for non-commercial promotion purposes at no cost to EBL or the host. I agree that such photos, films, footage and other recordings may be used for any investigatory and evidential purposes in connection with any disciplinary enquiries.
16. I accept that such photos, films, footage and other recordings may also be used by EBL post-event for promotional and editorial purposes related to future EBL events.
17. I will not participate in, nor support betting related to EBL events and understand that all forms of promotion of betting related to such events are prohibited.
18. I agree that any dispute not to be adjudicated in application of specific procedures provided for by EBL but which arise between myself and EBL and/or Host Member Federation and/or the Championship Organising Committee and/or their respective members, directors, officers, staff operators, employees and volunteers, including but not limited to claims for damages of either party against the other arising out of occurrences (acts or omissions) linked with my participation to a EBL event shall be governed by Swiss Law and exclusively settled by arbitration before the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) in Lausanne, in accordance with the CAS rules then in effect.
19. I am aware and I agree that my participation in any EBL event is conditional upon my valid acceptance of and my compliance with each and all the provisions of this document. I acknowledge that if there is from time to time any contradiction or inconsistency between this declaration (on the one hand) and the EBL Statutes and Rules and Regulations (on the other), the latter will prevail.
20. In addition, I accept the conditions of the WADA Athlete Consent form detailed below:

As a member of the EBL and/or a participant in an event authorized or recognized by the EBL, I hereby declare as follows:

- (a) I acknowledge that I am bound by, and confirm that I shall comply with, all of the provisions of the WBF Anti-Doping Rules (as amended from time to time), the World Anti-Doping Code (the “**Code**”) and the *International Standards* issued by the World Anti-Doping Agency, as amended from time to time, and published on WADA’s website.
- (b) I consent and agree to the creation of my profile in the WADA Doping Control Clearing House (“**ADAMS**”), as requested under the *Code* to which WBF is a *Signatory*, and/or any other authorized *National Anti-Doping Organization’s* similar system for the sharing of information, and to the entry on my *Doping Control*, *Whereabouts* and *Therapeutic Use Exemptions* related data in such systems.

- (c) I acknowledge the authority of EBL under the WBF Anti-Doping Rules to enforce, to manage results under, and to impose sanctions in accordance with the WBF Anti-Doping Rules.
- (d) I acknowledge and agree that any dispute arising out of a decision made pursuant to the WBF Anti-Doping Rules, after exhaustion of the process expressly provided for in the WBF Anti-Doping Rules, may be appealed exclusively as provided in Article 13 of the WBF Anti-Doping Rules to an appellate body for final and binding arbitration, which in the case of *International-Level Athletes* is the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS).
- (e) I acknowledge and agree that the decisions of the arbitral appellate body referenced above shall be final and enforceable, and that I will not bring any claim, arbitration, lawsuit or litigation in any other court or tribunal.

21. I have read and understand the present declaration and wish to be bound by its contents.

Date

Signature (or, if a minor, signature of legal guardian and minor)

APPENDIX II

INSTRUCTIONS FOR FILLING IN THE SYSTEM CARD

All teams must submit a filled-out EBL or WBF Systems (Convention) Card for each pair by 26 October 2021. The System Card is for the benefit of your opponents and poor or lacking information may be to your disadvantage in TD rulings. Non-compliance with these instructions may incur a VP fine and/or require the use of the WBF Standard Card.

Put the player names (and team name) both on the front and back of the card and also on each Supplementary Sheet *.

Follow the instructions in the Guide to Completion of the WBF System Card

(<http://www.eurobridge.org/regulations/systems/>), as well as Section 3 of Supplemental Conditions of Contest and Section 11 of EBL General Conditions of contest. Note the update to EBL Systems Policy.

You are expected to inform opponents as fully as possible of your methods. Your own “standard” or “normal” may not be theirs. Pay special attention to the following items which are frequently neglected.

(You may, if necessary, refer to Supplementary Sheets. *)

- DO NOT USE terms such as “weak”, “light”, “preemptive”, “destructive”, “optimistic”, “normal” etc. Instead, state (at least approximately) the HCP range. If this depends on position and/or vulnerability, tell how.
- Clarify responses to all openings, and to all overcalls (such as new suit, jump new, cue, jump cue, jump support). Just “Relay” or “Enquiry” is not sufficient.
- Under Defence to 1NT explain if, how and when your methods differ for different strengths.
- Be specific about how and when you use relays, transfers and “switch” agreements with or without competition.

With what does partner accept a transfer?

Does the transfer promise a suit, a suit plus values, or just values with later support of partner’s suit?

Do the transfers include NT or cue bids?

- AVOID USING NAMES of methods. If you use a name, there may be more than one meaning. Explain yours. Don’t use words such as “standard”, “reversed”, “modified”. If space is needed refer to a numbered note in the Supplementary sheets.

For example:

Don’t use “Smith”, “modified Smith”, reverse “Smith”. Instead say for example, “Smith, LOW enc by both”.

“Gazilli”; explain the way you play it, also continuation by opener and responder

Other names needing clarification include Cappelletti, Drury, Ghestem, Hamilton, Kaplan, Kokish, Lebensohl, Muiderberg, Niemeyer, Rosenkranz, Rubensohl, Truscott, Turbo, Wilkosz, Woolsey etc

Supplementary Sheets:

- Any item on the Card that is clarified in the Supplementary sheets must have a reference to a numbered note.
- Explanations of developments not directly connected to a bid or overcall may be referenced to under an extra heading under Special bids: ADDITIONAL NOTES
- Provide the sheets with names and page numbers!