

Contract Bridge Association of Ireland
Lady Milne 2023

The Lady Milne Trophy is the home international competition in which women's teams from England, Northern Ireland, Republic of Ireland, Scotland and Wales compete against each other annually. The dates and venues for the Lady Milne Trophy in the coming season are:

Lady Milne Trophy weekend: **Date:** 21st to 23rd April 2023
Venue: Scheduled for Scotland but possibly online

The C.B.A.I. International Committee (I.C.) will hold trials on the **11-13th November 2022** (and thereafter on the weekend containing the second Friday in November) to select a team to represent the Republic of Ireland in the Lady Milne Trophy. The venue is the Bridge Centre in Templeogue unless online.

The winning team will be selected automatically. If the winning team is a team of four, then the I.C. will, in consultation with the team's members, select an additional pair, in order to make up a team of six. The additional pair must have played in the trials. If the winning team is a team of five, then the I.C. will, if the team requests it, consider selecting an additional player, in order to make up a team of six. The additional player must have played in the trials and be a regular partner of at least one of the winning team.

Entries

Entries are invited from teams of four, five or six players hoping to play for Ireland in the Lady Milne Trophy 2023. Each player entering the Lady Milne trials must meet at least one of the following criteria:

- have a minimum holding of one hundred (100) National Points at entry date or
- have qualified via the Pre-qualifying event held earlier in the year, such players being limited to a maximum of four pre-qualifiers (one team) or
- be a Junior player nominated by the CBAI Junior Committee as being of sufficient standard and ability to play in the Lady Milne trials, such nominations being limited to a maximum of four junior players

The closing date for receipt of entries is Friday **30th September 2022** and entries, accompanied by the entrance fee of €400 per team **must** be submitted to C.B.A.I. National Headquarters on or before that date. The I.C. may in exceptional circumstances accept entries after the closing date.

Particulars of the trial's format, together with any plans to go online, will be sent to entrants within a Supplementary notice in the week following the closing date.

Format

Qualifying for the semi-finals

If, due to the number of teams entered, qualifying rounds are needed, then trials will commence at 12:00 on the Friday afternoon. If there's time for all teams to play each other then a round-robin movement will be used, otherwise it'll be a Swiss movement with the first round seeded.

The non-qualifiers will be invited to stay on to play in a three session Teams competition. This event will only happen if there's sufficient interest. National Points will be awarded (see www.cbai.ie).

Semi-finals

The two 48 board semi-finals will commence at 10:00 on the Saturday and will finish at 17:45.

Final

The 48 board final will commence at 10:00 of the Sunday and will finish at 17:45.

International Committee

Ranald Milne (Convenor), Micheal O'Briain, Lucy Phelan, Derek O'Gorman, Hilary Dowling-Long

Rules/Regulations re Substitutes and Systems for Lady Milne Trials

Substitutes

Subject to the approval of the International Committee (I.C.), a substitute may be allowed in emergency circumstances for a limited number of boards. A substitution, which in the opinion of the I.C. significantly affects the strength/weakness of a pair, is unlikely to be approved.

If a suitable substitute cannot be found for a match, the Tournament Director will award an adjusted score to the non-offending side in accordance with the E.B.U. White Book.

Requests for substitutes for what the I.C. considers to be convenience reasons will **not** be approved. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the T.D. is empowered to make emergency substitutions.

Systems

All players participating in these trials must have submitted a copy of their system in electronic format to CBAI National Headquarters (info@cbai.ie) with their entry, so that their system may be uploaded to www.cbai.ie and is available to their opponents.

Both members of a partnership are restricted to a single system and both must play the same system and methods in bidding and play.

Players may have a copy of their own system to hand during the event but may not refer to it during play, unless playing online.

The W.B.F. Convention Card or equivalent must be used and may be downloaded at website below:-

<http://www.ecatsbridge.com/documents/wbfinfo/systemsinfo/conventioncards.asp>

Hard copies of the W.B.F. Convention Card are available from the C.B.A.I. National Headquarters.

Failure to fulfil this obligation or presentation of a Convention Card that, in the opinion of the Tournament Director, is insufficiently detailed, will render each pair liable to an automatic penalty.

Highly Unusual Methods (HUMs) are **not** permitted in the Lady Milne trials.

Brown Sticker Conventions (BSC) are permitted in the Lady Milne trials, subject to full disclosure. Up to three BSC may be used by a partnership, details of which must be submitted on the appropriate form (available from C.B.A.I. National Headquarters) when entering the respective trials. Failure to submit same in electronic format with the entry will result in these Methods and/or Conventions being prohibited.

General

The International Committee is empowered to alter any of the arrangements or conditions including time, dates and venue, and to decide on all matters affecting these trials.

Each player who enters these trials is agreeing to represent the Republic of Ireland or the C.B.A.I. if nominated and to abide fully with all the conditions of these trials.

International Committee

Ranald Milne (Convenor), Micheal O'Briain, Lucy Phelan, Derek O'Gorman, Hilary Dowling-Long