



EUROPEAN BRIDGE LEAGUE

SUPPLEMENTAL CONDITIONS OF CONTEST

12th EUROPEAN WOMEN'S NATIONAL PAIRS CHAMPIONSHIP and 10th EUROPEAN SENIORS' NATIONAL PAIRS CHAMPIONSHIP

HELD IN HERNING, DENMARK

24 JUNE - 27 JUNE, 2024

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1 INTRODUCTION, FORMAT AND TIMETABLE

1.1 Introduction

The 12th European Women's Pairs Championship ("the WP Championship") and the 10th European Seniors' Pairs Championship ("the SP Championship") are national pairs competitions and are to be played under the auspices of the European Bridge League ("the EBL") at MCH Herning Kongrescenter, Denmark, commencing on Monday 24th of June 2024 and ending on Thursday 27th of June 2024.

The Championships 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.

1.2 Format

1.2.1 General

It is anticipated that each Championship will consist of two stages: a Qualifying Stage, and a Final Stage (Final A and Final B). However, should the number of participants permit, there will be a one stage all-play-all (Endless Howell) competition. Details of the competitions in paragraphs 1.2.2, 1.2.3 and 1.2.4 may be changed according to the final registration of participants.

1.2.2 Qualifying Stage.

The format (movement, number of boards) of the Qualifying Stage for each Championship will be determined when the final number of participants is known. Scoring will be done "over the field". For each pair, the match-point score for each session is converted to a percentage. If some sessions consist of a different number of boards, the percentage scores will be adjusted pro rata. If each pair does not play against most of the other pairs the field will be divided into sections, which may be seeded so as to achieve a reasonable balance.

The number of pairs qualifying for Final A in each Championship will be determined after final participant numbers are known. Pairs not qualifying will be able to participate in Final B. For purposes of Law 12C2 only (awarding of Average+ and Average -), a session is defined as a stage, and contains all the sessions in that stage.

1.2.3 Final A Stage

There will be a carry-over score (see section 5.5) from the qualifying.

It is anticipated that the final in each Championship will be played in a barometer Endless Howell movement. The final ranking will be based on the aggregate score of the carry-over and the score obtained in the final stage.

1.2.4 Final B Stage

This is a transnational event open to all players who played in the Qualifying Stage who did not qualify for the Final A. In addition, pairs (national or transnational) that did not participate in the qualifying stage may play in this final B event. Scoring is match points calculated over the field. The final ranking will be based on the score obtained in this event.

1.3 Programme and Timetable

Starting times will be announced when final participation numbers are known. (It is anticipated that it will be 10:00)

Registration	Sunday 23 June
Qualifying Rounds	Monday 24 June – Tuesday 25 June
Final A and Final B	Wednesday 26 June – Thursday 27 June
Prize giving (and Teams Opening Ceremony)	Thursday 27 June

2 ADVANCE ORGANIZATION

2.1 Conditions of Entry

2.1.1 Right of Entry

Except for Final B in both Competitions (see Sec 1.2.4) all pairs will comprise two players from the same NBO.

- (i) WP Championship: Women bridge players who are registered members of Zone 1 NBOs and in good standing with their Federation, are entitled to participate.
- (ii) SP Championships: Senior bridge players, born in 1960 or earlier, who are registered members of Zone 1 NBOs and in good standing with their Federation, are entitled to participate.

2.1.2 Registration

All entries must be submitted electronically on the website by 7 June 2024 using the link

db.eurobridge.org/repository/competitions/24Herning/microsite/participants.asp

All entries will be automatically forwarded to the NBO of the applicant, and are subject to their approval. Applications submitted after the deadline of 7 June 2024 will be accepted only if technically convenient. Withdrawals of accepted entries must be acknowledged by email to webmaster@europeanbridge.org by 11 June 2024 to qualify for the return of the entry fee.

Those who fail to notify withdrawals by this date may incur disciplinary sanctions.

Each participating pair must play against all other participating pairs as determined by the draw.

2.1.3 Entry Fees

The entry fees are €300 for a pair; €50 for each player participating in Final B who did not participate in the Qualifying Stage.

The entry fees must be paid by Bank Transfer before or on 7th of June 2024 to

Credit Suisse AG
Rue de Lion d'Or 5-7
CH-1002 Lausanne-Switzerland
Account: EUROPEAN BRIDGE LEAGUE
IBAN: CH88 0483 5135 2558 8200 0
SWIFT/BIC: CRESCHZZ80A

IMPORTANT: Pair registration code must be mentioned as reference

2.1.4 Credentials Committee

The names of the pair as submitted to the EBL website in accordance with 2.1.2 above will be transmitted to the Credentials Committee for consideration of approval of participation.

Only accredited people can enter the venue of the Championships.

These championships are EBL Representative Events.

2.1.5 Competitor's Commitment

Attention is drawn to Article 2.8 of the EBL GCoC. Players are required to have signed the EBL Competitor's Commitment Form (see GCoC Appendix 2) before the start of the event.

3 SYSTEMS POLICY AND SYSTEM CARDS

3.1 Systems Policy

All events at this championship are designated Category 3 events. Consequently, neither HUM Systems nor Brown Sticker conventions, as defined by the EBL Systems Policy as revised January 2020 (the "SYSTEMS POLICY"), are permitted at any time or in any event.

Psyching artificial opening bids is forbidden.

Both members of a partnership must agree to adopt the same meanings for calls in the auction and for defensive card play. This does not restrict the exercise of style and judgement.

3.2 System (Convention) Cards

- i) Each pair must complete legibly in English the EBL's Official System Card in all respects in accordance with the SYSTEMS POLICY.
- ii) Each pair is required to hand two copies of its system card to the opponents at the start of each round.
- iii) Failure to complete the System Card in accordance with the SYSTEMS POLICY may lead to the imposition of procedural penalties.

In particular the Head Tournament Director may impose a procedural penalty (25% of the match-points available on a board) for each occasion on which he considers that an opponent has been severely inconvenienced by a pair's incomplete or inaccurate System

- Card. The procedural penalty will be in addition to any adjusted score that a Tournament Director deems appropriate because of damage caused to the opponent.
- iv) Changes in system cards are normally not allowed. If a pair nevertheless wants to change a system card it must obtain the approval of the Head Tournament Director.

4. ASSIGNMENT OF STARTING POSITION

Pairs will be assigned starting positions so as to ensure, as far as is practicable, that pairs from the same NBO do not play against each other in the later sessions of a stage.

Pairs will be seeded so as to, as far as possible, create balanced sections.

Subject to the above the assignment of starting positions shall be at the discretion of the Championships Committee.

5. GENERAL RULES DURING PLAY

5.1 *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.

Smoking is prohibited throughout the buildings.

5.2 *Allotted Time*

The time allotted for each 2-board round is 17 minutes, or 25 minutes for each 3-board round.

Players are expected to complete each round in the allotted time.

The Head Tournament Director may remove un-played or partly-played boards.

5.2.1 *If an un-played board is removed:*

The TD will apply Law 12C2

5.2.2 *If a partly-played board is removed:*

Each pair shall be awarded the match-point score for the result on the board which the Head Tournament Director deems to be likely in the light of the bidding and play up to the time the board is removed. If the Head Tournament Director determines that one pair did not contribute to the slow play, he may apply Law 12 to assign scores.

5.2.3 *Late arrival in pairs events*

All participants should be in their proper seating positions five minutes before the announced starting time of the session. Should either member of a partnership not be seated at the starting time, the pair will receive a warning for a first offence during that stage of the event for being up to 5 minutes late. A late arrival of more than 5 minutes, or further late arrivals will be subject to the standard penalty (see Section 21.2 of GCoC). These penalties are in addition to any boards removed and scored as 40%.

5.3 *Protest time*

- i) In respect of scores the protest time of all boards played in a day is as follows:

- (a) If the day includes a change of stage, protest time ends 30 minutes after the posting of scores of the last round of the stage.
 - (b) If the day does not include a change of stage, or if the protest is in respect of a round after the change of stage, protest time ends 30 minutes after the end of the stage.
 - (c) In respect of the final stage's play protest time ends two hours after the official finishing time of that stage but, in any case, not later than the official starting time of the Prize-giving ceremony or Closing Ceremony.
- ii) The time for a request for a TD ruling or for a review of a ruling already received ends 30 minutes after the end of the session.

5.4 Tie Breaking

(For this section, "session" refers to the period of play between assignments of starting position).

Scores are tied only if they are identical. Except in the finals, if a tie needs to be broken, the winner is the pair with the highest score in its best session played at that stage. Further ties are broken likewise. If there is still a tie, the highest score in its two best sessions is decisive. In the finals the direct encounter(s) decides.

If a tie (or ties) still exists the remaining tie (or ties) shall be broken in favour of the pair who scored the most match points against the highest ranking pair or pairs that all the tied pairs played against. Should a tie still exist, the foregoing procedure shall be used with the next highest ranking pair or pairs and so on until the tie is broken.

5.5 Carry-overs

There will be carry-over scores between the Qualifying and Final A Stages. The exact amount of carry-over will depend on the relative number of boards played at each stage as well as the percentage of pairs moving to the following stage. Once the number of entries is known and the final formats are set the exact amount of carry-over will be published close to, or at the start of the qualifying stage.

There is no carry-over from the Qualifying to Final B

6. MANDATORY PENALTIES IN PAIRS EVENTS

Fouling a board results in a penalty of 25% of the match-points available on the board.

7. OBLIGATION TO REMAIN AT THE TABLE

Leaving the table needlessly before the round or session is finished is a breach of the Proprieties. Players guilty of this impropriety may be liable to a penalty of up to the standard penalty (Sec. 21.2 in GCoC).

8. PROHIBITION ON LEAVING THE COMPETITION

Any pair may cease participation in the competition after the last session of the qualifying stage provided it so notifies the Head Tournament Director or Operations Director no later than 15 minutes after the publication of the ranking list at the end of the session. No pair may cease participation in the competition at any other time without the permission of the Head Tournament Director or Operations Director, which permission shall only be given if the pair can show good cause.

Any pair failing to comply with this rule can expect to be disciplined. If a pair believes it cannot continue to participate through force majeure or other good reason it should seek permission to withdraw from the Head Tournament Director or the Operations Director.

9. RULINGS AND APPEALS

The review procedure outlined in Section 31 of the GCoC shall apply.

10. SECURITY

An identification tag will be issued and no player or team official or non-participant is allowed in the Championship playing areas without displaying this personal tag.

11. AWARDS & PRIZES

Gold, Silver and Bronze EBL medals will be awarded to the players of the three highest ranked pairs in Final A in each Championship. The winners will receive the title of European Women Pairs Champion or European Seniors' Pairs Champion, respectively.

Master points will be awarded in both Final A and Final B in accordance with the EBL Master Point Scheme.

12. CHANGES IN REGULATIONS

These SCoC may be amended and augmented at the discretion of the EBL if circumstances so warrant so as to ensure the fair, smooth, efficient and enjoyable running of the Championships.

By entering the Championships 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.

13. CONFLICTING REGULATIONS

In case of a conflict between these Regulations and the General Conditions of Contest, these Regulations shall prevail.

Matters not regulated here are governed by the General Conditions of Contest, the Laws of Duplicate Bridge and relevant provisions and regulations of the EBL. (see Section 35 GCoC).

