



EUROPEAN BRIDGE LEAGUE

Youth Committee

SUPPLEMENTAL CONDITIONS OF CONTEST

25th EUROPEAN YOUTH TEAMS CHAMPIONSHIPS HELD IN TROMSØ

JULY 18th – JULY 25th, 2015

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1 INTRODUCTION, FORMAT AND TIMETABLE

1.1 Introduction

The 25th European Youth Teams Championships ("the Championships") are to be played under the auspices of the European Bridge League ("the EBL") in the Old Brewery Building in Tromsø, Norway, commencing on Saturday 18th July 2015 and ending not later than Saturday 25th July 2014. The Championships consist of 4 series: Under 26 Open Teams ("Juniors"), Under 21 Open Teams ("Youngsters"), Under 26 Girls' Teams ("Girls") and Under 16 Open Teams ("Kids").

The Championships will be governed by the Laws of Bridge 2007, 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

Each series consists of a complete Round Robin with teams playing against all other teams in the same series. The number of boards played will depend on the number of participants.

In the Juniors, Youngsters and Girls series it is expected that 16, 20 or 32 board matches will be played over 7 days with a maximum of 64 or 60 boards per day.

The Kids series will be played over 4 days.

The exact formats and schedules for the four series will be announced when the number of registered teams is known.

1.3 Draw

Prior to play an official draw for numbers in the schedule of play will be made and published on site and on the EBL website for the Championships. In the event of a variation in the number of teams participating, adjustments in the draw and schedule of play may occur. These will be notified in the daily bulletin or if necessary at the captains' meeting.

1.4 Program and Timetable

Sat. 18 July		Registration – All series
Sat. 18 July	19:00	Opening Ceremony – All series
Sun. – Sat. 19-25 July		Juniors, Youngsters, Girls Championships
Sun. – Wed. 19-22 July		Kids Championship
Wed. 22 July	19:00	Kids – Prize Giving and Closing Ceremony
Sat. 25 July	19:00	J, Y, G - Prize Giving and Closing Ceremony

The Schedule of Play will be published in the Competition Program and will be available on the EBL site.

2 ADVANCE ORGANIZATION

2.1 Registration

2.1.1 Registration of Teams

Entries to the Championships must be submitted electronically via the EBL website (not by email) at

<http://www.eurobridge.org/repository/competitions/15TromsoYouth/microSite/Participations.asp>

by May 22nd 2015

2.1.2 Registration of Players' Names

Registration of players' and other team officials' names must be submitted electronically, via the EBL website (not by email) at

<http://www.eurobridge.org/repository/competitions/15TromsoYouth/microSite/Participations.asp> by June 15th 2015.

2.2 Right to enter

Each member NBO is authorized to enter one team in each series. NBOs must have paid the entry fee and be up to date with the payment of dues (including 2015 dues) to the EBL before they can participate in the Championship.

Each participating member NBO must play against all other participating member NBOs. Entry and subsequent refusal to play will result in disqualification.

2.3 Entry fees

All information concerning how to pay what amounts, and any applicable discounts, is available at

<http://www.eurobridge.org/Repository/competitions/15TromsoYouth/Microsite/information.htm#Fees>

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. To participate in the Junior series or the Girls series a player must have been born on or after **1st January 1990**. To participate in the Youngster series a player must have been born on or after **1st January 1995**. To participate in the Kids series a player must have been born on or after **1st January 2000**.

Subject to the approval of the Credentials 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, the Credentials Committee and the Championship Committee.

Except with the permission of the Head Tournament Director or Championship Manager, such substitute or added player must use one of the systems already filed in accordance with Section 3.2 below.

2.5 Credentials Committee

The Youth Committee of the EBL will forward the names of the captain, coach and the other members of each team as submitted to the EBL website in accordance with 2.1.2 above to the Credentials Committee for consideration of approval of participation.

Only accredited people can enter the venue of the Championships.

3 SYSTEMS

3.1 Systems Policy

The EBL's Systems Regulations and Systems Policy (revised Sep.2013) apply to these Championships. All events at these Championships are designated Category 3 events.

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 the GCoC.

3.2 Submission of Systems (in all Championships)

Systems in all the Championships have to be registered with the EBL by June 24th 2015 by email. (See Section 11 of the GCoC).

The original files should be sent to the Systems Administrator: anna@ecats.co.uk. If the files are converted to PDF they should NOT be scanned versions but should be created from the original files.

Players should ensure that email addresses for both members of the partnership are also sent to the Systems Administrator.

Minor changes to systems (which may be clarifications, amendments, minor additions and/or cosmetic revisions) will be accepted by July 10th 2015. Later changes will only be accepted at the discretion of the Head TD or Championship Manager, who may impose conditions for acceptance.

The maximum number of Supplementary Sheets is six.

The opponents' filed Systems will be made available on the Internet to all teams who have filed their Systems.

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 Composition and seating of teams

4.1.1 Designation of teams

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

4.1.2 Line-up procedure for 16/20 board matches

The line-ups must be submitted electronically, and will be displayed on the display screens designated for this.

Both captains submit their line up without knowing the line-up of their opponents.

Line-ups for a round have to be submitted within 15 minutes after the previous round has ended.

For the first round the details will be announced at the captains' meeting.

Teams who infringe this regulation will be subject to VP penalties according to this scale:

- 1st occasion a written (through the communication system) 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 Manager in exceptional cases.

4.1.3 Line-up procedure for 32 board matches

The line-ups must be submitted electronically, and will be displayed on the display screens designated for this.

For the first match the captain of the Away team must submit the line-up of the team for the first segment at least one hour before the starting time, and the captain of the home team is allowed an additional 10 minutes.

For subsequent matches the Away team line-up for the first segment must be submitted within 15 minutes after the previous round has ended. The captain of the home team is allowed an additional 5 minutes.

For the second segment of each match the Home team line-up must be submitted within 15 minutes after the end of the first segment round. The captain of the away team is allowed an additional 5 minutes.

Teams who infringe this regulation will be subject to VP penalties according to this scale:

1st occasion a written warning

2nd occasion ½ standard penalty; subsequently a further ½ standard penalty for each occasion. (See GCoC Section 22.2)

4.1.4 Seating of Teams – 16 or 20 boards

The following seating arrangements shall apply:

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

4.1.5 Seating of Teams – 32 boards

The teams meet according to the schedule printed in the program. The Home Team sits throughout in the N/S position in the Open Room and in the E/W position in the Closed Room

The Home Team has the right for the first segment of the match to nominate its players after the Away Team has nominated theirs.

When the Home Team has nominated its players for the second segment, the Away Team will nominate its players.

No change other than those referred to above may be made unless authorized by the Tournament Director in charge. Such permission will only be given in case of illness or in exceptional circumstances.

4.2 Period of Play and penalties for slow play.

4.2.1 Start of the round

Playing time for 20 boards is 2 hours 50 minutes, and for 16 boards 2 hours 20 minutes.

The period allowed is calculated from the commencement of the period of play and 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 1 VP and for each completed period of 5 minutes thereafter a further 1VP. Players are requested to be seated 5 minutes before the scheduled start of play. In case of any player entering the playing room after the commencement of the broadcasting of a match, the 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 forfeits the match. For the scores of this team and the opposing team see Section 19 of the GCoC.

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.

4.2.2 End of the period of play.

(a) If at the end of the allocated time play has not been completed the following penalties will be imposed, eventually to be shared by the two teams according to the percentage of responsibility of each of them:

- from 0 to 5 minutes late: 1 VP.
- from 5 to 10 minutes late: 2 VPs.
- from 10 to 15 minutes late: 4 VPs.

- from 15 to 20 minutes late: 6 VPs.
 - from 20 to 25 minutes late: 10 VPs.
 - for delays of more than 25 minutes the Championship Committee may impose a more severe penalty.
- (b) If a pair should claim that the responsibility for the slow play is with their opponents, they will do so by calling the Tournament Director 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.
- The Tournament Director 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) It is a serious breach of propriety deliberately to break a Law or Rule even if one is willing to accept the prescribed penalty. Accordingly, over and above the prescribed penalties, the Tournament Director may impose an additional penalty in cases where he is of the opinion that players are indulging deliberately in unnecessarily slow play.
- The following regulations will be observed in putting this rule into effect:
- (i) No such penalty will be awarded unless the Tournament Director has given previous verbal warning to the players concerned of his intention to invoke this rule.
 - (ii) Such a penalty may be imposed only in respect of continued delay in the same session of play as that in which a verbal warning has been given.
 - (iii) The penalty may, in the discretion of the Tournament Director, be imposed on one only or on both of the teams involved in the match in which such a delay occurs, or, at his discretion, a larger penalty may be imposed on one team than upon the other to reflect the measure of each team's responsibility for the occurrence.

4.2.3 Penalty warning

Except for a penalty under Section 4.2.2 (c) above 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 Penalties

4.3.1 Leaving the room

If a player leaves the playing room during a match without the permission of a tournament director that player's team will be fined ½ standard penalty (See GCoC Section 22.2)

4.3.2 Fouled board

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 equal to the standard penalty (See GCoC Section 22.2)

4.3.3 Penalties and Fines

The penalties outlined in Section 7 of the GCoC shall apply.

4.4 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.

4.5 End of rounds, results

4.5.1 IMP scale

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

4.5.2 VP Scale

For each match there will be 20 Victory Points (VPs) at stake to be apportioned between the two teams in accordance with the 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 two hours after the official finishing time of the final match but, in any case, not later than the official starting time of the Closing Ceremony.

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 round.

4.7 Publication of decisions

All decisions involving play, penalties, deals, infringement of the Rules, etc., will be posted through the Championships’ Communication System. 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 Ranking

The teams will be ranked according to the total number of VPs each gains in the Championship.

4.8.3 Ties

A tie between two teams will be broken in accordance with the result of the match between those two teams. If there should still be a tie, then the 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 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 IMP quotient of all matches against the same opponents will be taken into consideration to break the tie.

A tie not broken by the above procedures shall be broken by following the relevant procedures of the WBF Regulations.

5 REVIEW PROCEDURE

In reference to section 32 of the EBL GCoC, and pursuant to Laws 81B2(k) and 93C3(b), appeals will be heard by a “Reviewer” appointed by the Championship Committee.

When the tournament director notifies players of a decision, they will be told of their right to seek a review. See Section 18 (iv) for the time limit for seeking a review.

The player will fill in the relevant form stating his reasons for asking for a review and hand the form to the TD who will arrange for the review. A deposit of Euro 100 must accompany the form. The Reviewer will check that the TD has gathered the necessary evidence of what occurred when the infraction arose. The Reviewer will then need to be satisfied that the correct law was applied and that other TDs were consulted where appropriate. In matters involving the judgement that was exercised by a player following unauthorised information, incorrect explanation or failure to alert, the Reviewer will clarify that suitable players have been asked appropriate questions to enable a judgmental view to be obtained. Finally the Reviewer will check that the ruling that was issued based upon all the information available to the TDs was within the bounds of reasonableness. The fact that the Reviewer might have determined a slightly different ruling would not be good reason for the ruling to be varied. In the event that the process had not been followed properly in some material way, the Reviewer will ask the Head TD to correct the failings and issue a new ruling.

The Euro 100 deposit will be forfeited and the penalties described in Sections 22.2 and 22.3 of the GCoC will be deducted from the score of the appealing side if in the opinion of the reviewer there is insufficient basis for requesting the review.

6. DRESS CODE and BEHAVIOR

The players must comply with the EBL Dress code and are reminded that the code applies not only during play but also to the Opening and Closing Ceremonies. However they do not have to wear blazers, jackets, ties or neck scarves for the Opening or Closing Ceremony. Participants do not appear as private individuals but as representatives of their NBO, and observance of high standards of deportment at these Championships and events is imperative.

7. AWARDS

7.1 Medals and Master Points

Gold, Silver and Bronze EBL medals will be awarded to the captain, the coach and the members of the first three teams in each series. Winners will receive the title of European Champion of the respective series.

Master Points will be awarded in accordance with the EBL Master Points scheme provided that the player has played at least one third of the boards played by his team.

7.2 Trophies

The winning team of the Under 26, Under 21 and Girls series will receive the *David Pigot Trophy*, the *José Damiani Trophy* and the *Annaclaudia Rona Trophy* respectively, which they are entitled to retain until the next event, at the beginning of which it must be returned to the EBL, care of the NBO of the winners.

8. PARTICIPATION IN WORLD YOUTH CHAMPIONSHIPS

In accordance with the current WBF regulation, the first six teams of the Under 26 series and the under 21 series, and the first 5 teams of the Girls series will qualify to represent the European Zone in the same series of the 2016 World Youth Championship. In the event of the host country being invited to participate in this event and this country is among the teams qualifying, the next ranked team will be considered a qualifying team for the Championship.

In the event of the withdrawal of any of these leading teams, the three next ranked teams, in order, will be considered to have qualified for the Championship. Should more than three teams withdraw, the EBL reserves the right to make any decisions necessary concerning representation of the Zone at the World Youth Championship.

If the WBF modifies the regulation or the number of teams qualified from the European Zone, the EBL will modify the above accordingly.

9. 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 Championships.