



EUROPEAN BRIDGE LEAGUE

SUPPLEMENTAL CONDITIONS OF CONTEST

16th EUROPEAN WOMEN'S NATIONAL PAIRS CHAMPIONSHIPS

HELD IN BUDAPEST

JUNE 16th – JUNE 18th, 2016

Published by the European Bridge League
Maison du Sport International,
54 avenue de Rhodanie,
CH-1007 Lausanne
Switzerland

Updated April 2016 (1.2)

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1 INTRODUCTION, FORMAT AND TIMETABLE

1.1 Introduction

The 16th European Women's Pairs Championship ("the Championship") is a national pairs competition and is to be played under the auspices of the European Bridge League ("the EBL") in Groupama Arena in Budapest, Hungary commencing on Thursday 16th June 2016 and ending on Saturday 18th June 2016.

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.

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.

1.2 Format

1.2.1 General

It is anticipated that the 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 qualifying stage will consist of 70 boards and will be split into sessions of 10 boards each, played in two-board rounds. 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 will be determined after final participant numbers are known, but it is anticipated that the top ranked 36 pairs will qualify. 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

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

It is anticipated that the final will consist of 70 boards, and 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

This is a transnational event open to all players who played in the Qualifying Stage who did not qualify for the Final A. Players may form new partnerships. It is anticipated that the competition will be 60 boards. Scoring is match points calculated over the field. The final ranking will be based on the score obtained in this event. There is no carry-over from the Qualifying Stage.

1.3 Programme and Timetable

The starting times will be announced when final participation numbers are known. The provisional starting times are:

Qualifying - Sessions 1-5	Thursday	16 th June	10:00	50 boards
Qualifying - Session 6-7	Friday	17 th June	10:00	20 boards
Final A - Sessions 1	Friday	17 th June	16:00	18 boards
Final A - Sessions 2-4	Saturday	18 th June	10:00	52 boards
Final B - Sessions 1-2	Friday	18 th June	16:00	20 boards
Final B - Sessions 3-6	Saturday	18 th June	10:00	40 boards
Prize giving (and Teams Opening Ceremony)	Saturday	18 th June	20:00	

2 ADVANCE ORGANIZATION

2.1 Conditions of Entry

2.1.1. Right of Entry

Women bridge players who are registered members of Zone 1 NBOs and in good standing with their Federation, are entitled to participate.

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

2.1.2 Registration

All entries must be submitted electronically on the website by 31 May 2016 using the link

www.eurobridge.org/repository/competitions/16Budapest/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 June 2 2016 will be accepted only if technically convenient. Withdrawals of accepted entries must be acknowledged by email to webmaster@europeanbridge.org by 7 June 2016 to avoid payment of the entry fee.

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

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

2.1.3 Entry Fees

The entry fees are €300 for a pair.

The entry fees must be paid by Bank Transfer before or on 31st May 2016 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

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 Championship.

2.1.5 Competitor's Commitment

Attention is drawn to Article 2.8 of the EBL GCoC. Players are expected to sign the EBL Competitor's Commitment Form (see Appendix) 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 July 2015 (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 Groupama building.

5.2 Allotted Time

The time allotted for each 2-board round is 17 minutes. 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:

- i) The offending pair or pairs shall be awarded 40% of the match-point available for the board, and
- ii) If the Head Tournament Director determines that one pair did not contribute to the slow play, the non-offending pair shall be awarded, subject to Law 12C2, 60% of the match-points available for the board.

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 penalties at the discretion of the Head Director ranging from 10% of a top up to the standard penalty (see Section 22 of GCOC). These penalties are in addition to any boards removed and scored as 40%

5.3 Protest time

In respect of scores the protest time of rounds played in the first day ends at the starting time of the first round on the second day. For rounds played in the second day, protest time for the Qualifying event ends 60 minutes after the last round; and for the Finals at the starting time of the first round of the day following. In respect of the final day's play protest time ends 60 minutes after the official finishing time of the final session 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 session.

5.4 Tie Breaking

(For this section, "session" refers to the period of play in which 10 boards are played.)

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, at or close to, 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 and the Operations Director.

9. SECURITY

No player or team official is allowed at the Championship Playing Areas without displaying the personal badge.

10. AWARDS & PRIZES

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

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

11. CHANGES IN REGULATIONS

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

12. 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 and the Laws of Contract Bridge.

13. SUPPLEMENTARY REGULATIONS

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

The EBL Systems Policy

The EBL Disciplinary Code

The EBL Alert Procedure

The EBL Bidding Boxes, Bridgemates and Screen Regulations

APPENDIX



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: _____

Nationality: _____

Gender: _____

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

1. I agree and commit myself to participate in the 16th European Women's National Pairs Championship (the Championship) in Budapest from 16th – 18th June 2016 and to compete with respect for the European Bridge League (EBL) rules and fair play.
2. I am aware that the Championship is 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.
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 Championship 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 Championship and of the host.
5. Through my participation in the Championship 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 accept to abstain from political actions, statements or comments during the Championship. EBL will, without limitation, not be responsible for any political, financial or other sanctions that local or national authorities may impose on me.
7. I accept that EBL has the final authority to exclude me from the Championship in case of non-compliance with this commitment (including any applicable EBL rules and regulations) or in case 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 my level of fitness not be sufficient to participate in the Championship.
9. I agree that I will be 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 the Championship.
10. I accept and agree that I participate in the Championship 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 accept and agree to follow the regulation in the General or Supplemental Conditions of Contest 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 have to participate.
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 consequences and sanctions as well as the jurisdiction of the 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 consent and agree to the creation of my profile in the WADA Doping Control Clearinghouse (ADAMS) under WBF's agreement for the sharing of information, and to the entry of my data in this system as per the ADAMS Athlete's Information Form permanently published on its website.
16. I agree to be photographed, filmed, identified and otherwise recorded during the Championship, both during and outside the competitions. I accept that such photos, films, footage and other recordings may be publicised and broadcast worldwide by any means (TV, internet etc.) and are used by EBL and the host for non-commercial promotion purposes at no cost to EBL or the host.
17. I accept that such photos, films, footage and other recordings are used by EBL post-Championship for promotional and editorial purposes related to future Championships.
18. I will not participate in, nor support betting related to the Championship, and understand that all forms of promotion of betting related to the Championship are prohibited.
19. I agree that any dispute not to be adjudicated in application of specific procedures provided for by EBL but which arises 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 the Championship 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.
20. I am aware and I agree that my participation in the Championship is conditional upon my valid acceptance of and my compliance with each and all the provisions of this document.
21. I have read and understand the present declaration.

Place and Date

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