



# 1<sup>ST</sup> EUROPEAN MIXED TEAMS BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIPS LISBON PORTUGAL 22-28 FEBRUARY 2019



DAILY BULLETIN

Thursday, 21 February 2019 ISSUE No 1

Editor: Mark Horton Journalists: David Bird, Jos Jacobs, Ron Tacchi Lay-out & Photographer: Francesca Canali

## Bem Vindo a Lisboa! Welcome to Lisbon!

Players and officials from all over Europe have assembled here in Lisbon, one of the oldest cities in the world, to compete and work in the newest jewel in the European Bridge League's Crown, the European Mixed Teams Bridge Championship. Down the years Portugal has hosted many important competitions, including World & European Championships and this event adds a new chapter to an already glittering history. In less than a day, play will begin; this is your chance to relax and enjoy this marvellous City before you take your seats at the table.

We wish you all the best of fortune and echo the words of Pierre de Coubertin:

“ *The most important thing is not winning but taking part; the essential thing in life is not conquering but fighting well.* ”

### Captains Meeting

Thursday 21 February at 17:30 — Location: playing area (ground floor)

### Opening Ceremony

Thursday 21 February at 19:30 — Level -1 in the restaurant

## Welcome Message from the EBL President



Dear players, officials, staff and visitors,

On behalf of the EBL I am happy to welcome you all to the 1st European National Mixed Teams Championship in the beautiful city of Lisbon. This event came about in a somewhat unusual way. The WBF in 2018 decided to add a Mixed Teams category to its World National Teams Championships 2019, so the EBL had to figure out a way to determine which 8 NBOs would qualify from Zone 1. Voilà - a

new European Championship was born!

24 years after the championships in Vilamoura it is good to be back in Portugal again. Many people deserve credit for organising this event, but it would not have been possible without the enormous efforts of Inocêncio Araújo, the PBF President. Thank you my friend. We are also grateful for the support provided by the Municipality of Lisbon as well as the Instituto Português do Desporto e Juventude. Looking at the team rosters there are certainly many seasoned international champions taking part, and the competition is certain to be fierce. However, I am equally excited to see a lot of new names as far as their national teams are concerned, and even among the “veterans” there are many partnerships that have not played a lot together before. Both factors will add further spice and unpredictability to the event. Will partnership experience trump individual skills?

I wish you all a great tournament, played with impeccable ethics and respect for team-mates, opponents and staff alike. May the best team win.

*Jan Kamras*

## Welcome Message from the Portuguese Bridge Federation President



Dear players, officials, journalists and staff,

On behalf of the Portuguese Bridge Federation I welcome you to the 1st European Mixed Teams Championship, in this beautiful city of Lisbon.

After the 1970 European National Championships (Estoril), the 1993 Common Market Championships (Montechoro), the 1995 European National Championships (Vilamoura) and the 2005 World Teams Championships (Estoril), this is only the fifth international Bridge event hosted by Portugal.

I would like to thank the European Bridge League and its President Jan Kamras for affording us the opportunity of hosting and co-organizing this competition in Portugal. My thanks go also to the Portuguese Institute of Sports and Youth (IPDJ) and to the Municipality of Lisbon for their support of this event.

Despite being very busy, I hope you will have the time to spend some warm evenings in Lisbon, enjoying the hospitality, the food and the ambience.

I wish all players a worthy competition, driven by ethics, fair play and all other Sport values.

*Inocêncio Araújo*



# Programme & Schedule Of Play

## Thursday February 21

10:00 - 20:00 Mixed Teams registration  
 17:30 Captains' meeting  
 19:30 Opening Ceremony  
 Cocktail

## Friday February 22

10:00 - 11:40  
 12:10 - 13:50  
 14:50 - 16:30  
 17:00 - 18:40

## Saturday February 23

09:30 - 11:10  
 11:40 - 13:20  
 14:20 - 16:00  
 16:30 - 18:10  
 18:40 - 20:20

## Sunday February 24

10:00 - 11:40  
 12:10 - 13:50  
 14:50 - 16:30  
 17:00 - 18:40

## Monday February 25

10:00 - 11:40  
 12:10 - 13:50  
 14:50 - 16:30  
 17:00 - 18:40

## Tuesday February 26

10:00 - 11:40  
 12:10 - 13:50  
 14:50 - 16:30  
 17:00 - 18:40

## Wednesday February 27

10:00 - 11:40  
 12:10 - 13:50  
 14:50 - 16:30  
 17:00 - 18:40

## Thursday February 28

10:00 - 11:40  
 12:10 - 13:50  
 14:50 - 16:30  
 17:00 - 18:40  
 19:30 Prize-Giving & Closing  
 Ceremony - Cocktail

## Players' Contacts On Site

Championship Chairman  
 On-site Manager  
 Operations Director  
 Head Tournament Director  
 Reviewer  
 Hospitality Desk  
 Secretariat  
 Scoring  
 Daily Bulletin

Josef Harsanyi  
 Inocêncio Araújo  
 Maurizio Di Sacco  
 Antonio Riccardi  
 Eitan Levy  
 Gildana Caputo  
 Catherine Vitry  
 Fotis Skoularikis  
 Mark Horton



# Draw & BBO schedule Day 1

ROUND 1			
	AUSTRIA	vs	HUNGARY
	GREECE	vs	GERMANY
	SPAIN	vs	ESTONIA
	DENMARK	vs	SERBIA
	POLAND	vs	CZECH REP.
<b>BBO</b>	ICELAND	vs	IRELAND
	CROATIA	vs	NORWAY
	ISRAEL	vs	BULGARIA
<b>BBO</b>	ROMANIA	vs	PORTUGAL
	FRANCE	vs	NETHERLANDS
	FINLAND	vs	ITALY
	SCOTLAND	vs	SWEDEN
	TURKEY	vs	BELGIUM
	RUSSIA	vs	ENGLAND
	SWITZERLAND	vs	LATVIA

ROUND 2			
	AUSTRIA	vs	SCOTLAND
	BELGIUM	vs	ITALY
	ENGLAND	vs	NETHERLANDS
	SWITZERLAND	vs	PORTUGAL
	ISRAEL	vs	LATVIA
	NORWAY	vs	RUSSIA
	IRELAND	vs	TURKEY
<b>BBO</b>	SWEDEN	vs	CZECH REP.
	DENMARK	vs	FINLAND
	SPAIN	vs	FRANCE
	GREECE	vs	ROMANIA
	BULGARIA	vs	HUNGARY
	GERMANY	vs	CROATIA
<b>BBO</b>	ESTONIA	vs	ICELAND
	POLAND	vs	SERBIA

ROUND 3			
<b>BBO</b>	AUSTRIA	vs	ITALY
	SCOTLAND	vs	NETHERLANDS
	BELGIUM	vs	PORTUGAL
	ENGLAND	vs	ISRAEL
	NORWAY	vs	SWITZERLAND
	IRELAND	vs	LATVIA
	CZECH REP.	vs	RUSSIA
	TURKEY	vs	DENMARK
	SPAIN	vs	SWEDEN
	GREECE	vs	FINLAND
	HUNGARY	vs	FRANCE
<b>BBO</b>	ROMANIA	vs	GERMANY
	ESTONIA	vs	BULGARIA
	SERBIA	vs	CROATIA
	ICELAND	vs	POLAND

ROUND 4			
	AUSTRIA	vs	ISRAEL
	PORTUGAL	vs	NORWAY
	NETHERLANDS	vs	IRELAND
	ITALY	vs	CZECH REP.
<b>BBO</b>	DENMARK	vs	SCOTLAND
	SPAIN	vs	BELGIUM
	GREECE	vs	ENGLAND
	SWITZERLAND	vs	HUNGARY
	GERMANY	vs	LATVIA
<b>BBO</b>	ESTONIA	vs	RUSSIA
	SERBIA	vs	TURKEY
	SWEDEN	vs	POLAND
	ICELAND	vs	FINLAND
	CROATIA	vs	FRANCE
	ROMANIA	vs	BULGARIA



## Tourism in Lisbon

We recommend the following two links to find plenty of useful information about tourist trips in Lisbon:

[www.visitlisboa.com/plan/useful-information](http://www.visitlisboa.com/plan/useful-information)  
[www.agendax.pt/?lang=en](http://www.agendax.pt/?lang=en)



# Full Draw

ROUND 1		ROUND 2		ROUND 3		ROUND 4		ROUND 5	
Austria	Hungary	Austria	Scotland	Austria	Italy	Austria	Israel	Austria	Czech Rep
Greece	Germany	Belgium	Italy	Scotland	Netherlands	Portugal	Norway	Ireland	Denmark
Spain	Estonia	England	Netherlands	Belgium	Portugal	Netherlands	Ireland	Norway	Spain
Denmark	Serbia	Switzerland	Portugal	England	Israel	Italy	Czech Rep	Israel	Greece
Poland	Czech Rep	Israel	Latvia	Norway	Switzerland	Denmark	Scotland	Hungary	Portugal
Iceland	Ireland	Norway	Russia	Ireland	Latvia	Spain	Belgium	Germany	Netherlands
Croatia	Norway	Ireland	Turkey	Czech Rep	Russia	Greece	England	Estonia	Italy
Israel	Bulgaria	Sweden	Czech Rep	Turkey	Denmark	Switzerland	Hungary	Scotland	Serbia
Romania	Portugal	Denmark	Finland	Spain	Sweden	Germany	Latvia	Poland	Belgium
France	Netherlands	Spain	France	Greece	Finland	Estonia	Russia	Iceland	England
Finland	Italy	Greece	Romania	Hungary	France	Serbia	Turkey	Croatia	Switzerland
Scotland	Sweden	Bulgaria	Hungary	Romania	Germany	Sweden	Poland	Latvia	Bulgaria
Turkey	Belgium	Germany	Croatia	Estonia	Bulgaria	Iceland	Finland	Romania	Russia
Russia	England	Estonia	Iceland	Serbia	Croatia	Croatia	France	France	Turkey
Switzerland	Latvia	Poland	Serbia	Iceland	Poland	Romania	Bulgaria	Sweden	Finland
ROUND 6		ROUND 7		ROUND 8		ROUND 9		ROUND 10	
Austria	Latvia	Austria	Poland	Austria	Serbia	Austria	Belgium	Austria	Ireland
Russia	Switzerland	Serbia	Iceland	Estonia	Poland	England	Scotland	Norway	Czech Rep
Turkey	England	Estonia	Croatia	Germany	Iceland	Switzerland	Italy	Israel	Denmark
Sweden	Belgium	Germany	Bulgaria	Hungary	Croatia	Latvia	Netherlands	Portugal	Spain
Scotland	Finland	Romania	Hungary	Bulgaria	Greece	Portugal	Russia	Greece	Netherlands
Italy	France	France	Greece	Romania	Spain	Israel	Turkey	Hungary	Italy
Netherlands	Romania	Finland	Spain	France	Denmark	Norway	Sweden	Germany	Scotland
Bulgaria	Portugal	Denmark	Sweden	Czech Rep	Finland	Finland	Ireland	Belgium	Estonia
Israel	Croatia	Turkey	Czech Rep	Sweden	Ireland	Czech Rep	France	Serbia	England
Norway	Iceland	Russia	Ireland	Turkey	Norway	Denmark	Romania	Poland	Switzerland
Ireland	Poland	Latvia	Norway	Russia	Israel	Spain	Bulgaria	Iceland	Latvia
Serbia	Czech Rep	Israel	Switzerland	Portugal	Latvia	Croatia	Greece	Russia	Croatia
Denmark	Estonia	England	Portugal	Switzerland	Netherlands	Hungary	Iceland	Bulgaria	Turkey
Spain	Germany	Belgium	Netherlands	England	Italy	Germany	Poland	Romania	Sweden
Hungary	Greece	Italy	Scotland	Scotland	Belgium	Serbia	Estonia	Finland	France
ROUND 11		ROUND 12		ROUND 13		ROUND 14		ROUND 15	
Austria	Croatia	Austria	England	Austria	Germany	Austria	Spain	Austria	Netherlands
Iceland	Bulgaria	Switzerland	Belgium	Hungary	Estonia	Denmark	Greece	Italy	Portugal
Poland	Romania	Latvia	Scotland	Greece	Serbia	Czech Rep	Hungary	Scotland	Israel
Serbia	France	Russia	Italy	Spain	Poland	Ireland	Germany	Belgium	Norway
Finland	Estonia	Netherlands	Turkey	Iceland	Denmark	Estonia	Norway	Ireland	England
Sweden	Germany	Portugal	Sweden	Croatia	Czech Rep	Serbia	Israel	Czech Rep	Switzerland
Turkey	Hungary	Israel	Finland	Bulgaria	Ireland	Poland	Portugal	Denmark	Latvia
Greece	Russia	France	Norway	Norway	Romania	Netherlands	Iceland	Russia	Spain
Latvia	Spain	Ireland	Romania	France	Israel	Croatia	Italy	Greece	Turkey
Switzerland	Denmark	Czech Rep	Bulgaria	Finland	Portugal	Bulgaria	Scotland	Hungary	Sweden
England	Czech Rep	Denmark	Croatia	Sweden	Netherlands	Romania	Belgium	Germany	Finland
Ireland	Belgium	Iceland	Spain	Italy	Turkey	England	France	France	Estonia
Scotland	Norway	Greece	Poland	Russia	Scotland	Finland	Switzerland	Serbia	Romania
Italy	Israel	Hungary	Serbia	Latvia	Belgium	Sweden	Latvia	Poland	Bulgaria
Portugal	Netherlands	Estonia	Germany	England	Switzerland	Russia	Turkey	Croatia	Iceland
ROUND 16		ROUND 17		ROUND 18		ROUND 19		ROUND 20	
Austria	Estonia	Austria	France	Austria	Iceland	Austria	Portugal	Austria	Switzerland
Germany	Serbia	Romania	Finland	Poland	Croatia	Netherlands	Israel	Latvia	England
Hungary	Poland	Bulgaria	Sweden	Serbia	Bulgaria	Italy	Norway	Russia	Belgium
Greece	Iceland	Croatia	Turkey	Estonia	Romania	Scotland	Ireland	Turkey	Scotland
Croatia	Spain	Russia	Iceland	France	Germany	Czech Rep	Belgium	Italy	Sweden
Bulgaria	Denmark	Latvia	Poland	Finland	Hungary	Denmark	England	Netherlands	Finland
Romania	Czech Rep	Switzerland	Serbia	Sweden	Greece	Spain	Switzerland	Portugal	France
Ireland	France	Estonia	England	Spain	Turkey	Latvia	Greece	Romania	Israel
Finland	Norway	Belgium	Germany	Russia	Denmark	Hungary	Russia	Norway	Bulgaria
Sweden	Israel	Scotland	Hungary	Latvia	Czech Rep	Germany	Turkey	Ireland	Croatia
Turkey	Portugal	Italy	Greece	Switzerland	Ireland	Estonia	Sweden	Czech Rep	Iceland
Netherlands	Russia	Spain	Netherlands	Norway	England	Finland	Serbia	Poland	Denmark
Latvia	Italy	Portugal	Denmark	Belgium	Israel	Poland	France	Spain	Serbia
Switzerland	Scotland	Israel	Czech Rep	Scotland	Portugal	Iceland	Romania	Greece	Estonia
Belgium	England	Ireland	Norway	Netherlands	Italy	Bulgaria	Croatia	Germany	Hungary



ROUND 21		ROUND 22		ROUND 23		ROUND 24		ROUND 25	
Austria	Greece	Austria	Sweden	Austria	Romania	Austria	Russia	Austria	Norway
Spain	Hungary	Finland	Turkey	Bulgaria	France	Turkey	Latvia	Israel	Ireland
Denmark	Germany	France	Russia	Croatia	Finland	Sweden	Switzerland	Portugal	Czech Rep
Czech Rep	Estonia	Romania	Latvia	Iceland	Sweden	Finland	England	Netherlands	Denmark
Serbia	Ireland	Switzerland	Bulgaria	Turkey	Poland	Belgium	France	Spain	Italy
Poland	Norway	England	Croatia	Russia	Serbia	Scotland	Romania	Greece	Scotland
Iceland	Israel	Belgium	Iceland	Latvia	Estonia	Italy	Bulgaria	Hungary	Belgium
Portugal	Croatia	Poland	Scotland	Germany	Switzerland	Croatia	Netherlands	England	Germany
Bulgaria	Netherlands	Italy	Serbia	England	Hungary	Portugal	Iceland	Estonia	Switzerland
Romania	Italy	Netherlands	Estonia	Belgium	Greece	Israel	Poland	Serbia	Latvia
France	Scotland	Portugal	Germany	Scotland	Spain	Norway	Serbia	Poland	Russia
Belgium	Finland	Hungary	Israel	Denmark	Italy	Estonia	Ireland	Turkey	Iceland
Sweden	England	Norway	Greece	Netherlands	Czech Rep	Czech Rep	Germany	Croatia	Sweden
Turkey	Switzerland	Ireland	Spain	Portugal	Ireland	Denmark	Hungary	Bulgaria	Finland
Latvia	Russia	Denmark	Czech Rep	Norway	Israel	Greece	Spain	France	Romania

ROUND 26		ROUND 27		ROUND 28		ROUND 29	
Austria	Bulgaria	Austria	Denmark	Austria	Turkey	Austria	Finland
Croatia	Romania	Czech Rep	Spain	Sweden	Russia	France	Sweden
Iceland	France	Ireland	Greece	Finland	Latvia	Romania	Turkey
Poland	Finland	Norway	Hungary	France	Switzerland	Bulgaria	Russia
Sweden	Serbia	Germany	Israel	England	Romania	Latvia	Croatia
Turkey	Estonia	Estonia	Portugal	Belgium	Bulgaria	Switzerland	Iceland
Russia	Germany	Serbia	Netherlands	Scotland	Croatia	England	Poland
Hungary	Latvia	Italy	Poland	Iceland	Italy	Serbia	Belgium
Switzerland	Greece	Iceland	Scotland	Netherlands	Poland	Scotland	Estonia
England	Spain	Croatia	Belgium	Portugal	Serbia	Italy	Germany
Belgium	Denmark	Bulgaria	England	Israel	Estonia	Netherlands	Hungary
Czech Rep	Scotland	Switzerland	Romania	Germany	Norway	Greece	Portugal
Italy	Ireland	France	Latvia	Ireland	Hungary	Israel	Spain
Netherlands	Norway	Finland	Russia	Czech Rep	Greece	Norway	Denmark
Israel	Portugal	Turkey	Sweden	Spain	Denmark	Czech Rep	Ireland

# European Masterpoint Awards

EMPs will be awarded according to the following scale:

1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th
100	80	60	30	27	24	21	18	12	11	10	9

13th	14th	15th	16th	17th	18th	19th	20th	21th	22th	23th	24th
8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	1	1	1	1

25th	26th	27th	28th	29th	30th
1	1	1	1	1	1

To qualify for EMP awards a player must have played at least one third of the boards. The first 8 NBOs in the final ranking will have the right to participate in the World Mixed Team Championships in Wuhan, China in September 2019.

# Important Notes for Players and Captains

These notes are for the convenience of players and captains. They do not substitute for the obligation to know and follow all Conditions, Regulations and Policies of the EBL covering this event.

## GENERAL

Smoking and the consumption of alcoholic beverages is prohibited in the playing rooms, the areas surrounding them and the toilets. Automatic VP penalties apply to offenders.

Mobile phones and electronic devices capable of communication must be switched off in the playing area and be visible at the table at all times. Automatic VP penalties apply to offenders.

For security reasons all participants must visibly wear their badges at the playing venue.

Players should be seated 5 minutes before the scheduled start of play. Any team not seated and ready to play at the start of a period of play will be subject to VP penalties.

Players and NPCs may converse only in English unless both captains agree to use some other common language at their own risk. In any case TD adjudications will be in English only.

During the match players should avoid discussions or arguments with partner or opponents. In case of a dispute a player's proper recourse is to the TD or the Captain of the team.

## BIDDING, ALERTS AND EXPLANATIONS

It is the responsibility of the alerting player to ensure that his screen-mate is aware of the Alert. Requests for explanations, and the responses thereto, shall be made in writing.

A player's first call should touch the extreme left of his own segment of the bidding tray, with subsequent calls overlapping neatly and evenly to the right.

Only Dummy or Declarer may remove the bidding tray from the table, and only Dummy or Declarer may put the board back in the centre of the table.

## DURING AND AFTER PLAY

Only Declarer or Dummy may open the aperture or call for it to be opened.

Each card should be played in a consistent manner and placed in the same position each time. Once played, the player may not vary the orientation of the card.

Quitted tricks should be placed consistently in a neat row in front of the player, evenly overlapping and at an equal distance from the previous card.

If a player finds an opponent not following any of these rules, even after a warning, the proper recourse is to call a TD.

Players are strictly forbidden to watch play at any other table.

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 a review of a ruling already received, ends 30 minutes after the end of the match.



# The Golden Tickets



Written by **Mark Horton**

30 teams are in Lisbon, competing for the title of European Mixed Team Champions. That will earn them (and seven others)

the right to represent Europe in the World Mixed Teams Championship in China later this year. Who do you think will earn one of these golden tickets?

It is not easy to predict in a contest where so many of the players are World, European and National champions while others are taking their first steps on a major stage and may prove to be stars of the future.

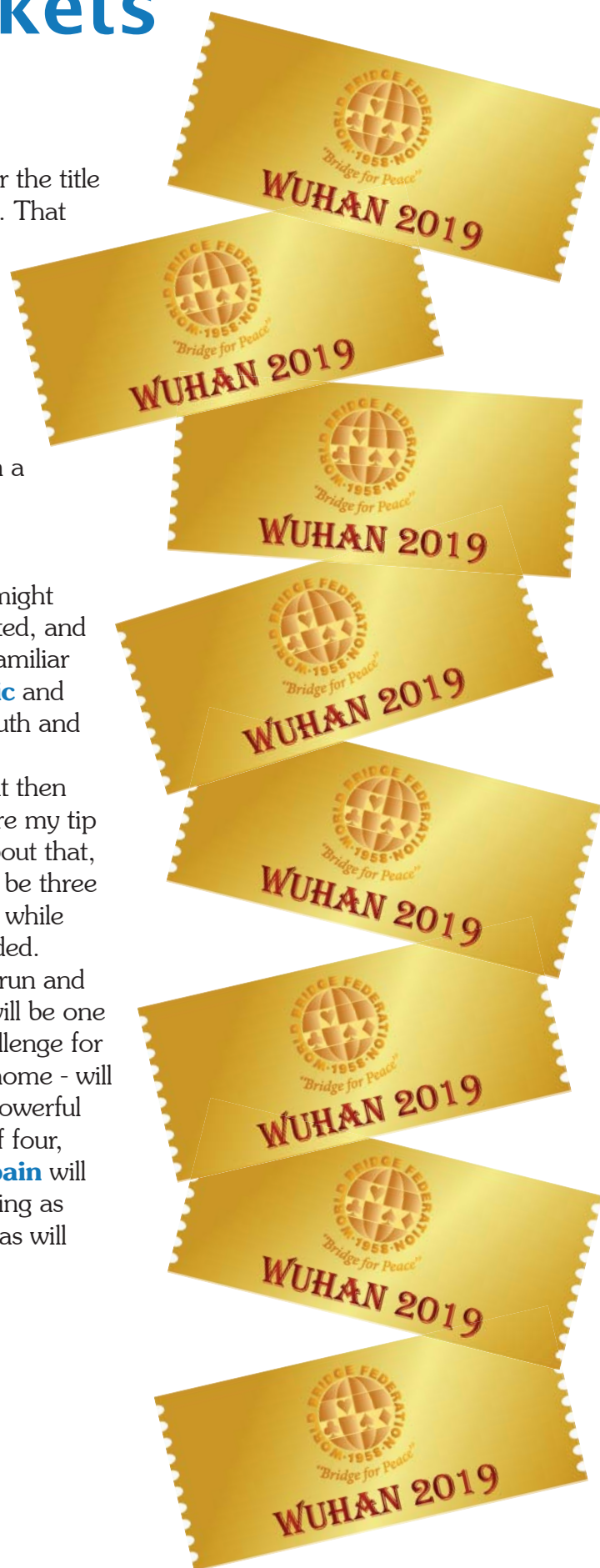
**Austria** has an experienced squad and should be in contention. **Belgium** is playing five-handed, which might affect their chances. **Bulgaria** can never be discounted, and **Croatia** include two World Champions. There are familiar names in the team representing the **Czech Republic** and **Denmark**, while **England's** team is a mixture of youth and experience, and will be one of the favourites.

**Estonia** is an unknown quantity, as are **Finland**, but then we come to **France**, who will certainly qualify and are my tip for the title. **Germany** will have something to say about that, while **Greece**, **Hungary** and **Iceland** may prove to be three of the 'dark horses'. **Ireland** might spring a surprise, while **Israel** has made the brave decision to play four-handed.

**Italy** will be in the mix, **Latvia** will hope for a good run and **Netherlands** are sure to be competitive. **Norway** will be one of Scandinavia's hopes, while **Poland** will surely challenge for a medal. **Portugal** has the advantage of playing at home - will that be enough? Watch out for **Romania**, and the powerful **Russian** team. **Scotland** and **Serbia** both teams of four, which may be a challenge in such a strong event. **Spain** will have high hopes, as will **Sweden**, who are also playing as a foursome. **Switzerland** will be hoping to do well, as will **Turkey**, who play host later in the year in Istanbul.

My qualifiers (in no particular order):

Germany  
England  
France  
Bulgaria  
Netherlands  
Russia  
Sweden  
Poland





# Team Rosters

 <b>AUSTRIA</b> Kurt Feichtinger Iris Grumm Arno Lindermann Sylvia Terraneo Terry Weigkricht Franz Terraneo (pc) Arno Lindermann (coach)	 <b>BELGIUM</b> Valerie C.-Labaere Bernard Dehaye Isabelle Dewasme Alain Labaere Philippe Caputo (pc)	 <b>BULGARIA</b> Diana Damianova Georgi Karakolev Miriana Mitovska Ivan Nanev Marta Nikolova Victor Aronov	 <b>CROATIA</b> Goran Borevkovic Tihana Brkljacic Mate Mestric Marina Pilipovic Nikica Sver Vedran Zoric	 <b>CZECH REPUBLIC</b> Daniela Hnatova Lucie Kohutova Karolina Kopecka Martin Schanka David Vozabal Milan Macura (pc)
 <b>DENMARK</b> Johan Hammelev Jens Ove Henneberg Marlene Henneberg Camilla Bo Krefeld Dorte Schaltz Peter Schaltz Bo Loenber Bilde (npc) Lone Bilde (coach)	 <b>ENGLAND</b> Sally Brock Fiona Brown Michael Byrne Frances Hinden Barry Myers Graham Osborne Jeffrey Allerton (npc)	 <b>ESTONIA</b> Indrek Kuusk Pihel Kuusk Lauri Naber Hendrik Nigul Maarja Oras Irene Teinemaa Andras Honyek (npc) Aire Taube (npc)	 <b>FINLAND</b> Pia Erkkila Arttu Karhulahti Sanna Kittti Mika Salomaa Raija Tuomi Pekka Viitasalo (pc)	 <b>FRANCE</b> Thomas Bessis Benedicte Cronier Philippe Cronier Nathalie Frey Daniele Gaviard Frederic Volcker Jerome Rombaut (npc)
 <b>GERMANY</b> Sabine Auken Anne Gladiator Michael Gromoeller Roland Rohowsky Daniela Von Arnim Roy Welland Julius Linde (npc)	 <b>GREECE</b> Anna Kaliakmani Georgios Liossis Yankos Papakyriakopoulos Diana Stellakis Vassilis Vroustis Christina Syrakopoulou (pc)	 <b>HUNGARY</b> Gyula Bodis Daniel Gulyas Zsuzsa Kerekes Hanka Lajos Villo Szucs Andras Honyek (pc) Sandor Varga (coach)	 <b>ICELAND</b> Adalsteinn Jorgensen Svala Palsdottir Gunnlaugur Scvarsson Bryndis Thorsteinsdottir Rafn Thorarensen (npc)	 <b>IRELAND</b> Cian Holland Gay Keaveney Heidi Lillis Michael Mcgloughlin Anna Onishchuk Teresa Rigney Paul Porteous (npc)
 <b>ISRAEL</b> Oren Lidor Ilana Loonstein Rejan Molho Joseph Engel (pc)	 <b>ITALY</b> Dario Attanasio Margherita Chavarria K. Alessandro Gandoglia Gabriella Manara Paolo Uggeri Marilina Vanuzzi Francesco Ferlazzo Natoli (npc)	 <b>LATVIA</b> Jelena Alfejeva Martins Lorencs Maija Romanovska Karlis Rubins (pc) Martins Lorencs (coach)	 <b>NETHERLANDS</b> Onno Janssens Elly Schippers-Bosklopper Rene Stienen Janine Van Ipenburg Bep Vriend Anton Maas (pc)	 <b>NORWAY</b> Christian Bakke Finn Brandsnes Marianne Harding Stine Holmoy Odin Svendsen Maja Rom Anjer (pc)
 <b>POLAND</b> Danuta Kazmucha Anna Samiak Piotr Tuszyński Piotr Zatorski Przemyslaw Zawada Justyna Zmuda Mirosław Cichocki (npc) Lena Leszczynska (coach)	 <b>PORTUGAL</b> Billie Antunes Ana De Magalhaes Pereira Nuno Paz Paulo Goncalves Pereira Sofia Pessoa Rui Silva Santos Jose Moraes (npc, coach)	 <b>ROMANIA</b> Mihaela Balint Marius Ionita Bogdan Marina Geta Mihai Radu Mihai Marina Stegaroiu Ionut Coldea (npc) Bogdan Marina (coach)	 <b>RUSSIA</b> Tatiana Dikhnova Alexander Dubinin Andrey Gromov Anna Gulevich Mikhail Krasnosselski Tatiana Ponomareva	 <b>SCOTLAND</b> Stephen Peterkin Sam Punch Brian Short Anne Symons Andrew Symons (npc)
 <b>SERBIA</b> Branislav Djuricic Darko Parezanin Selena Pepic Jovana Zoranovic	 <b>SPAIN</b> Cristina Bordallo Cortina Pedro Goncalves Maria Luisa Matut Maria Panadero Joao Passarinho Gerardo Wichmann Luis Oliveira (npc) Anabella Oliveira (coach)	 <b>SWEDEN</b> Sanna Clementsson Simon Ekenberg Ida Gronkvist Mikael Gronkvist (pc)	 <b>SWITZERLAND</b> Christian Catzefflis Hedy Grey Irene Saesseli Christine Vincent Gojko Zivkovic Bachar Abou Chanab (pc)	 <b>TURKEY</b> Maisy Aluf Tuna Aluf Okay Gur Namik Kokten Basak Kutuk Suleyman Kolata (pc)

# The Final of the French Mixed Teams Trials



Martin Cantor reports on one of the trials for last month's European Mixed Teams Championship

I commentated on BBO on the last two sessions of the Fédération Française de Bridge's Trials for the European Mixed Teams Championships, to be held in Lisbon in February 2019. At the start of the fifth of six sets of 16 boards the Rolland team (Sabine Rolland, Nicolas Lhuissier, Marlene Duguet, Michel Duguet, Sophie Dauvergne, Lionel Sebbane) led the Cronier team (Bénédicte Cronier, Danièle Gaviard, Thomas Bessis, Philippe Cronier, Frédéric Volcker, Nathalie Frey) by 113-106.

This hand in the fifth set posed a tough problem for Nathalie Frey as declarer

Board 11. Dealer South. None Vul.

♠ A 7 2 ♥ 9 7 2 ♦ K 7 ♣ K Q 6 5 4		♠ J 10 9 6 ♥ A 8 3 ♦ J 4 ♣ A 9 7 3	♠ Q 4 3 ♥ 10 5 ♦ A 10 8 6 3 ♣ 10 8 2
♠ K 8 5 ♥ K Q J 6 4 ♦ Q 9 5 2 ♣ J			

West	North	East	South
Marlene	Volcker	Michel	Frey
—	—	—	1♥
Pass	3♦*	Pass	4♥
All Pass			

The 3♦ bid was presumably some sort of mixed or invitational heart raise, and Nathalie bid the game on thin values, not makeable on best defence. West led the ♣K to dummy's ace, and the ♠6 went to the 3, 8 and ace. A small club was ruffed in hand to lead the ♦2. West gave this some thought but made the potentially fatal mistake of going in with the king. She led another club, ruffed again, and now it was declarer's turn to think, needing all the tricks bar one in this position.

♠ 7 2 ♥ 9 7 2 ♦ 7 ♣ Q 6		♠ J 10 9 ♥ A 8 3 ♦ J ♣ 9	♠ Q 4 ♥ 10 5 ♦ A 10 8 6 ♣ —
♠ K 5 ♥ K Q J ♦ Q 9 5 ♣ —			

While there is only one obvious loser in the ace of diamonds, there aren't the entries to dummy to both finesse in spades and then enjoy the long one. Not to mention the small but important matter of drawing trumps. But GIB said the contract could be made, and with the benefit of the sight of all four hands I spotted the answer. It seemed that declarer had too, as she drew trumps ending in dummy (East discarding a diamond) and led a spade, East ducking. The winning line, as you can see, is to play another spade then exit with a diamond to the jack, endplaying East to lead into the diamond tenace. But declarer played for East having started with 4-4 in spades and diamonds, so she exited the diamond jack without a third round of spades. One down, -50. In the other room Thomas Bessis in West reopened 3♣ after 1♥ - 2♥, got doubled, and went 2 down for -300 and 8 IMPs to team Rolland instead of 3 to Cronier if 4♥ had made. Should Frey have got the endgame position right? I think probably yes, based on two clues. Firstly Michel Duguet's ♠3 on the first round suggesting an odd number, and while opponents do sometimes false-card, they do it less in the early rounds of play when it is important to help partner get a picture of the hand. And secondly Marlene Duguet rising with the ♦K is more consistent with a holding of Kx than Kxx. Small indicators, no certainties.

As we entered the final set the score was 154-123 to Rolland, a useful but by no means emphatic lead. After a further 8 boards Rolland still led, now by just 10 IMPs, when the decisive deal arrived.



Board 25. Dealer North. EW Vul.

<p>♠ K Q 6 5 4 2</p> <p>♥ 6 5</p> <p>♦ K 6 2</p> <p>♣ 10 5</p>		<p>♠ —</p> <p>♥ Q 10 9</p> <p>♦ J 7 4 3</p> <p>♣ A K Q 6 4 3</p>	<p>♠ J 10 9 7</p> <p>♥ A K 4</p> <p>♦ A Q 8</p> <p>♣ J 7 2</p>
<p>♠ A 8 3</p> <p>♥ J 8 7 3 2</p> <p>♦ 10 9 5</p> <p>♣ 9 8</p>			

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Dauvergne</i>	<i>Philippe</i>	<i>Sebbane</i>	<i>Bénédicte</i>
—	3♠	Pass	4♠
All Pass			

Philippe Cronier found an aggressive pre-empt at favourable vulnerability, Lionel Sebbane surprisingly passed (see below) and Bénédicte Cronier did well to raise to 4♠, else Dauvergne would surely have bid 3NT. And that was enough to shut the opponents out, when 4NT makes EW, as does 6♣ which was the successful contract in the other room after this auction:

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Bessis T</i>	<i>Rolland</i>	<i>Gaviard</i>	<i>L'Huissier</i>
—	2♦*	3♣	3♠*
Double	Pass	4♣	Pass
6♣	All Pass		
2♦	Multi		
3♠	Pass or correct		

6♣ made easily for 1370 while 4♠ went 4 off for -200, a 15 IMP swing to Cronier, taking the lead for the first time for a long time. I don't know whether EW were playing non-leaping Michaels, where a 4♣ bid by Sebbane would have shown a game forcing club-heart two-suiter, but I can't think of any other good reason not to overcall 4♣, even vulnerable against not. And if 4♣ is ruled out by your system, I think you need to double. This hand certainly exemplifies that old bridge adage, oft espoused by Bobby Wolff, that it might be dangerous to bid, but it can be equally dangerous to pass. Not to mention that other old adage: pre-empts work. So all credit to the Croniers for the aggressive pre-empt and raise, also to Bessis-Gaviard for bidding the slam in

a crowded auction.

Trials need to test not just bridge technique, but also other attributes like stamina and resilience. I don't know whether the psychological blow of letting 4♠ play undoubled on board 25 had any effect, but on the very next board the Cronier team again outbid their opponents to gain a further 9 IMPs:

Board 26. Dealer East. All Vul.

<p>♠ J 7</p> <p>♥ 10 7 5 4</p> <p>♦ K J 4 3 2</p> <p>♣ A 4</p>		<p>♠ A 8 6 5</p> <p>♥ 9 8 6 3</p> <p>♦ 10</p> <p>♣ 10 9 8 3</p>	<p>♠ Q 2</p> <p>♥ Q J 2</p> <p>♦ Q 5</p> <p>♣ K Q J 6 5 2</p>
<p>♠ K 10 9 4 3</p> <p>♥ A K</p> <p>♦ A 9 8 7 6</p> <p>♣ 7</p>			

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Dauvergne</i>	<i>Philippe</i>	<i>Sebbane</i>	<i>Bénédicte</i>
—	—	Pass	1♠
2♣	Double	4♣	4♦
Pass	5♣	Pass	5♦
All Pass			

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Bessis T</i>	<i>Rolland</i>	<i>Gaviard</i>	<i>L'Huissier</i>
—	—	Pass	1♠
2♣	Double	3♣	3♦
Pass		Pass	4♣
All Pass			

5♦ made for +600 while 4♣ was 2 down and -200, a further 9 IMPs to Cronier, now leading by 14 with six boards to play.

Board 29 was possibly the slowest played board I have ever watched on BBO - at 27 minutes certainly the longest I have ever commented on. Fortunately I had now been joined by four other commentators, from Denmark, France, Switzerland and USA, so as the advantage swung back and forth between declarer and defenders there were enough points of interest and enough of us to keep the comments flowing.



Board 29. Dealer North. All Vul.

<p>♠ A Q 7 4 ♥ K 10 3 2 ♦ 8 2 ♣ Q 9 8</p> <p>♠ K 10 9 6 5 ♥ A 7 ♦ Q J 6 4 ♣ 10 4</p>		<p>♠ 3 2 ♥ J 5 4 ♦ K 7 5 3 ♣ K J 7 6</p>	<p>♠ J 8 ♥ Q 9 8 6 ♦ A 10 9 ♣ A 5 3 2</p>
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Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Dauvergne</i>	<i>Philippe</i>	<i>Sebbane</i>	<i>Bénédicte</i>
—	1♣	Pass	1♥
1♠	2♥	Pass	4♥
All Pass			

Another vulnerable game bid, confidently, on wafer thin values. Despite the lack of values the only lead to ensure defeat is the trump ace. After some thought Dauvergne quite reasonably led the ♦Q, handing the initiative to declarer who ducked but took the subsequent ♦J with the ace. Bénédicte now went into the first of a series of long thinks, during which we commentators were still trying to find the winning line. It was Roland Wald of Denmark who found it, not easy to see at double dummy, and so extremely hard to find at single dummy. After taking the diamond ace you have to take the intra-finesse in clubs, leading low to the 8, so that you can subsequently run the queen to pin West's 10. Declarer chose the ♠8, finessing the queen, and putting the defence back in control. Next came a heart to the 4, 8 and ace, and now it was Sophie's turn to go into the tank. At this point any red card keeps the defence on top, any black card allows declarer to make.

By now the other room had finished this board and we could see that West there had made 2♦ after an unopposed auction of 1♠ - 1NT - 2♦, for +90. Meaning that if Cronier made this contract they would gain 12 IMPs and lead by 26 with just three boards to play - not quite

home and dry, but very nearly. And one down here would be a flat board, leaving them still in a strong but by no means unassailable position.

Eventually Dauvergne led the spade king to dummy's ace - advantage declarer. We could see that if declarer now ruffed a spade to hand the club intra-finesse would again lead to success. Cronier, without sight of all four hands, took a further five minutes or so trying to analyse the position, and led ..... a heart to the nine - advantage defence. Now she made the club play of small to the 8, but too late as the timing no longer works. Winning the ♣J Lionel quickly found the killing return of the ♥J, and when declarer took this with the queen in hand she ended up two down for -200 and 3 IMPs to Rolland.

I have made much of the time taken on this hand, but this is no criticism. I made the point in my BBO commentary that all the players were absolutely right to take as much time as necessary on a complex and potentially decisive hand, especially towards the end of a long and gruelling event. And that another of the important attributes of champions is the ability to resist the pressure of the clock at key moments.

That was the last swing in the match, and as champions so often seem to do, team Cronier had come from behind to win 172-161. Congratulations to them, and commiserations to the losers, who led for so long, but can maybe take some small comfort in the knowledge that they have prepared their compatriots for the tough matches they will face in Lisbon.



Frédéric Volcker,  
Nathalie Frey,  
Bénédicte Cronier,  
Philippe Cronier,  
Thomas Bessis,  
Danièle Gaviard



# “If you Keep Bridge Alive, it will do the same for you.”<sup>1</sup>



The University of Stirling in Scotland has launched the global ‘Keep Bridge Alive’ CrowdFund campaign (running until 31 March) to communicate messages about the benefits of bridge beyond the bridge world. The key goals of this project are to transform the image of bridge, to increase participation and enhance the sustainability of the mind sport.

*‘Razor-sharp thinking. Intriguing psychology. Social powerhouse. Complete digital detox. Just 52 cards.’ –*

*Sabine Auken, Bridge Player for Germany*

Today, fewer people are playing bridge and there is a fear within the bridge community that the game will struggle if we don’t recruit a new generation of players. Players know that bridge as a mind sport encourages immersion whilst promoting focus and clear thinking, enabling skill development and intergenerational community building. Part of the Keep Bridge Alive campaign, led by Samantha Punch (sociologist and bridge player for Scotland) is to establish the new Sociology of Bridge to explore the benefits and interactions within the mind sport.

*‘Bridge is candy for the mind. Young people need social interaction away from their computers and a game like Bridge could fill that role.’*

*Mitch Dunitz, ACBL Educational Foundation*

## What is the Sociology of Bridge?

Sociology is a way of exploring and understanding how society works. So the sociology of bridge is about understanding how the bridge world works: what motivates players, opportunities for developing life skills and the dynamics of the game. By doing research which highlights the benefits and skills of bridge, we can develop an evidence base to persuade governments and employers to consider investing in getting more bridge into schools, universities, and local communities.

*‘Better understanding of the sociological and educational aspects of bridge, through evidence-based scientific research, will greatly enhance the development of our sport to the ultimate benefit of society.’*

*Jan Kamras, EBL President*

(EBL has donated 6000 euros to the KBA campaign, which builds on research partly funded by the WBF and EBED, but more work needs to be done over the next year to complete the project).

## How Can You Help?

We need individual players, bridge clubs and organisations to join us by donating to the Keep Bridge Alive campaign so we can publicise and promote bridge more widely. We would also be delighted to hear from you if you have research ideas, expertise or even time to support the campaign. Please contact Sam at [s.v.punch@stir.ac.uk](mailto:s.v.punch@stir.ac.uk)

The money raised will go towards funding two part-time researchers to work with Sam to develop innovative and collaborative approaches to attract new players (including targeted resources aimed at children, young people, families as well as policy-makers, employers and teachers). Keep Bridge Alive is about taking action to share best practice, pool resources and develop an evidence-base to re-brand and grow the bridge world. This as an excellent opportunity to do something different and create momentum for change within the bridge community.

Ultimately we aim to launch a global collaborative research project focussing on the benefits that bridge contributes to health and well-being, leading to the long-term sustainability of this endlessly fascinating mind sport. Please consider joining us in donating to Keep Bridge Alive.

<https://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/u5c0e5e7810869>

(note that online you pay in pounds sterling but your credit card will be charged in your national currency, – for example £20 is 23 euros – many thanks!)

<sup>1</sup> Thanks to David Burn for the KBA strapline!



## 9th European Open Championships

15 – 29 June 2019 – Save the dates for Turkish Delight!

Situated in the seafront 5 star Green Park Hotel & Convention Center in Pendik, a secure residential suburb on the outskirts of Istanbul, these championships will give you an opportunity to play bridge in an excellent fully air-conditioned venue against top class opponents from around the globe.

- In an ancient city that has become one of the most advanced in this part of the world, you can join the many visitors to take in the wonderful sights of Istanbul that we have seen in so many films – for example Topkapi Palace, Basilica Cistern, Aya Sofya, Grand Bazaar.
- Ample opportunities to enjoy international and Turkish cuisine in nearby restaurants suitable for every budget
- You can boost your well-being by availing of the opportunity to have a Turkish bath and massage where they were first developed.

All you need to do is

- visit the microsite for the Championships on the following [Link](#)
  - for the specific playing schedule, where all events are transnational – 7 days of Mixed Teams & Pairs followed by 8 days of Open, Women and Senior Teams and Pairs; By popular request, Mixed and Open Team Knockouts will start from the round of 32  
Guaranteed play every day for the duration for a new entry fee structure with opportunities to save on a weekly package deal
  - Special rates for early birds
  - **for substantially reduced entry fees for Women's and Seniors' events**

[Click here for Entry fees information](#)

- Book your flight to the nearest international airport in Istanbul, Sabiha Gökçen (SAW), just 15 minutes away
- Reserve your accommodation at the venue hotel (500+ rooms at very attractive rates) or one of the many local excellent hotels of various categories linked to Prowin, the Turkish Bridge Federation accommodation liaison at [Link](#)