

## EUROPEAN BRIDGE LEAGUE

Yves Aubry  
President

To The Presidents of the EBL NBOs  
Cc EBL Executive Committee

17th November 2017

**54<sup>th</sup> EUROPEAN BRIDGE TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS**  
**Kursaal – Ostend/Belgium**  
**Organised by the European Bridge League**  
**In cooperation with the Royal Belgian Bridge Federation**

Dear Presidents, dear Friends,

I am very pleased to confirm that the 54<sup>th</sup> European Bridge Team Championships will be held at  
**Kursaal Oostende (Sea Promenade)**  
**6<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> June 2018**

### Format of the Championships

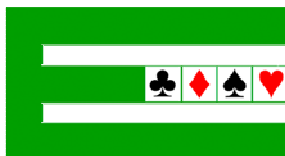
The Team Championships consist of 3 Series: Open, Women and Seniors.

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 11 days, and the Women's Championship and Seniors Championship will be played over 7 days.

For the Women and Seniors National Pairs, It is anticipated that each 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 may be changed according to the final registration of participants.

### Timetable

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| • Open Teams registration                     | Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> June 10:00 – 20:00                       |
| • Women & Seniors Pairs registration          |  |
| • Open Teams Captains meeting                 | Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> June at 17:30                            |
| • <i>Women &amp; Seniors National Pairs</i>   | <i>Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> to Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> June</i>  |
| • <b>Open Teams round-robin</b>               | <b>Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> to Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> June</b> |
| • EBL General Assembly                        | Saturday 9 <sup>th</sup> at 10:00                                |
| • Women & Seniors Teams registration          | Saturday 9 <sup>th</sup> June 10:00-20:00                        |
| • Women/Seniors Captains meeting              | Saturday 9 <sup>th</sup> June at 17:30                           |
| • Pairs Prize-Giving & Teams Opening Ceremony | Saturday 9 <sup>th</sup> June at 19:30                           |
| • <b>Women's Teams round-robin</b>            | <b>Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> to Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> June</b>   |
| • <b>Seniors' Teams round-robin</b>           | <b>Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> to Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> June</b>   |
| • Prize-Giving & Closing Ceremony             | Saturday 16 <sup>th</sup> June at 19:00                          |



### **Registration of Teams**

All entries to the Championships tournaments **must be submitted electronically, via the EBL website -available at the beginning of December- (not by email) at**

<http://db.eurobridge.org/repository/competitions/18Ostend/microsite/participants.asp>

- *Deadline is 25<sup>th</sup> April 2018* (It is very important to **respect this deadline**).

### **Registration of Players' names**

Registration of players' and NBO Delegation members' names **must be sent by 25<sup>th</sup> April 2018 via the EBL website (not by email) at**

<http://db.eurobridge.org/repository/competitions/18Ostend/microsite/participants.asp>

### **Right to enter**

Each member NBO, being up to date with the payment of its annual dues (including the 2018 dues) to the E.B.L. is authorised to enter one team in the Open Series, one team in the Women's Series and one team in the Seniors' Series of the Championships. Countries must have paid the entry fee and be up to date with the payment of the dues to the EBL before they can participate in the Championships.

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

Every proposed player must, along with other criteria, satisfy the EBL Eligibility rules and each team composition submitted by a NBO will be examined by the Credentials Committee.

To participate in the Seniors Series a player must have been born in **1957 or earlier**.

### **Competitor's Commitment form**

Attention is drawn to Article 2.8 of the EBL GCoC. Players, Captains, Coaches and other Team Officials in Teams Championships are required to have signed the EBL Competitor's Commitment Form (see GCoC Appendix 2) before the start of the event.

### **Entry Fees**

The entry fees are € 3,500 for the Open and € 3,250 for the Women & Senior Teams. A discount will be given to NBOs who did not participate in any of the last three EBL Team Championships held in Dublin 2012, Opatija 2014 and Budapest 2016: for these teams the entry fees are € 2,500 for the Open and € 2,000 for the Women & Senior Teams.



The entry fees must be paid by Bank Transfer **before or on 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2018** 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

### **Rules & Regulations – Systems Policy**

The Rules & Regulations, including the Anti-doping Regulation, the Eligibility Code, the Code of Discipline, and the Dress Code will be published, together with the Systems Policy, on the EBL website.

### **TUE**

TUE forms can be downloaded at

<http://www.worldbridge.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/tueapplicationform/doc>

*Note: Any players requiring exemption certificates should ensure that the Therapeutic Use Exemptions (TUE) Application Form is fully completed, together with the necessary supporting documents (see what is required at [www.wada-ama.org/en/science-medical](http://www.wada-ama.org/en/science-medical) ) and return it to the address given on the document as soon as possible and **no later than 30 days before the commencement of the competition in which you are participating**. It is acceptable to scan and email the TUE form and documentation.*

### **Systems Registration**

Competitors should make use of the Guide to Completion of WBF System Cards when completing their system cards.

<http://www.worldbridge.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/04/Guidetocompletion.pdf>

Systems in all the series have to be registered with the European Bridge League Systems Administrator **by 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2018** at

[anna@ecats.co.uk](mailto:anna@ecats.co.uk)

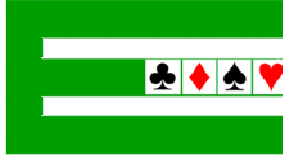
### **Hotel accommodation**

Thanks to the Royal Belgian Bridge Federation, we have arranged special rates with the hotels in Ostend (2 documents attached).

To book your hotel, please contact:

Ostend Tourism Office

Brigitte Boddin at [b.boddin@toerisme-oostende.be](mailto:b.boddin@toerisme-oostende.be) or Tel: +32(0)59.29.53.35



### **EBL General Assembly**

The General Assembly of the European Bridge League will be held on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> June at 10:00.  
The main points are:

1. Hearing and approving the report of the EBL President;
2. Examining the budget for the next two years;
3. Approving the Balance Sheet and Accounts for the two years following the last Ordinary General Assembly and hearing the Auditors' report;
4. Fixing membership dues and other fees.
5. Electing the EBL President
6. Electing the 12 members of the Executive Committee

### **Further Information**

For any additional information please contact:

Catherine Vitry - EBL Secretariat  
[secretariat@europeanbridge.org](mailto:secretariat@europeanbridge.org)

I do very much hope your Federation will be able to attend the 54<sup>th</sup> European Bridge Team Championships and I look forward to seeing you and your teams in Ostend, where I am confident we will again enjoy a great event.

Sincerely yours,

Yves Aubry