

Selection Committee announcement regarding forthcoming Trials

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The Open category of the European National Teams Championships will be held 17th-27th June 2020 in Funchal, Madeira. The Women's, Seniors' and Mixed categories will be held in the same location, 21st-27th June 2020.

The dates and venue of the World Bridge Games (formerly known as the Olympiad) are to be confirmed, but may be 3rd-17th October 2020, Qingdao, China.

All eligible applicants will be accepted, with the exception that any player who has qualified for, or accepted an invitation to play in, a teams event at one of these championships may not participate in the trials for any other event to be held at the same championships. **It was previously announced that the Mixed category of the European National Teams Championships would be a stand-alone event, which would therefore be unaffected by this regulation; this has proved not to be the case, so any player that has qualified for one of the other three categories at these Championships will not be allowed to participate in the Trials for the Mixed category.** Closing dates for applications have been set to enable players who do not qualify for earlier events to apply for later categories. The SC therefore reserves the right to amend the length and format of trials according to the entries received and specific conditions of contest may not be finalised until the start of the trials.

The Lady Milne will be held 17th-19th April, 2020, in England (exact location TBC). England will have two teams in this event, so six pairs will be chosen via a combination of selection and direct qualification from the trials.

The Teltscher Trophy will be held 15th-17th May, in Ireland (exact location TBC).

The Lady Milne Trials and the European Women's Trials will consist of two stages, with pairs qualifying from the first stage to join any pairs exempted pairs to the second stage. It is anticipated that the final stage will consist of ten pairs in the Lady Milne Trials and eight pairs in the European Women's Trials.

The two teams trials for the Europeans, and the four teams trials for the Olympiad, will consist of a three-day round robin followed by a one-day semi-final and one-day final, or, in the case of eight or fewer entries, no semi-final but a two-day final. A teams trial may be shortened if the number of entries is sufficiently low that a five-day event is considered unnecessary or unviable. **Please note the change in date of the trial for the Women's category of the Olympiad.**

Trial dates and entry deadlines

European Open Trials (Pairs)

Stage 1: 1st – 3rd November 2019, West Midlands Bridge Club

Stage 2: 22nd – 24th November 2019, venue to be confirmed

Stage 3: 3rd – 6th January 2020, Young Chelsea Bridge Club

Entries are closed.

Teltscher Trophy Trials (Teams)

14-15 December 2019, West Midlands Bridge Club

Entries close at 5pm on 8th November 2019.

European Women's Trials (Pairs)

Stage 1: 3-5 January 2020, Young Chelsea Bridge Club

Stage 2: 17-20 January 2020, Young Chelsea Bridge Club

Entries close at 5pm on 28th November 2019.

Lady Milne trials (Pairs)

Stage 1: 11-12 January 2020, Young Chelsea Bridge Club

Stage 2: 25-26 January 2020, West Midlands Bridge Club

Entries close at 5pm on 8th November 2019.

European Seniors Trials (Teams)

31 January to 4th February 2020, Young Chelsea Bridge Club

Entries close at 5pm on 23rd January 2020.

European Mixed Trials (Teams)

7-11 February 2020, Young Chelsea Bridge Club

Entries close at 5pm on 5th February 2020.

Olympiad Open Trial (Teams)

13-17 March 2020, Young Chelsea Bridge Club

Entries close at 5pm on 14th February 2020.

Olympiad Mixed Trial (Teams)

3-7 April 2020, Young Chelsea Bridge Club

Entries close at 5pm on 19th March 2020.

Olympiad Senior Trial (Teams)

24-28 April 2020, Young Chelsea Bridge Club

Entries close at 5pm on 9th April 2020.

Olympiad Women's Trial (Teams)

22-26 May 2020, venue to be confirmed

Entries close at 5pm on 1st May 2020.