

Contract Bridge Association of Ireland

Camrose Trophy 2027

The Camrose Trophy is the home international competition in which open teams from England, Northern Ireland, Republic of Ireland, Scotland and Wales compete against each other annually. The dates and venues for these events in the coming season are:

Weekend 1: 8-10 January 2027 in England

Weekend 2: 5-7 March 2027 in Scotland

The CBAI International Committee (IC) will hold trials between **23-26 October 2026** to select a team to represent the Republic of Ireland in the Camrose Trophy. The trials venue is to be confirmed.

The winning team will be selected automatically to represent the Republic of Ireland. If the winning team is a team of four, then the IC 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 a team of five wins, then the IC 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.

The runners up will be offered a bursary towards playing in an event abroad. The amount to be decided by the CBAI.

Entries

Entries are invited from teams of four, five, or six players, of good standing, hoping to play for Ireland in the Camrose Trophy 2027. Each player entering the 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 Camrose trials, such nominations being limited to a maximum of four junior players

The closing date for receipt of entries is **Friday 11 September 2026** and entries, accompanied by the entrance fee of €400 per team **must** be submitted to CBAI National Headquarters on or before that date. The IC may in exceptional circumstances accept entries after the closing date.

Particulars of the trials format will be sent to entrants within a Supplementary Notice in the week following the closing date.

Format

The trials will be run as a complete round robin. Depending on the number of entries, individual stanzas will comprise of between 12 and 16 boards.

International Committee Ciaran Coyne (Convenor), Martin Brady, Jeannie Fitzgerald, Peter Pigot, John Carroll

Rules/Regulations re Substitutes and Systems for Camrose Trials

Substitutes

Subject to the approval of the IC, a substitute may be allowed in emergency circumstances for a limited number of boards. A substitution which in the opinion of the IC 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 (TD) will award an adjusted score to the non-offending side in accordance with the EBU White Book.

Requests for substitutes for what the IC considers to be convenience reasons will **not** be approved. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the TD 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) by the closing date for entries, 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.

The WBF System 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 WBF System Card are available from CBAI National Headquarters. Failure to fulfil this obligation or presentation of a System Card that, in the opinion of the TD, is insufficiently detailed will render each pair liable to automatic penalty.

Highly Unusual Methods (HUMs) are permitted, subject to full disclosure, in the Camrose trials. Players proposing to play HUMs must submit copies of these methods to CBAI National Headquarters when entering the Camrose trials. Players may have written defences to HUMs at the table as an aide memoire.

Brown Sticker Conventions (BSC) are permitted in the Camrose 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 CBAI 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 IC is empowered to alter any of the arrangements or conditions including time, dates and venue, and to decide on all matters affecting these trials.

The CBAI will follow any guidance in the EBU White Book in cases not covered by our own regulations.

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

International Committee Ciaran Coyne (Convenor), Martin Brady, Jeannie Fitzgerald, Peter Pigot, John Carroll