



ENGLAND

LADY MILNE TRIAL 2023

SPECIFIC CONDITIONS OF CONTEST

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1. Definitions

1.1. The Conditions of Contest for the England Lady Milne 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 Trial

2.1. The England Lady Milne Trial is a trial, played under international championship conditions, to select three pairs to form the team to represent England in the 2024 Lady Milne Trophy, to be held in Ireland, over the weekend of Friday 19 to Sunday 21 April 2024.

2.2. The England Lady Milne Trial is not a trial for European or World Championships.

2.3. The winners of the Trial and the second and third placed pair earn selection to the England team for the Lady Milne Trophy 2024.

3. Entry Fee

3.1. The entry fee is £100.00 per player.

4. Eligibility

4.1. All players must be female members of the Union in good standing.

4.2. All players must be eligible to represent England in the Lady Milne Trophy under the regulations of Bridge Great Britain.

4.3. Any player unsure of her eligibility should contact Gordon Rainsford – gordon@ebu.co.uk

4.4. If a player loses either her good standing or her 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. Timetable and format

5.1. The event will comprise 14 pairs playing a single round-robin of thirteen ten-board matches.

5.2. Scoring will be by 'cross-IMPs' divided by the number of comparisons. All results will be displayed correct to 2 decimal places.

5.3. In each ten-board match, the winning pair's score will be capped at 36 IMPs. The losing pair's score will not be affected by this procedure.

5.4. The Trial will be played at West Midlands Bridge Club on 8th – 10th December 2023.

5.5. The playing schedule is:

5.6. **Friday:** 15.00 – 19.12 Three matches of ten boards

Saturday: 10.30 - 13.17 Two matches of ten boards
13.50 - 18.02 Three matches of ten boards

Sunday: 10.30 - 13.17 Two matches of ten boards
13.50 - 18.02 Three matches of ten boards

Minor changes may be made to the timings, at the discretion of the Tournament Director in Charge.

5.7. The movement will be determined in advance and arranged so that each pair meets each other pair once.

5.8. In the event of the withdrawal of pairs, the format may be varied at the discretion of the Committee.

6. Systems and partnership understandings

6.1. Systems and conventions which are authorised at 'EBU Level 5' are permitted throughout, whether or not categorised by the WBF as 'Brown Sticker' or 'HUM'. Other Brown Sticker methods and HUM systems are not permitted.

6.2. WBF convention cards may be used as an alternative to EBU convention cards.

7. Late arrival

7.1. A pair is late if one or more playing members of that pair is not seated and ready to play at the advertised starting time. Warnings and penalties apply to the pair as a whole rather than to any individual.

7.2. If no boards are removed, a pair warned or penalised for late arrival retains the full time in which to play that round, i.e. the starting time for that table is officially delayed. Penalties for late arrival are as follows (assuming ten-board rounds):

0 - 12 minutes late: 2 IMPs penalty save that a warning will be issued in lieu of a penalty for the first offence in the weekend of no more than 4 minutes of lateness.

Thereafter, for each portion of 8 minutes late or part thereof, up to 45 minutes late, an additional 2 IMPs penalty and 1 board is removed from the match and scored as +/- 2 IMPs.

Example: 22 minutes late would be a penalty of 6 IMPs and would cause 2 boards to be removed from the match (scored as +/- 4 IMPs in total).

If a pair is more than 45 minutes late for a ten-board round, that round will normally be abandoned and provisionally scored as +/- 6 IMPs. At the end of the event, this provisional score will be subject to adjustment according to the unplayed matches formula in the General Conditions of Contest. Additionally, the offending pair will be penalised 8 IMPs.

7.3. In the event of the abandonment of a match under 7.2, 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 pairs, 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.

7.4. 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 pair 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.

8. Slow Play

8.1. The playing time allowed for each match will be between 8 and 8 ½ minutes per board (82 minutes for ten-board matches), with an additional 3 minutes allowed for moving between each round.

8.2. Automatic penalties will apply at any table which runs over the allotted time. The penalty on the table involved will be 4 IMPs per five-minute delay or part thereof.

8.3. The Tournament Director will apportion the responsibility for the slow play between the two pairs involved and will assess penalties separately to the pairs involved on this basis. All penalties will be expressed in terms of whole numbers of IMPs only.

Example: a table is 3 minutes late. One pair is held to be approximately three-quarters responsible and the other approximately one-quarter responsible. The penalty is 3 IMPs to the one pair and 1 IMP to the other.

8.4. If a suitable person is available to act as a time monitor, the Tournament Director may appoint such a person to monitor the speed of play at any table (either at the request of one of the pairs or on his own initiative). Otherwise the responsibility for monitoring the speed of play lies with the Tournament Director, who may also consult any vu-graph operators who were at the table.

8.5. Approximately half way through each match and approximately 10 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.

8.6. The Tournament Directors have been instructed to apply the penalty provisions of this Appendix strictly, though discretion shall be used by the TD where a table has been delayed through no fault of its own.

9. Selection

9.1. Subject to the requirements and conditions set out in these Conditions of Contest, the leading three pairs in the Trials will be guaranteed. If one or more of the leading three pairs is unable to play in the Lady Milne Trophy, the Selection Committee will select another pair or pairs from the trialists to complete the team.

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



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