

OPEN TEAMS TRIALS

CONDITIONS OF CONTEST

INTRODUCTION

By registering for the national trials, each player who qualifies commits themselves

- to represent Belgium in the forthcoming European Open Championship (which will take place in Herning, Denmark from June 24 to July 04, 2024).
- to arrive at least on Saturday the 22nd and be present at the Teams opening ceremony on Thursday the 27th at 19:30.
- to participate in any training sessions (if any) that could be organized to prepare for this championship and subsequent events in case of qualification
- to exhibit sportsmanship and a personal behaviour at the table as required by such a competition, following the new European Bridge League endorsements and to sign the E.B.L Competitor's commitment form.
- and obviously, to produce the best possible quality of play during these events.

All decisions concerning or related to this contest will be taken by M. Alain Labaere, President for the Commission of International Representation, in his sole discretion.

REGISTRATION

The registration will be by teams of two and only two pairs.

A registration form will be available on the RBBF website. The registration form will request the identification of the team captain.

The deadline for registration is November 1st 2023. A registration will be considered only when the entry fee (see hereunder) is paid to the RBBF account.

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

A maximum of four teams will be admitted to the semi-finals of the trials.

ENTRY FEES

There will be an entry fee of 400€ for each team.

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

The fee must be paid to RBBF account BE26 2100 2112 4329 no later than 1st November 2023. If a 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, final) of 96-board KO matches. Each stage will be organized over two days of 3 16-board sessions (Brussels Bridge Club) :

- Semi-Finals will take place on Saturday December 9 and Sunday December 10
- The final will take place on Saturday December 16 and Sunday December 17.

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

The participating teams will be ranked according to the total of expert points of all players and will then be allocated a seed number of #1 to #4 based on their ranking.

The brackets for the semi-finals will be #1 vs. #4 and #2 vs. #3

If there are only 3 teams, #1 will be qualified directly for the final and #2 will play against #3 in the semi-final.

If there are only two registered teams, only the final stage will take place.

BELGIAN OPEN TEAM COMPOSITION

The winning team will be automatically selected to represent Belgium.

A third pair will be chosen to complete the team by the international competition committee following a recommendation made by the winning team represented by its captain.

This pair will be selected among the teams having played during these trials.

The decision will fall no later than December 31, 2023.

The RBBF will pay the registration of the team with the EBL as well as hotel expenses from Saturday the 22nd of June till Thursday the 5th of July.

Players must arrive at least 2 days before the Championship and shall all stay together at the same hotel. The hotel will be chosen by the RBBF.

A personal contribution of 800 € will be requested from each qualified player.

This fee must be paid to RBBF account BE26 2100 2112 4329 no later than 31th of January 2024. Travelling and living expenses shall also be supported by the players.

Each player shall take care of his own transport.

A player who decides to travel earlier to Herning shall pay the extra hotel expenses themselves.