



**THE IRISH BRIDGE UNION**  
**INTERNATIONAL TRIALS 2018**  
EUROPEAN SENIOR TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP  
OSTEND, BELGIUM, 9<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2018

- 1) Dates 16<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> March 2018  
Venue Dublin (exact venue TBC)
- 2) Entries are invited from teams of four or six players. Each player in a team of six must play at least 50% of the boards played by the team in order to qualify for an invitation to represent Ireland in this event. Entries in writing, accompanied by the entry fee of **€150 per player**, must be submitted to:  

Mr Paul Porteous, Templeogue House, Templeogue Road, Dublin D6W F822 *or*  
Mr Harold Curran 28 Laganvale Manor, Stranmillis, Belfast BT9 5BE.

no later than **16<sup>th</sup> February 2018**. Entries without the entrance fee will not be accepted.
- 3) Qualification  
Each Player must have a minimum of 60 National Points or have won 25 in the past 3 years. The International Committee will consider written applications for exemption from players who do not meet these requirements. Such applications must set out in detail why entrants consider an application appropriate, and must be submitted to Mr Paul Porteous, Templeogue House, Templeogue Road, Dublin D6W F822 ([paul@cbai.ie](mailto:paul@cbai.ie)) no later than **9<sup>th</sup> February 2018**.
- 4) The exact format of the trials will be announced after entries have been received.
- 5) The winning team will be invited to represent Ireland. If a team of four qualifies then the third pair will be selected by the International Committee, after consulting the winning team, from the entrants for the trials. A reserve pair will also be nominated after consultation with the winning team. The NPC will be appointed by the International committee after consultation with the players.
- 6) Grants. The IBU will pay an initial grant to each member of the team and the NPC. If the team qualifies for the second phase of the championships an additional grant will be paid.

- 7) By virtue of the chosen team's performance in these championships, the IBU may be invited to nominate a team to represent Ireland at the D'Orsi Bowl in 2019. In such circumstances the IBU International Committee shall select a team to represent the IBU at this/these event(s). The IBU International Committee shall give full and careful consideration to the chosen team's performance at the European Championships when selecting this team.
- 8) The IBU may from time to time receive invitations to send a representative team for other events during the calendar years 2018 and 2019, and it is intended to use these trials, in conjunction with the Senior and Ladies' trials, as the basis for selection of such teams. Nominations shall normally be offered to teams in the following order:
- 1<sup>st</sup> placed team in Open Trials
  - 1<sup>st</sup> placed team in Senior Trials
  - 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> placed pairs in Ladies' Trials
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> placed teams in Open and Senior Trials, in that order
  - 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> placed pairs in Ladies' Trials
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> placed teams in Open and Senior Trials, in that order
  - 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> placed pairs in Ladies' Trials

However, the committee may at its absolute discretion deviate from that order or offer the nomination to any two or three pairs who played on teams finishing 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> in the Open or Senior trials or who finished in the first 9 places in the Ladies' trials if, in its opinion, such would be in the best interests of Irish bridge.

- 9) 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 and each player who enters is undertaking to represent Ireland if nominated and to abide fully with all the conditions of these trials.

***Anne Fitzpatrick, B.J. O'Brien, Diarmuid Reddan, John Murchan, Martin Brady -  
IBU International Committee.***