

# **Contract Bridge Association of Ireland**

## **Lady Milne Trophy Trials 2011/2012**

### **Preliminary Information**

1. The Lady Milne Trophy competition will involve matches against England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland to be played over the weekend of 13 – 15 April 2012 in Wales.

#### **2. TRIALS**

(a) Entries are invited from pairs who are interested in representing Ireland in this event.

(b) Pairs trials with Cross IMPs scoring (subject to a minimum field of 10 pairs) will be held on **18 – 20 and 25 – 27 November 2011 in Templeogue Bridge Centre, Dublin 6W**

A round robin format will be used where each pair will play every other pair at least once. Starting times and lengths of matches will be determined by entry.

(c) The pairs finishing in the first three places in the Trials will be invited to represent Ireland in the Lady Milne Trophy competition. The pairs finishing in 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> places will be the reserve pairs, should any of the pairs in the first three places be unable to play and the pair(s) invited to play will be nominated by the International Committee after consulting the team. Pairs finishing in the first six places will be required to take part in the training programme drawn up by the NPC. Failure to do so will result in the invitation to play on the team being withdrawn or the qualification in the reserve pairs being lost.

(d) Ties will be broken by IMP quotient, which failing by IMP differential and finally by direct match.

#### **3. QUALIFICATION**

Each player must hold a minimum of 40 **National Points** or have won 20 **National Points during the last 3 years**. Derogations from these conditions may be given by the International Sub-Committee and players seeking such derogation should submit application to the Committee for consideration detailing the principal reasons why they consider such derogation should be allowed. Previous participation in trials is not sufficient reason for such derogation.

#### **4. ENTRIES**

Entries accompanied by the entrance fee €200 **per pair** must be submitted to CBAI National Headquarters no later than Friday 28 October 2011.

#### **5. SUBSTITUTES**

Each player must play at least 75% of the boards. Substitutes will be allowed subject to the approval of the International Sub-Committee. A substitution, which in the opinion of the Committee significantly affects the strength/weakness of a pair, is unlikely to be approved. No substitute will be permitted to play more than 25% of the Boards. No substitute may play in more than one partnership. If a suitable substitute cannot be found for a match or a session the Tournament Director will award a score of 18/0 out of 30, or such higher percentage as the non-offending pair achieves in the competition. The TD is empowered to make emergency substitutions.

#### **6. SYSTEMS**

All players participating in the Trials **must** have 2 identical copies of their systems available to present to their opponents before a session of play commences. **The WBF Convention Card must be used**. The card can be downloaded from the ECats website

(<http://www.ecatsbridge.com/documents/wbfinfo/systemsinfo/conventioncards.asp>) and hard copies are available from CBAI National Headquarters. Failure to fulfill this obligation or presentation of a card that in the opinion of the TD is insufficiently detailed will render pairs liable to automatic penalty of 1 V.P. per match. **H.U.M. systems are not permitted. Details of any Brown Sticker conventions to be used should be submitted in the appropriate format when entering for the trials**. Blank forms for the submission of these conventions are available from CBAI National Headquarters. Failure to submit same with the entry will result in the System or Convention being prohibited.

#### **7. GENERAL**

The International Committee is empowered to make the necessary draws, fix the length of matches, alter any of the arrangements or conditions including times, dates and venues and to decide on all matters affecting these trials.

**International Committee**

Mary Trench, Alex Montwill, Michael McGloughlin, Michael O'Connor, Tomas Roche