



NATIONAL OPEN TEAM TRIALS

CONDITIONS OF CONTEST

INTRODUCTION

By registering to these national trials, each player who will be qualified commits himself:

- to represent Belgium in the forthcoming 55th European national team championship (17 to 27 June 2020)
- to participate to training sessions (if any) that could be organized to prepare these championships and subsequent events in case of qualification
- to show sportsmanship and a personal behavior at the table as required for such competition
- and obviously, to produce the best possible quality of play during these events

All qualified players will have the obligation to sign the EBL Competitor's commitment form.

All decisions concerning or related to this contest will be taken by the Director of International Competitions (so called the "**DIC**" in this document) in his sole discretion.

REGISTRATION

The registration will be by team of **two** or **three** pairs.

A registration form will be available on the RBBF web site. The registration form will request the identification of the team captain for the duration of the trials (a non-playing captain and/or coach will be assigned later on to the winning team for their participation to the international competitions).

The deadline for registration is **15th of August 2019**. The registration will only be considered when the entry fee (see hereunder) will have been paid on RBBF account.

The composition of a team is open to all players having their national licenses (either at the VBL or the LBF) and who are compliant with EBL rules to represent Belgium.

Moreover, all pairs of the proposed teams must demonstrate that they have or will acquire before May 2020 the level of pair experience needed to play at this international level.

Therefore, the following conditions will apply:

- Either the pair already has a proven track record agreed by the DIC
- Or the pair will play the 2019-2020 Belgian team championship in a team playing in the honor division (so they will have played at least 352 deals in this competition)
- Or the pair will play together in competitions whose level can be assimilated equal or above the level of our national team championship. In this case, the pair must propose a training plan to the DIC before August 15, 2019. The DIC will then judge if the plan is acceptable and if the registration of the team can be accepted

A maximum of four teams will be admitted to the first stage of the trials. If more teams have been registered, four teams will be selected by the **DIC**.

The selected teams will be informed of their admission no later than **15th of September 2019** by sending an email to the team captain. After this date, teams cannot retire their registration any more.

After August 15, 2019 and before the start of the competition, a team can be authorized, by the DIC, to replace or change the composition of one and only one of its pair in case of force majeure.

After the start of the first stage, a team will be directly eliminated if it cannot align its players whatever the reason.

ENTRY FEES

There will be an event fee of 100€ per player (400€ for four-players team, 600€ for six-players team). This fee is non-refundable for the selected teams. This entry fee will be refunded to the teams which are not selected among the four final teams.

If a selected team cancels its registration at any time after August 31th, the entry fee will not be reimbursed and the RBBF management board will be informed and may decide additional sanctions. If still possible, the team will be replaced by another non-admitted team (if any available).

The fee must be paid on RBBF account **BE26 2100 2112 4329** no later than **31th of August 2019**. If payment is not received by this date, the team registration will not be considered.

FORMAT

The trials will be played in two stages (semi-final and final) of 144 boards KO matches. Each stage will be organized on three days of 3 sessions of 16 boards (144 boards / match):

- Semi-final will take place on October 19 & 20 and November 16
- Final will take place on November 17 and December 7 & 8 (and will possibly be broadcasted on BBO).

Each day, the first round will start at 11:00 AM. More details (such as venue, detailed match schedule, tournament director,...) will be available later on and published on RBBF web site.

Concession before the 8th segment (before the 112th board) of a KO match of nine segments will not be accepted.

The participating teams will be ranked by the DIC and will then be attributed a seed number of #1 to maximum #4 based on their ranking.

The brackets for the semi-finals will be: #4 vs. #1; #3 vs. #2. For the final, it will be #2 vs. #1

If there are only 3 teams, a triangular match will take place over three days of 48 boards to eliminate one team. Final will then take place over three days of 48 boards.

If there are only two registered teams, only the final stage will take place over four days of 48 boards each (November 16 & 17, December 7 & 8).

Ties will be broken by playing one (or more, if necessary) additional segment(s) of 8 boards. For these additional segments, the line up will be made in a blind way.

Each pair must have played at least one third of the boards (at least 48 boards) in a given match.

Each pair of the teams playing the final must have played at least half of the boards played during these trials (at least 144 boards).

In case of concession, the captain of the winning team shall notify the DIC of the assignment of the non-played sessions to the pairs of his team.

BELGIAN TEAM COMPOSITION

The winning team will be automatically selected to represent Belgium under provision that it fulfils all the other conditions – if not it will be provisory selected until fulfilment of those conditions (see below).

If it is a team of four players, a third pair will be selected by the DIC in his sole discretion.

Decision will take place no later than January 15, 2020.

If the training program proposed to the DIC by the pairs of the qualified team is not respected, the team will be eliminated and replaced if still possible by the second finalist (plus one pair chosen by the DIC if team of four)

RBBF will pay the registration of the team to the EBL and will also pay travel expenses as well as living expenses (max 100€/day for living expenses including hotel). The RBBF will take care of the travel and hotel reservation.