



EUROPEAN BRIDGE LEAGUE

**SUPPLEMENTAL
CONDITIONS OF CONTEST**

**17th EUROPEAN SMALL FEDERATIONS GAMES
HELD IN BUCHAREST, ROMANIA**

11th MAY – 13th MAY, 2025

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1. INTRODUCTION, FORMAT AND TIMETABLE	3
1.1 Introduction	3
1.2 Format.....	3
1.3 Programme and Timetable	3
2. ADVANCE ORGANIZATION	3
2.1 Right to enter	3
2.2 Competitor’s Commitment	3
2.3 Entry fees	3
2.4 Team Members	3
2.5 Registration of Teams	4
3. SYSTEMS.....	4
3.1 Systems Policy.....	4
3.2 Submission of Systems.....	4
3.3 Format of Cards for Submission.....	4
4. RULES FOR RUNNING THE MATCHES.....	5
4.1 Composition and seating of teams	5
4.1.1 Designation of teams	5
4.1.2 Line-up procedure.....	5
4.1.3 Seating of Teams.....	5
4.2 Period of Play and penalties for slow play.....	5
4.2.1 Start of the round	5
4.2.2 End of the period of play.....	5
4.2.3 Penalty warning	6
4.3 Playing Area	6
4.4 Restrictions	6
4.4.1 Smoking (including the use of electronic cigarettes)	6
4.4.2 Alcohol	6
4.4.3 Mobile Phones and Electronic Devices	6
4.5 Scoring	6
4.6 Protest time	7
4.7 Publication of decisions	7
4.8 Byes, Ranking and Ties.....	7
4.8.1 Byes.....	7
4.8.2 Ties.....	7

4.9 Tablets for bidding and Screens.....	7
5. REVIEW	7
6. CHANGES TO REGULATIONS	8

1. INTRODUCTION, FORMAT AND TIMETABLE

1.1 Introduction

The 17th European Small Federations Games (the “Championship”) is to be played under the auspices of the European Bridge League (the “EBL”) in the Caro Hotel, 164 A Barbu Văcărescu Blvd, 020285 Bucharest, Romania, commencing on Sunday, 11th of May 2025 and ending on Tuesday, 13th of May 2025.

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.

In case of a conflict between these SCoC and the GCoC, these SCoC shall prevail.

These SCoC may be amended and/or augmented in accordance with Section 6.

1.2 Format

The format, number of boards played, draw and schedule will be determined when the number of participants is known, and will be announced before the start of the Championship.

1.3 Programme and Timetable

The first round will start at 10:00 on Sunday 11/05/2025. It is anticipated that the final round will end by 19:30 on Tuesday 13/05/2025.

2. ADVANCE ORGANIZATION

2.1 Right to enter

The Championship is open to any European NBO which has up to 750 registered members.

Each participating team must play against all other participating teams. Entry and subsequent refusal to play will result in disqualification.

2.2 Competitor’s Commitment

Attention is drawn to Article 2.8 of the EBL GCoC. Players, Captains, Coaches and other team officials are required, if they have not already done so at a previous EBL event, to sign the EBL Competitor’s Commitment Form (see GCoC Appendix 2) no later than 22:00 CEST 27th April 2025.

2.3 Entry fees

There will be no entry fee for participation in the Championship.

2.4 Team Members

In addition to a non-playing captain and a coach or team-manager, each team is entitled to have six members. Subject to the approval of the Championship Committee the members of any team may be changed up to the time of commencement of play of the Championship.

If an NBO has submitted the names of fewer than six players, a fifth or sixth player may be added after the commencement of play, subject to the approval of the NBO concerned and the Championship Committee.

2.5 Registration of Teams

Entries to the Championship must be submitted electronically via the EBL website (not by email) at <http://db.eurobridge.org/repository/competitions/24Jurmala/microSite/Participants.asp> by 25th April 2025.

3. SYSTEMS

3.1 Systems Policy

The EBL Systems Regulations and EBL Systems Policy apply to the Championship. Only Category 3 systems and conventions are permitted in the Championship and neither Brown Sticker nor HUM systems are permitted at any time.

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

The systems must be described on System (Convention) Cards and Supplementary Sheets in accordance with Section 11 of GCoC, and submitted as described below.

3.2 Submission of Systems

Systems in all the Championships must be sent by email no later than 22:00 CEST 27th April 2025 to the Systems Administrator: anna@ecats.co.uk (see Section 11 of GCoC).

Note that VP penalties and other restrictions will be applied in accordance with the GCoC for late submission.

Minor changes to systems (which may be clarifications, amendments, minor additions and/or cosmetic revisions) will be accepted no later than 22:00 CEST 4th May 2025. Revisions 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 maximum number of Supplementary Sheets is six.

The opponents' filed Systems will be made available on the Internet to teams who have filed all their own Systems. The URL will be sent to the captain of each team. 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.

3.3 Format of Cards for Submission

Cards must be in the correct format and templates in Word and Excel can be downloaded from <http://www.eurobridge.org/regulations/systems/>. Pairs are reminded to check that their card fits onto two sheets (a front and a back), with supplementary sheets as required. A card not formatted correctly will be rejected and the pair required to make the necessary changes to ensure that it can be printed properly.

4. RULES FOR RUNNING THE MATCHES

4.1 *Composition and seating of teams*

4.1.1 Designation of teams

The team mentioned first in the schedule of matches is designated as the Home Team.

4.1.2 Line-up procedure

The line-ups must be submitted electronically. Both captains submit their line up without knowing the line-up of their opponents, unless expressly announced otherwise.

Line-ups for a round have to be submitted not later than 5 minutes before the respective round starts. Teams who infringe this regulation will be subject to VP penalties according to this scale:

- 1st occasion a written warning
- 2nd occasion 0.5 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 Chief Tournament Director in exceptional cases.

4.1.3 Seating of Teams

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

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

4.2.1 Start of the round

Playing time will be based on the number of participants (see GCoC Section 14.1). This time period includes the time for system explanation and scoring procedure.

Any team that is not seated and ready to play at the start of a period of play will be fined 0.2 VP for each completed minute. Players are requested to be seated 5 minutes before the scheduled start of play. In the case of any player entering the playing room after the commencement of the broadcasting of the match, the Tournament Director has to be satisfied that no useful information about already shown boards could have been passed to the late player and, if not, will take the necessary measures. Any team not seated within half an hour after starting time by its own fault forfeits the match and receives zero VPs.

If any team has been penalised for being late at the commencement of a round the penalties 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.

4.2.2 End of the period of play.

(a) If at the end of the allocated time play has not been completed the penalties outlined in GCoC 20.1.1 will be imposed, eventually to be shared by the two teams according to the percentage of responsibility of each of them (but see 4.2.2 (c) below).

(b) If a pair should claim that the responsibility for the slow play is with their opponents, they will do so by calling the TD who will take any corrective measures that are necessary in his opinion, including, at his discretion, the designation of a monitor at the table for as long as he considers desirable, or the use of available digital evidence.

The TD will normally issue warnings when teams are in danger of penalties for slow play, but an absence of warning does not diminish the responsibility of the players or their liability to be fined.

If the two sides at the table are not considered to bear equal responsibility for the late finish the prescribed penalty will be divided between the two teams proportionately to the extent to which each side is deemed to have contributed to the overrun.

(c) The Chief TD may remove unplayed boards from players if in the Chief TD's opinion a delay in finishing the match in the allotted time would interfere with the smooth running of the competition. The match will be scored in accordance with Section 20.1 of the GCoC and Law 86 may be applied.

4.2.3 Penalty warning

All penalties for violations of time procedure and slow play are mandatory and require no previous warning to the players that penalties will be applied.

4.3 Playing Area

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

4.4 Restrictions

4.4.1 Smoking (including the use of electronic cigarettes)

Smoking in the playing area is prohibited. No player may leave the playing area before completion of play in a session in order to smoke.

Any player smoking in the playing area will cause his team to be fined 2 VP. Repeated violation of this regulation may, and constant violation will, result in the player being prohibited from playing.

4.4.2 Alcohol

The consumption of alcoholic beverages of any nature in the playing area is prohibited. No player may leave the playing area before completion of play in a session in order to consume alcohol. Any player consuming alcohol during the round in the playing area will result in his team being fined 2 VP. Repeated violation of this regulation may, and constant violation will, result in the player being prohibited from playing.

4.4.3 Mobile Phones and Electronic Devices

Except tablets - see sec.4.9 - provided by EBL, mobile phones and electronic devices (including watches) capable of communication must be switched off in the playing area and be visible at the table at all times.

Any player, captain or coach bringing a mobile phone and or an electronic device that is not switched off into the playing area will cause his team to be fined 2 VP. This penalty is mandatory.

The Chief Tournament Director may, at his discretion, prohibit a player from bringing other equipment into the playing area.

4.5 Scoring

The difference in the total point scores on each board is to be converted to International Match Points ("IMPs"). For matches 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.

4.6 Protest time

In respect of scores the protest time of all matches played in a day ends at the starting time of the first match on the day following, and in respect of the final day's play 15 minutes after the official finishing time of the last round.

The time for a request for a TD ruling or for an appeal of a ruling already received ends 30 minutes after the end of each round except the last round and 15 minutes after the end of the last round.

4.7 Publication of decisions

All decisions involving play, penalties, deals, infringement of the Rules, etc., will be posted on the information board. However, the fact that a penalty has not yet been posted and that the attention of the players or captains has not yet been drawn to it does not nullify the penalty.

4.8 Byes, Ranking and Ties

4.8.1 Byes

In the event of a team having a bye in any session it will receive 12 VPs.

4.8.2 Ties

A tie between two teams in ranking will be broken in accordance with the result of the match between those two teams. If there should still be a tie, then the total sum of IMPs will be taken into consideration to break the tie. Where more than two teams have the same number of VPs the tie will be decided 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 total sum of IMPs will be taken into consideration to break the tie.

4.9 Tablets for bidding and Screens

Section 22 of the GCoC is modified as follows:

22- Bidding/Score devices and Screens

The Screen Regulations of the EBL shall apply, where necessary.

22.1 GCoC: This section does not apply.

22.2 GCoC: Tablets will be used for bidding and entering results.

At each table one tablet will be allocated to each player.

Each player uses the tablet for bidding and scoring the result. See Regulations for Tablet Bidding on the EBL Site.

22.3 Screens

Screens will be used whenever possible.

5. REVIEW

After the TD has given the ruling, any appeal against such ruling will be dealt with in accordance with the provisions of the Review Regulation.

Appeals will be heard by a "Reviewer" appointed by the Championship Committee in accordance with law 80B2(k). The monetary deposit is 50 Euros. If in the opinion of the Reviewer there is insufficient basis for requesting the review one or both of the following sanctions may be applied:

(i) Forfeiture of the monetary deposit.

(ii) The penalties described in Sections 21.2 and 21.3 of the GCoC will be deducted from the score of the appealing side.

6. CHANGES TO REGULATIONS

These Rules and Regulations may be amended and/or augmented at the discretion of the Championship Committee if circumstances so warrant so as to ensure the smooth efficient and enjoyable running of the Championship.

By entering the Championship a player, official or staff member agrees to abide by these provisions.

The EBL assumes no liability for players, officials or staff members unable or not willing to adhere to such regulations.