



THE IRISH BRIDGE UNION
INTERNATIONAL TRIALS for 2026
EUROPEAN NATIONAL MIXED TEAMS CHAMPIONSHIP
Riga, Latvia June 26th – July 5th 2026

TRIAL'S & ENTRY UPDATES (Jan 2026)

Dates :- Weekend One :- Seven (7) Teams :- 7th – 8th February 2026 (Templeogue Bridge Centre)
Weekend Two :- Top Four (4) Teams :- 27th Feb -1st March 2026 (Templeogue Bridge Centre)

Tournament Director :- Fearghal O'Boyle

Entries have been received and approved for 7 teams as listed below. The draw for the schedule has been done by the TD and is as follows :-

Team	Captain	Player 1	Player 2	Player 3	Player 4	Player 5	Player 6
1	John Noonan	John Noonan	Carol-Ann Cummins	Derek O'Gorman	Aoife MacHale		
2	Marcin Rudzinski	Marcin Rudzinski	Sheila Walsh	Wojciech Gorczyca	Isabel Burke	Kelan O'Connor	Denise Walsh
3	Mairead Haugh	Mairead Haugh	Justin Corfield	Roisin De Jong	Claudiu Dima		
4	Anna Onishuk	Anna Onishuk	Karel De Raeymaeker	Zrinka Kokot	Pat McDaid	John Phelan	Lucy Phelan
5	Noreen Pender	Noreen Pender	David Terry	Seamus Costello	Deirdre Tuckey		
6	Harold Curran	Harold Curran	Anne Fitzpatrick	Paul Porteous	Miriam McConville		
7	Louise Mitchell	Louise Mitchell	David Walsh	Tommy Garvey	Diane Greenwood	Ciaran Coyne	Cynthia Coyne

SCHEDULE OF PLAY for weekend one :-

There will be a seven (7) x sixteen boards in a Round Robin in weekend one

Schedule as follows :-

Saturday 7 th February		Sunday 8 th February	
RR1	10.00-12.10	RR5	10.00-12.10
RR2	12.25-14.35	RR6	12.25-14.35
Lunch		Lunch	
RR3	15.20-17.30	RR7	15:05-17.15
RR4	17.45-19.55		

Additional Information

1. IBU Council have advised there will be €1,000 grant for players representing Ireland at the European National Mixed Team Championships and the same for the NPC. There may be some additional funding for coaching but it must involve all the team and the reserve pair and will be considered on application from the NPC
2. As previously advised Brown Sticker Convention & HUMS are allowed but these need to be submitted along with proposed defences **before 5.00pm on 16th January 2026**. (dermot@cbai.ie)
3. All system cards need to be submitted **before 5.00pm on 23rd January 2026** (dermot@cbai.ie)
4. Additional Pairs :- If a team of four (4) wishes to add another pair, prior to the Trials weekend they can do so with the approval of the IC. There will be no addition of pairs between weekend one & weekend two.
5. If a team wishes to change a team member, prior to the first weekend they can do so with the approval of the IC.
6. The winning team will be selected as the Irish Mixed Team to represent Ireland in Riga, Latvia, June 26th – July 5th 2026 (or amended dates if applicable) at the European National Mixed Team Championships.

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. A reserve pair will also be chosen in a similar manner

7. Substitutes

Substitutes will only be allowed on teams of four (4) and at the approval of the IC.

A substitute may be allowed in emergency circumstances only and for a limited number of boards. (max 32).

A substitution, which in the opinion of the IC Significantly affects the strength / weakness of a pair is unlikely to be approved.

If a team is unable to provide a suitable substitute the Tournament Director will award the higher of the following to the non-offending team:-

- a) 12 VP's,
- b) The average VP's achieved by the non-offending team in the round robins,
- c) 20 minus the Average VP's scored by the offending team in the round robins.

Requests for Substitutes for what the IC considers to be convenience reason will not be approved. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the TD is empowered to make emergency substitutions

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

8. 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.

9. **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.

10. If an appeal arises, the teams will be consulted by the reviewer for whatever additional information is required. The fee is €50 and if deemed without merit the fee along with up to 2 VPs will be deducted.

11. **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.

12. **Seating Rights :-**

Weekend 1 – Lineups will be Blind

Weekend 2 - Round Robin 1 & 2 :- The Home team will have seating rights in RR1 & RR2
 Round Robin 3 :- There will be blind Line-Ups

Schedule Weekend 2 :-

The event will be played as a triple Round Robin of 3 x 16 board matches as follows :-

Friday 27 th February		Saturday 28 th February		Sunday 1 st March	
RR1 M1	18.30 – 20.40	RR1 M3	10.00-12.10	RR3 M1	10.00-12.10
RR1 M2	20.55 – 23.05	RR2 M1	12.25-14.35	RR3 M2	12.25-14.35
Lunch			Lunch		
		RR2 M2	15.20-17.30	RR3 M3	15:05-17.15
		RR2 M3	17.45-19.55		

Please note that the allocation of teams to the schedule for weekend 2 will be as follows :-

Based on the finishing positions in weekend one :- First :- Team 1
 Second :- Team 2
 Third :- Team 3
 Fourth :- Team 4

NB :- In RR3 M1 Team 1 plays Team 2
 In RR3 M2 Team 1 plays Team 3
 In RR3 M3 Team 1 plays Team 4

13. **Ties :- Weekend 1** - Ties will be broken based on the VP total's won between the teams in the Matches involving the tied teams. If there is still a tie, the tie will be broken based on the difference between the total number of imps won & lost by each team in the direct matches. If the tie still remains unbroken, the tie will be won by the team that had the highest imp difference in any one of its Matches against one of the other tied teams.

Weekend 2 :- The team that finishes higher in weekend 1 will be the winner of any tie after weekend two.

14. All pairs must play at least 50% of the boards ie at least 4 of the 7 Matches in Weekend 1 and at least 5 of the matches in Weekend 2 in order to be able to represent Ireland.

15. There will be no carryover between Weekend 1 & Weekend 2 apart from the higher placed team after weekend 1 winning any tiebreak at the end of weekend 2. (In addition, as mentioned under seating rights, the last three Round Robin matches in weekend 2 will be 1V2, 1V3,1V4)
16. 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*

Dates for your diary

Friday 16th January 2026 :- Brown Sticker, HUMS and defences of same to be submitted

Friday 23rd January 2026 :- All system Cards to be submitted by 5.00pm

Saturday 7th February 2026– Trials Start @ 10.00 am