



## **EUROPEAN BRIDGE LEAGUE**

### **SUPPLEMENTAL CONDITIONS OF CONTEST**

### **53rd EUROPEAN TEAMS CHAMPIONSHIPS HELD IN BUDAPEST**

**JUNE 16th – JUNE 25th, 2016**

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## **1 INTRODUCTION, FORMAT AND TIMETABLE**

### **1.1 Introduction**

The 53rd European Teams Championships ("the Championships") are to be played under the auspices of the European Bridge League ("the EBL") in Groupama Arena in Budapest, Hungary commencing on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> June 2016 and ending not later than Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> June 2016. The Championships consists of 3 Teams Championships: Open Teams Championship, Women's Team Championship and Seniors' Teams Championship.

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**

All 3 Championships will be played as a single complete round robin. The number of boards played in each match will be determined and published when the number of participants is known.

The Open Championship will be played over 10 days, and the Women's Championship and Seniors Championship will be played over 7 days.

### **1.3 Draw**

Prior to play an official draw for numbers in the schedule of play will be made and published in the programme and on the EBL website for the Championship. 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 Provisional Programme and Timetable**

Open Teams Registration	Wednesday 15 June 2016
Open Captains meeting	Wednesday 15 June 2016
(Women's National Pairs)	(Thursday June 16 – Saturday June 18)
Opening Ceremony	Saturday June 18 (3 Championships) 20:00
Open Teams round-robin	Thursday June 16 to Saturday June 25
Women's Teams	Sunday June 19 to Saturday June 25
Seniors Teams	Sunday June 19 to Saturday June 25
EBL General Assembly	Friday June 24 10:00
Prize-Giving & Closing	Saturday 25th June 21:00

## 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

[www.eurobridge.org/repository/competitions/16Budapest/microsite/participants.asp](http://www.eurobridge.org/repository/competitions/16Budapest/microsite/participants.asp)

by 2nd May 2016

#### 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

[www.eurobridge.org/repository/competitions/16Budapest/microsite/participants.asp](http://www.eurobridge.org/repository/competitions/16Budapest/microsite/participants.asp)

by 2nd May 2016.

### 2.2 Right to enter

Each member NBO is authorised to enter one team in each Championship. NBOs must have paid the entry fee and be up to date with the payment of dues (including 2016 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.

To participate in the Senior Championship a player must have been born **before the 1<sup>st</sup> January 1957**.

### 2.3 Entry fees

€ 3,500 for the Open Teams and € 3,250 for the Women and Senior Teams. A discount will be given to countries who did not participate in the last three EBL Bridge Teams Championships (Ostend 2010, Dublin 2012, Opatija 2014): for these teams the entry fees are € 2,500 for the Open and € 2,000 for the Senior and Women Teams.

The entry fees must be paid by Bank Transfer before or on 2nd 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

#### **2.4 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 Credentials Committee the members of any team may be changed up to the time of commencement of play of the Championship.

If a country 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.

No player may play in more than one Championship.

#### **2.5 Credentials Committee**

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 will be transmitted to the Credentials Committee for consideration of approval of participation.

Only accredited people can enter the venue of the Championship.

#### **2.6 Competitors' Commitment**

Attention is drawn to Article 2.8 of the EBL GCoC. Players, Captains, Coaches and other Team Officials in Teams Championships are expected to sign the EBL Competitor's Commitment Form (see Appendix) before the start of the event.

### **3. SYSTEMS**

#### **3.1 Systems Policy**

The EBL's Systems Regulations and Systems Policy (Revised Sep.2013) apply to these Championships. Category 1 systems and conventions are permitted in the Open and Women's Championships. Only Category 3 systems and conventions are permitted in the Senior Championship.

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 GoC.

#### **3.2 Submission of Systems (in all Championships)**

Systems in all the Championships have to be registered with the European Bridge League by 23rd May 2016 by email to the Systems Administrator: [anna@ecats.co.uk](mailto:anna@ecats.co.uk) (See Section 11 of GCoC). Minor changes to systems (which may be clarifications, amendments, minor additions and/or cosmetic revisions) will be accepted by 1<sup>st</sup> June 2016. 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.

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

<http://www.eurobridge.org/Data/Sites/1/media/documents/regulations/EBLSystemsPolicy.pdf>

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 TEAMS 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 programme is designated as the Home Team.

###### ***4.1.2 Line-up procedure***

There will be no seating rights when teams without 'Highly Unusual Methods' play each other. 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 Seating of Teams where no 'Highly Unusual Method' may be in use.***

Where neither team contains any partnership that uses a HUM 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.

###### ***4.1.4 Seating of Teams where a 'Highly Unusual Method' may be in use by one team.***

Where one team contains any partnership that uses a 'Highly Unusual Method' the following seating arrangements shall apply:

The team that does not contain any such partnership that uses a 'Highly Unusual Method', will always be the Home Team and gets seating rights. It gets an additional 5 minutes to submit the line-up knowing the line-up of its opponent. Furthermore a pair playing a 'Highly Unusual Method' has an obligation to be seated at the playing table 15 minutes before the start of the round when requested by their opponents. Notification of the request shall be given through the Championship's Communication System.

###### ***4.1.5 Seating of Teams where 'Highly Unusual Methods' may be used by both teams***

Pairs playing 'Highly Unusual Methods' from both teams need to be seated 15 minutes in advance if either opponent so requires.

#### **4.1.6 Seating of Teams where “Brown Stickers” may be in use**

When a team contains any partnership that uses more than one “Brown Sticker” all the above mentioned rules adopted for HUM Systems will be applied.

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

#### **4.2.1 Start of the round**

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 the 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 by its own fault forfeits the match and receives zero VPs.

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 (but see 4.2.2 (c) below):

- 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) The Head Tournament Director may remove unplayed boards from players if in his opinion a delay in finishing the match in the allotted time would interfere with the smooth running of the competition, but only if the board has not been played in the other room. If any such



unplayed board is removed the match will be scored on the results of the played boards, the Head Tournament Director will award 3 IMPs for each such unplayed board to the non-offending side (if any).

### **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.  
Smoking is prohibited throughout the Groupama building.

### **4.4 End of rounds, results**

#### **4.4.1 IMP scale**

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

#### **4.4.2 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

### **4.5 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.

In respect of scores which are manifestly incorrect, protest time ends prior to the start of the penultimate round.

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.

### **4.6 Publication of decisions**

All decisions involving play, penalties, deals, infringement of the Rules, etc., will be posted through the Championship's 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.

### **4.7 Byes, Ranking and Ties**

#### **4.7.1 Byes**

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

#### **4.7.2 Ranking**

Final rankings will be according to the total number of VPs scored by each team.

#### **4.7.3 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.

## **5. DRESS CODE**

The players must comply with the EBL Dress code.

## **6. AWARDS**

The Open Trophy, Women Trophy and Jean-Marc Roudinesco Trophy will be awarded to the NBOs winning respectively the Open, Women and Seniors Championships. Replicas will be awarded to the captain, the coach and other members of the winning teams. The trophies are challenge trophies and will only be definitively awarded to an NBO which wins the championship three times.

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

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.

The first 6 NBOs in the final ranking of the Open, Women and Seniors Championships, respectively, will have the right to participate in the Bermuda Bowl, Venice Cup and Senior Bowl at the World Team Championship 2017.

The winning teams from the national team championships of the first 10 NBOs in the final ranking of the Open Teams will have the right to participate in the 2016 and 2017 European Champions Cups.

## **7. 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.

## **8. 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.

## 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 53<sup>rd</sup> European Teams Championships (the Championships) in Budapest from 16<sup>th</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> June 2016 and to compete with respect for the European Bridge League (EBL) rules and fair play.
2. I am aware that the Championships 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 Championships 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 Championships and of the host.
5. Through my participation in the Championships 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 Championships. 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 Championships 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 Championships.
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 Championships.
10. I accept and agree that I participate in the Championships 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](http://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 Championships, 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-Championships for promotional and editorial purposes related to future Championships.
18. I will not participate in, nor support betting related to the Championships, and understand that all forms of promotion of betting related to the Championships 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 Championships 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 Championships 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 Championships 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.

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Place and Date

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