



ENGLAND TRIALS FOR THE 2019 TELTSCHER TROPHY

SPECIFIC CONDITIONS OF CONTEST

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1. Definitions

- 1.1. The Conditions of Contest for the Teltscher Trophy Trial comprise the General Conditions of Contest and these Specific Conditions of Contest. This document should be read in conjunction with the General Conditions of Contest.

2. Scope of the League

- 2.1. The Teltscher Trophy Trial is a trial for a national team, played under international championship conditions.
- 2.2. The Teltscher Trophy Trial is not a trial for European or World Championships.
- 2.3. The winners of the Trial earn selection to represent England in the Teltscher Trophy 2019. The Teltscher Trophy will be held in Scotland on 5th – 7th April 2019.

3. Entry Fee

- 3.1. The entry fee is £340.00 per team.

4. Eligibility

- 4.1. All players must be eligible to represent England in Open events under the regulations of Bridge Great Britain.
- 4.2. All players must have been born during or before 1958.
- 4.3. Any player unsure of his eligibility should contact Gordon Rainsford – gordon@ebu.co.uk
- 4.4. If a player loses either their good standing or their eligibility during the course of the season, then that player will be disqualified from further participation in the event and from ultimate selection to represent England.

5. Registered players and substitutes

- 5.1. A team may consist of four, five or six players.
- 5.2. Sections 6 and 7 of the General Conditions of Contest shall apply to this event in their entirety.

6. Timetable and format

- 6.1. The event will comprise eight teams playing a single round-robin of seven 16-board matches.
- 6.2. The Trial will be played at West Midlands Bridge Club on 15th – 16th December 2018.
- 6.3. The playing schedule is:

Saturday:	Sunday:
10:45 – 12:55	10:45 – 12:55
13:25 – 15:35	13:25 – 15:35
15:55 – 18:05	15:55 – 18:05
18:25 – 20.35	

Special circumstances may dictate that minor changes are made to the timings, at the discretion of the Tournament Director in Charge.

In the event of the late withdrawal of a team, the format may be varied to accommodate this, at the discretion of the Committee.

7. Scoring

- 7.1. Scoring will be by IMPs, converted to Victory Points on the WBF continuous 20-0 VP scales for 16-board matches. See Appendix A.

8. Movement

- 8.1. Each team will be the home team for three or four matches and the away team for the remainder.
- 8.2. The movement and draw will be determined in advance.

9. Systems and partnership understandings

- 9.1. Systems and partnership understandings which are authorised at 'EBU Level 5' are permitted throughout, whether or not categorised by the WBF as 'Brown Sticker'.
- 9.2. Subject to Condition 9.4, Brown Sticker conventions which are not already permitted at EBU Level 5 are also permitted, subject to the provisions in the General Conditions of Contest.
- 9.3. HUM systems are not permitted, unless permitted at EBU Level 5.
- 9.4. Psychic bids protected by system or required by system are not permitted, unless already permitted under EBU Level 5 and properly disclosed.
- 9.5. For pairs using Brown Sticker conventions, the deadline for submission of system cards is 10th December 2018.

10. Late arrival or fouled match

- 10.1. A team is late if one or more playing members of that team are not seated and ready to play at the advertised starting time. Warnings and penalties apply to the team as a whole rather than to any individual or to any partnership within a team.
- 10.2. The penalties described below apply to each separate match. Warnings and penalties issued during one match are not carried over to the next.
- 10.3. If no boards are removed, a team warned or penalised for late arrival retains the full time in which to play that match, i.e. the starting time for that table is officially delayed. Penalties for late arrival are as follows (assuming 16-board stanzas):
 - 0 - 15 minutes late: 0.50 VP penalty save that a warning will be issued in lieu of a penalty for the first offence in the weekend of no more than 5 minutes of lateness.
 - Thereafter, for each portion of 8 minutes late or part thereof, up to a total of 65 minutes late, an additional 0.50 VP penalty and one board is removed from the match and scored as ± 3 IMPs.
 - Example: 45 minutes late would be a penalty of 2.00 VPs and would cause 4 boards to be removed from the match (± 12 IMPs in total).*
 - If a team is more than 65 minutes late for a 65-board match, that match will normally be abandoned and scored as ± 16 IMPs. Additionally, the offending team will be penalised 4.00 VPs.
- 10.4. If a late team arrives in time to play at least one-third of the boards scheduled for that match (i.e. at least 6 boards out of 16), the non-offending team may elect to play those boards. The total score for the cancelled boards will still be 16 IMPs, and there will still be a 4.00 VP penalty. If the non-offending team averages more over the played boards than the average they have received for the unplayed boards, the IMP score awarded in section 10.3 above will be increased pro rata. Any fractions of an IMP will be rounded up to the next higher whole number in favour of the non-offending team.
 - Example: if 8 boards are cancelled from a 16-board stanza, and the non-offending team gains 2.5 IMPs per board over the remaining 8 boards, the score for the unplayed boards will be increased to ± 20 IMPs, giving a net score for the stanza of ± 40 IMPs.*

- 10.5. In the event of the abandonment of a match under 10.3, a full report will be made to the Committee. The Committee may take such action as it thinks fit. In particular, it may adjust the provisional score of either or both teams, and may disqualify the offenders if it considers any impropriety to have taken place. The decision of the Committee under this paragraph shall be final.
- 10.6. The warnings and penalties described in this section may be expunged for cause either in part or in whole for late arrival for the start of the event. A team which feels that it can demonstrate good cause for late arrival for the start of the event may apply to the Committee for a waiver or relaxation of these penalties.
- 10.7. A match is fouled if teams sit in the same direction in both rooms and the error is not discovered until the end of the stanza (or near to the end of the stanza). If this arises, the match will be abandoned and scored as 0 IMPs to both teams. Additionally, both teams shall be penalised 1.50 VPs. Note: this is a relatively modest penalty, as it assumes a degree of responsibility on behalf of the organisation as well as on the players themselves. In aggravated circumstances this penalty may be increased at the discretion of the Committee.
- 11. Slow play**
- 11.1. The time allowed for each 16-board match is 2 hours 10 minutes (130 minutes).
- 11.2. Automatic penalties will apply to any table which runs over the allotted time. The penalty on the table involved will be 1 VP per five-minute delay or part thereof.
- 11.3. The tournament director will apportion the responsibility for the slow play between the two pairs involved and will assess penalties separately to the teams involved on this basis.
Example: a table is eight minutes late (2VP penalty). One pair is held to be approximately three-quarters responsible and the other approximately one-quarter responsible. The penalty is 1.5 VPs to the one team and 0.5 VPs to the other.
- 11.4. If a suitable person is available to act as a time monitor, the tournament director may appoint such person to monitor the speed of play at any table (either at the request of one of the teams or on his own initiative). Otherwise the responsibility for monitoring the speed of play lies with the tournament director.
- 11.5. A team may be penalised at both tables in the same stanza.
- 11.6. In the event that a team is penalised more than once during the course of the event by reason of slow play by the same pair, the penalty against that team shall be twice that calculated in accordance with 11.3 for a second offence, and three times for a third offence.
- 11.7. In the event that a team is penalised more than three times during the course of the event by reason of slow play by the same pair, or in the event of excessively slow play, a more severe penalty may be imposed at the discretion of the Tournament Director. The discretion of the Tournament Director shall not extend to the compulsory withdrawal of an offending pair from any subsequent match.
- 11.8. In the event of penalties being imposed under 11.7, a full report shall be made to the Committee, which may take such further action as it thinks fit.
- 11.9. Approximately half way through each stanza and approximately ten minutes before the scheduled time for the completion of play, the Tournament Director shall notify each table of the time remaining. Although the Tournament Director will endeavour to warn a pair when they are in danger of a penalty being imposed, any failure to do so shall not preclude the imposition of a penalty.

11.10. The Tournament Directors have been instructed to apply the penalty provisions of this Section strictly, though discretion shall be used by the TD where a table has been delayed through no fault of its own (e.g. by problems with Vugraph coverage).

12. Unplayed matches

12.1. Unplayed matches are governed by Section 8 of the [General Conditions of Contest for Trials](#).

13. Playing requirements

13.1. For the following purposes:

- receiving the title of Teltscher Trophy Trial winner
- earning automatic selection for the Teltscher Trophy

a player must play at least 50% of the matches, rounded down in the case of a fraction (i.e. 3 matches out of 7).

13.2. An individual player failing to fulfil the playing requirement in 13.1 does not disqualify his teammates.

14. Selection

14.1. All players who have met the playing requirements in Section 13 from the winning team will, if available, be guaranteed selection for the Teltscher Trophy team, provided that suitable partnerships can be formed.

14.2. The Committee will select players to complete the team, in consultation with the winners. The team will normally comprise at least five players.

14.3. If a member of the winning team entered the Trial in good faith but through exceptional circumstances was unable to play, or was unable to complete the board requirement, he may still be selected, at the discretion of the Committee.

14.4. Otherwise, any player who does not meet the playing requirements of 13.1 will not normally be considered for selection, but the Committee reserves the right to waive this condition in exceptional circumstances.

14.5. Selection for this event may be on a funded, part-funded, or unfunded basis, at the discretion of the Committee.

Appendix A: WBF Victory Point Scales for 16-board matches

IMPs	VPs	
0	10.00	10.00
1	10.31	9.69
2	10.61	9.39
3	10.91	9.09
4	11.20	8.80
5	11.48	8.52
6	11.76	8.24
7	12.03	7.97
8	12.29	7.71
9	12.55	7.45
10	12.80	7.20
11	13.04	6.96
12	13.28	6.72
13	13.52	6.48
14	13.75	6.25
15	13.97	6.03
16	14.18	5.82
17	14.39	5.61
18	14.60	5.40
19	14.80	5.20
20	15.00	5.00
21	15.19	4.81
22	15.38	4.62
23	15.56	4.44
24	15.74	4.26
25	15.92	4.08
26	16.09	3.91
27	16.26	3.74
28	16.42	3.58
29	16.58	3.42

30	16.73	3.27
31	16.88	3.12
32	17.03	2.97
33	17.17	2.83
34	17.31	2.69
35	17.45	2.55
36	17.59	2.41
37	17.72	2.28
38	17.85	2.15
39	17.97	2.03
40	18.09	1.91
41	18.21	1.79
42	18.33	1.67
43	18.44	1.56
44	18.55	1.45
45	18.66	1.34
46	18.77	1.23
47	18.87	1.13
48	18.97	1.03
49	19.07	0.93
50	19.16	0.84
51	19.25	0.75
52	19.34	0.66
53	19.43	0.57
54	19.52	0.48
55	19.61	0.39
56	19.69	0.31
57	19.77	0.23
58	19.85	0.15
59	19.93	0.07
60	20.00	0.00

