



THE IRISH BRIDGE UNION **INTERNATIONAL MIXED TRIALS 2024**

EUROPEAN MIXED TEAMS CHAMPIONSHIP

DENMARK June 27th – July 4th 2024

&

WORLD MIXED BRIDGE GAMES

BUENOS AIRES October 22nd – November 5th 2024

Trial Dates & Venues

Weekend 1	17 th – 18 st February 2024 (Templeogue)
Weekend 2	8 th – 10 th March 2024 (Templeogue)

Supplementary Information & Important Dates for Trials

Important Information :-

Please note the original schedule provided for a Semi-Final & Final over the second weekend. The International Committee (IC) are however, conscious of the opinions voiced by a number of players at the recent CBAI trials zoom meeting, where opinions were expressed to suggest a preference for Round Robin formats. Bearing this in mind the IC have prepared two options for the Mixed Trials second weekend to be held on March 8th-10th 2024.

Option A :- as originally published, 64 Board Semi Final & 80 board Final as detailed below:- 144 boards for those getting to the final. Those who lose in the semi-finals are finished at lunchtime on Saturday.

Option B :- To play a triple Round Robin – 144 boards played in 3 x 16 board matches against each of the other teams. The schedule for start & finishing times would be the same as for the semi-final / finals. All teams would play for full weekend.

Which option will be used this year?

This is up to the four (4) Team Captains that qualify for the second weekend as to which option they want. If ALL four (4) Captains choose the Round Robin option then that is what we will be playing, however, if even one (1) Captain advises us that they want to stick with the original semi-final / final process then that is what we will be sticking with for this year.

Please note we want all seven (7) of the Captain's to give us their teams opinion and they have until Saturday 10th February @ 7.00pm to advise us of their decision. They can voice their opinion by e-mail to Diarmuid Reddan (Convenor) by 7.00pm on Saturday 10th February 2024. (diarmuid.reddan@gmail.com) or by text message 0868236618.

Yes we are asking all of the seven (7) teams a week BEFORE bridge starts but only the opinion of the four (4) teams that qualify will matter.

To help you with your decisions, the schedules for the different options of the Final weekend will be as follows :-

OPTION A :- Semi-Final & Final

As previously advised with 4 teams the Schedule of Matches will be as follows :-

Friday 8 th March		Saturday 9 th March		Sunday 10 th March	
Semi-Final Stanza 1	18.30 – 20.40	Semi-Final Stanza 3	10.00-12.10	Final Stanza 3	10.00-12.10
Semi-Final Stanza 2	20.55 – 23.05	Semi-Final Stanza 4	12.25-14.35	Final Stanza 4	12.25-14.35
		Lunch		Lunch	
		Final Stanza 1	15.30-17.40	Final Stanza 5	15:30-17.40
		Final Stanza 2	17.55-20.05		

OPTION B :- Triple Round Robin

Friday 8 th March		Saturday 9 th March		Sunday 10 th March	
RR1 Match 1	18.30 – 20.40	RR1 Match 3	10.00-12.10	RR3 Match 7	10.00-12.10
RR1 Match 2	20.55 – 23.05	RR2 Match 4	12.25-14.35	RR3 Match 8	12.25-14.35
		Lunch		Lunch	
		RR2 Match 5	15.30-17.40	RR3 Match 9	15:30-17.40
		RR2 Match 6	17.55-20.05		



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Meanwhile, back to the current business at hand which is for the seven (7) team Round Robin the first weekend 17th-18th February 2024

Please note the following :-

The draw has now been done by our Chief National Tournament Director and the teams have been allocated Team Numbers as follows :-

Team	Captain	Player 2	Player 3	Player 4	Player 5	Player 6
1	Marcin Rudzinski	Sandra Newell	Claudiu Dima	Michelle Moloney	Karel DeRaeymaecker	Anna Onishuk
2	Mairead Haugh	Justin Corfield	Maureen Pattinson	Bob Pattinson		
3	Noreen Pender	Huey Daly	Anne Keating	Dermot O'Brien		
4	Harold Curran	Anne Fitzpatrick	Paul Porteous	Miriam McConville		
5	Peter Stewart	Aoife MacHale	Terry Walsh	Brid Kemple		
6	Frances Kelly	Steve Bearpark	Breda Synnott	Kevin O'Dea		
7	John Noonan	Carol Ann Cummins	Zrinka Kokot	Pat McDaid		

Saturday 17 th February		Sunday 18 th February	
Match 1	10.00-12.10	Match 5	10.00-12.10
Match 2	12.25-14.35	Match 6	12.25-14.35
Lunch		Lunch	
Match 3	15.30-17.40	Match 7	15:30-17.40
Match 4	17.55-20.05		

The draw as to who plays who will be as follows :-

Match 1	Match 2	Match 3	Match 4	Match 5	Match 6	Match 7
1 V 6	3 V 2	6 V 4	7 V 5	2 V 6	4 V 8	1 V 2
4 V 7	8 V 5	1 V 7	8 V 6	7 V 3	5 V 1	3 V 4
2 V 5	4 V 1	5 V 3	4 V 2	1 V 8	2 V 7	6 V 5
3 V 8	7 V 6	2 V 8	3 V 1	5 V 4	6 V 3	8 V 7

Matches will be 16 board matches.

Additional Information

1. Additional Pairs :- If a team of four (4) wishes to add another pair, prior to the first weekend they can do so with the approval of the IC. Teams can also add a pair to their team after the Round Robin or indeed after the semi-final from those who played in the trials.
2. If a team wishes to change a team member, prior to the first weekend they can do so with the approval of the IC. (Please note this is only allowed if the new player has the required amount of National points)
3. The winning team will be selected as the Irish Mixed Team to represent Ireland in Denmark June 27th – July 4th 2024 at the European Mixed Team Championships and also the World Bridge Games in Buenos Aires October 22nd to November 5th 2024.
Please note if a team of four (4) win, a third pair who have played in the trials will be added to the team. The pair will be selected by the team in conjunction with the IC. The Team Captain will also be chosen by the team in conjunction with the IC. In addition a reserve pair will be selected by the team in conjunction with the International Committee.
4. Please note a pair must play at least 50% of the boards in the Round Robin weekend 1 and a pair must play at least 50% of the boards in Semi-final boards and at least 50% of the Final boards should they qualify. (if weekend two is a four (4) team Round Robin then you must play at least 50% of these boards too)
5. **Substitutes** will only be allowed on teams of four (4) and at the discretion of the IC and in extreme emergencies only. The substitution will not be approved if in the opinion of the IC the team would be strengthened by the substitution. If a team is unable to provide a suitable substitute the Tournament Director will award a score of 12/0 VP, or the non-offending team's own average VP or the average VPs conceded by the offending team whichever is greater, in favour of the non-offending team. In addition to the above, the Tournament Director is empowered to make emergency substitutions. No player may use a substitute for more than 32 boards in the trials. Please note no substitute may play in more than one team.

Players cannot be changed during a stanza, unless there is a medical emergency, and only with the approval of the TD.

6. Each pair participating in the trials must have two copies of their system available to present to their opponents before a session of play begins. Cards must be in the correct format and templates in Word and Excel can be downloaded from <http://www.eurobridge.org/regulations/systems/> and hard copies are available from the CBAI Office. Failure to fulfil this obligation or presentation of a card that

in the opinion of the Tournament Director is insufficiently detailed will render pairs liable to an automatic penalty of **1 VP** per match.

7. Slow play / late arrival will be penalised in accordance with regulations to be posted in the playing rooms. Screens will be used and the EBL regulations regarding use will apply.
8. If an appeal arises, the teams will be consulted by the reviewer for whatever additional information required. The fee is €50 and if deemed without merit the fee along with up to 2 VPs will be deducted.
9. **Mobile phones** and other electronic devices capable of communication must be **SWITCHED OFF** in the playing area and be visible at the table at all times. Any player leaving the playing table prior to the completion of the stanza must leave their mobile phone and electronic devices at the table. A **2 VP** penalty will be levied for a first offence and similarly for a second offence. Any further offence will be treated very severely by the TD. Should any player need to have their phone on for any emergency reason, please give it to the TD and explain the situation.

Please note in the event of a knock-out match the mobile phone penalty equates to 6imps.

10. **Breaking a tie :- Round Robin :- If two teams are tied the result is determined by:-**
 - (1) The result of the direct matches. If still tied by VP's then by the number of IMP's in the matches. If the IMPs are the same then
 - (2) The IMP quotient (total IMPs won divided by total IMPs lost) in all matches played by the tied teams. If a tie still remains
 - (3) The higher margin of IMPs earned against the next highest-ranking team that both have played and so on.Which failing, then by the toss of a coin.

If more than two teams are tied then they are ranked according to the number of VPs obtained against each other and then by the number of imp's. If more than two still remain tied, then from (2) above will apply.

Breaking a tie :- Knock-Outs – If two teams are tied the result is determined by:-
Whichever team finished higher in the Round Robin.

11. **Seating Rights Weekend One**
Weekend One February 17th-18th 2024 (Round Robin)

Line-ups for the initial weekend will be blind in ALL Matches

12. **Seating Rights Weekend Two**
Weekend Two March 8th-10th 2024

Semi-Final / Final Line- Ups (Option A) or for Round Robin (Option B) will be as follows :-

Option A :- Semi-Final / Final

- 1) The team that finishes first in the first Weekend has choice of who they play in the semi-final from the teams that finished in third or fourth.
- 2) The teams that finishes second plays the team not picked by first
- 3) The "Home" team for each match will be the one that finished highest in the Round Robin

The “home” team will have choice as to whether they want to choose seating rights for a particular stanza or let their opponents choose seating rights for a stanza. Once a team has chosen seating rights for a particular numbered stanza, their opponents then get to choose the seating rights for two of the remaining stanzas leaving the original team choose the rights for the remaining stanza (or Stanzas in the case of the final)

The highest placed team in the Round Robin is the Home team in ALL matches
le :- First & Second after the Round Robins.

In the final, the team who finished highest in the Round Robin is the Home team

Option B :- Round Robin

- 1) The team that finishes first in the first Weekend has choice of who they play first in the Round Robin and the others play each other.

The exact Schedule will be done by the TD in due course if this is the chosen option
Seating rights will alternate between RR1 & RR2 but RR3 will have blind line-ups

13. 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 is undertaking to represent Ireland if nominated and to abide fully with all the conditions of these trials.

Carol-Ann Cummins, Nuala Mooney, Derek O’Gorman, Paul Porteous, Diarmuid Reddan (Convenor)
- IBU International Committee

NOTE :-

All system cards were supposed to be submitted in word or pdf form to Dermot@cbai.ie before 1st February 2024.

Very few is any of you have done this – We are now asking that they are submitted to dermot@cbai.ie before 1.00pm on Friday 9th February 2024 so that they may be made available to all players.