



## **EUROPEAN BRIDGE LEAGUE**

### **SUPPLEMENTAL CONDITIONS OF CONTEST**

### **1<sup>st</sup> EUROPEAN WINTER GAMES HELD IN MONACO 5<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY - 11<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2016**

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## **Preamble**

The 1st European Winter Games (EWG) will be hosted in the Hotel Fairmont in Monte Carlo, Monaco.

The EWG will be conducted under the auspices of the European Bridge League (EBL) and the Federation Monegasque de Bridge. Unless stated otherwise in these Regulations, the EWG shall be governed by the EBL General Conditions of Contest (GCoC).

The EWG will consist of an Open Team event (Zimmermann Cup) as well as an Open Board-a-Match Team event (BAM). All events will be transnational and there will be no restriction on the number of entries per NBO.

As this is the first edition of the EWG there may be changes to some sections of these Conditions depending on the actual number of participants. This applies particularly to Sections 3, 5, 6 and 15.

## **1. CONDITIONS OF ENTRY**

### ***1.1 Right of Entry***

Bridge players (registered members of WBF NBOs) from all WBF zones, in good standing with their Federation, are entitled to participate.

All participants are bound by the regulations contained within this document. Invitations for Teams will be issued to teams of four, five or six.

### **1.2 Registration**

All entries to the events must be submitted electronically using the following link

<http://www.eurobridge.org/repository/competitions/16monaco/microsite/Participants.htm>

on the website, by January 20, 2016.

All entries will be automatically forwarded to the NBO of the applicant, and are subject to their approval. Applications submitted after the deadline will be accepted only if technically convenient. Withdrawals of accepted entries must be sent by email to [secretariat@europeanbridge.org](mailto:secretariat@europeanbridge.org) by January 30, 2016 to avoid payment of the entry fee.

Further information is available at

<http://www.eurobridge.org/repository/competitions/16monaco/microsite/Information.htm>

## **2. ENTRY FEES**

Open Teams: €1250 per team. This includes entry in the BAM event if necessary.

BAM Teams: €500 per team not playing in the Open team event.

All information concerning how to pay is available at

<http://www.eurobridge.org/repository/competitions/16monaco/microsite/Information.htm>

## **3. PROVISIONAL SCHEDULE OF PLAY**

Friday 5/2/16	12:00	Qualifying rounds 1-5
Saturday 6/2/16	10:00	Qualifying rounds 6-10
Sunday 7/2/16	10:00 19:30	Qualifying rounds 11-15 Tourist Office Cocktail
Monday 8/2/16	10:00 14:30	Championships round of 16 BAM Qualifying 1-3
Tuesday 9/2/16	10:00 10:00	Championships Quarter Finals BAM Qualifying 4-8
Wednesday 10/2/16	10:00 10:00	Championships Semi-finals BAM Finals A and B (3x18)
Thursday 10/2/16	10:00 10:00 10:00 10:00 20:30	Championships Final Championship 3-4 Play off BAM Finals A (3x18) BAM Finals B (2x18) Championship Closing Ceremony

The above schedule of play is provisional and may be changed if circumstances warrant.

Refer to <http://www.eurobridge.org/repository/competitions/16monaco/microsite/Information.htm>

#### **4. DROP-INS FOR BAM EVENT**

Teams eliminated from the round of 16 and round of 8 stages of the Teams event can drop in to the BAM event. These teams will be awarded a carry-over. The carryover formula will be published at the start of the BAM event.

#### **5. TEAM EVENT**

##### ***5.1 Qualifying Stage***

The qualifying stage will be played in the form of a "Swiss", with the first round seeded. Exact figures will be determined by the number of participants but it is anticipated that this stage will consist of 150 boards played in 15 matches of 10 boards each. The results of each match shall be converted into Victory Points in accordance with the appropriate WBF IMP/VP scales.

In the Swiss stage, errors in assigning opponents shall not invalidate the result of that, or any other, match. When there are an odd number of teams the bye team will receive 12 VPs.

##### ***5.2 Knock Out Stage***

i) The top 16 teams from the Swiss qualifying stage will advance to the knockout stage. There will be no carry-over from the Swiss to the knockout.

ii) Each knock out stage will be played over 60 boards, 3 segments of 20 boards each, except for the 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> place playoff which will be played over 40 boards, 2 segments of 20 boards each.

iii) A fixed bracket (see Appendix 1) will be created. Thus there is no re-seeding between rounds and a lower ranked team that beats a higher ranked team takes over that higher ranked team's seed-number.

iv) The teams placed 1<sup>st</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> in the Swiss are seeded no. 1-4. They, in that order, get to choose their opponents from the teams placed 9<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> in the Swiss. Those chosen teams are assigned seed nos. 16-13 respectively. The remaining seed numbers 5-12 are assigned according to the original seeding (based on Master Points) made before the start and published as soon as possible.

##### ***5.3. Tie Breaking***

###### ***5.3.1 Swiss***

In the event of two or more teams having the same number of Victory Points, their rankings will be determined as follows:

i) The total Victory Points of each team's opponents ("Swiss Points") is calculated and the team with the largest number of "Swiss Points" is ranked first, and so on.

ii) If two or more teams have the same number of "Swiss Points", their rankings will be determined by their relative IMP quotients.

###### ***5.3.2 Direct Knockout***

All matches except the Finals:

If a tie exists at the end of a knockout match, it will be resolved by playing four additional boards (boards 1-4). If the tie still remains one board ("sudden death") matches will determine the winner.

## **6. BAM EVENT**

This event will be played Barometer. It is anticipated that there will be a qualification stage and Final A and Final B stages. Depending on the number of participants there may be a semi-final stage. The exact schedule will be determined by the number of participants.

Carryover and drop-in conditions from the qualification stage to the final stages will be announced at the start of the qualification stage.

### ***6.1 BAM Qualification***

80 boards, 30 on the first day, 50 on the second day with drop-ins from the knockout round of 16 (see Sec. 4)

### ***6.2 BAM Finals A and B***

28 teams (the top ranked 24 teams from the qualification stage plus 4 drop-ins from the knockout quarter finals) will qualify for Final A. The remainder will play in Final B.

Final A will consist of 6 sessions of 18 boards, over two days.

Final B will consist of 5 sessions of 18 boards, over two days.

## **7. SYSTEMS POLICY AND SYSTEM CARDS**

### ***7.1 Systems Policy***

Both events are designated Category 3 events.

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.

### ***7.2 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 before the start of the match. During the knockout phase each team delivers a copy of each system to its opponents as soon as the matches to be played are decided. Detailed instructions will be given at the captains' meeting.

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 shall impose a procedural penalty (1/2 standard penalty – see Sec. 21.2 of GCoC) 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.

During a match or round changes in system cards are normally not allowed. If a team nevertheless wants to change a system card it lodges a request with the Head Tournament Director, who needs to approve such change.

## **8. TIME ALLOWED**

### ***8.1 Qualifying stage***

Players are expected to complete each 10 board Swiss Teams match in one hour thirty minutes. The Head Tournament Director may remove un-played boards from players if in his opinion the match would otherwise exceed the allotted time, but only if the board has not been played in the other room.

If any such un-played board is removed:

- i) the match will be scored on the results of the played boards, and
- ii) The Head Tournament Director will award 3 IMPs for each such un-played board to the non-offending side (if any).
- iii) For otherwise cancelled boards the Head Tournament Director will deal with them according to Law 86D and the WBFLC interpretation of it.

### ***8.2 Knock out stage***

Players are expected to complete each 20 board segment in 2 hours 50 minutes. Teams judged guilty of slow play will be subject to penalty. Additional time will not be allowed for teams playing on Vu-Graph or BBO.

### ***8.3 Late arrival in teams events***

All participants should be in their proper seating positions five minutes before the announced starting time. Any team not seated and ready to play at the announced starting time will receive a warning for a first offence during that phase of the event for being up to 5 minutes late. Late arrivals of more than 5 minutes, or further late arrivals, will be subject to penalties at the discretion of the Head Tournament Director. The penalty will range from half the standard penalty to the standard penalty. (see section 21 of GCOC)

## **9. LINE-UPS AND SEATING IN TEAMS EVENTS**

### ***9.1 Line-Ups***

#### ***9.1.1 Swiss***

In each match of the Swiss, the first named team will be the Home Team and there is no requirement to submit line-ups in advance.

#### ***9.1.2 Direct Knockout***

Line-ups shall be submitted in accordance with section 9.1.4.

### ***9.1.3 Direct Knockout: Tie-Breaking***

When a tie exists at the end of a knockout match, there shall be a coin toss to determine Home Team rights for the tie-breaking stage. The captain of the Visiting Team shall submit his line-up at a time to be determined by the Tournament Director, and the captain of the Home Team shall submit his line-up immediately thereafter.

### ***9.1.4 Direct Knockout: Line-up Times***

Line-ups for the knockout will be explained on site. Before each stage of the Knockouts there will be a meeting of the relevant captains. A team having the choice of seating rights must exercise these rights at the Captains' meeting. The Visiting Team shall submit its line-up no later than 15 minutes before the scheduled starting time for the segment, or at such other time as the Head Tournament Director determines. The Home Team shall submit its line-up no later than 10 minutes before the scheduled starting time for the session: provided that if the team required to submit its line-up first is late, the other team shall be allowed 5 minutes from the time of such late submission in which to submit its line-up.

Violation of these time schedules will be subject to IMP penalties according to the following scale.

- First occasion – a written warning
- Second occasion – 1 IMP penalty
- Subsequently – 3 IMPs penalty for each occasion

## ***9.2 Seating***

### ***9.2.1 Swiss***

In the Swiss, the designated Home Team (see section 9.1.1) sits North-South in the Open Room and East-West in the Closed Room throughout the match. The Home Team has the right to seat its players after the Visiting Team has done so.

### ***9.2.2 Direct Knockout***

The team with seating rights (see below) is designated as the Home team, and sits NS in the Open Room.

The lower seed number may select any of the three segments in which to have seating rights and the opponents then have seating rights in the other two segments. OR they may pass this right over; in other words, let the opponents take first choice of segment leaving them with the remaining two segments.

### ***9.2.3 Open and Closed Rooms***

The rooms respectively referred to as the "Open" and the "Closed" rooms shall be so designated in each match (or session) by the Operation Director or his designee.

## **10. 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 in writing no later than 15 minutes after the publication of the ranking list at the end of the session in question. No pair may cease participation in the competition at any other time without the permission of the Head Tournament Director or the Operations Director, which permission shall only be given if the pair can show good cause.



## **11. SCORING AT THE TABLE**

Bridgemates will be used for the official scoring throughout the Championship.

## **12. SCORE CORRECTIONS**

The correction period in Law 79C expires at the time specified; and thereafter, the result will be final, with the following exceptions:

- i) Awaiting decision of the Reviewer on a filed appeal;
- ii) Completion of play of replay boards where such replay has been ordered by the Head Tournament Director, the Reviewer or their designee.
- iii) In respect of scores the protest time of all boards played in a day is as follows:
  - (a) For the first two days of the Qualifying, and the first three days of the BAM, protest time ends at the starting time of the first match on the following day.
  - (b) On the last day of the qualifying and the BAM, protest time ends 30 minutes after the posting of scores of the last match.
  - (c) For the Rounds of 16 and 8, and semi-finals stages, protest time ends 60 minutes after the posting of scores of the last segment of that match.
  - (d) In respect of the Finals and Play-off protest time ends one hour after the official finishing time of the final match but, in any case, not later than the official starting time of the Prize-giving ceremony or Closing Ceremony.
- iv) 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.

## **13. APPEALS: REVIEW PROCEDURE**

See Section 29 of the GCoC.

## **14. SECURITY**

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

## **15. AWARDS & PRIZES**

### ***15.1 Titles and Awards***

#### ***15.1.1 Medals***

EBL Medals will be awarded to the first three ranked teams in the Team event. The winning team will be awarded the Zimmerman Cup.

#### ***15.1.2 Money Prizes***

Money prizes will be awarded to the top ranking teams. Prizes exceeding €2,000 will be paid by bank transfer to the captain of the team. Other prizes will be paid by cash on site.

- i) €110,000 for the Teams event (Zimmerman Cup)
- ii) € 40,000 for the BAM event

### ***15.2 Master Points***

EBL Master Points will be awarded in all events.

WBF and National Master Points may be awarded according to the respective Master Point rules and regulations of those organizations.

### **16. 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.

### **17. 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.

### **18. SUPPLEMENTARY REGULATIONS**

The following can be found on the EBL website at [www.eurobridge.org](http://www.eurobridge.org)

The EBL Systems Policy

The EBL Disciplinary Code

The EBL Alert Procedure

The EBL Bidding Boxes, Bridgemates and Screen Regulations

**APPENDIX 1: Fixed Bracket for 16 teams**

