



**Trial for 2026 European
National Team
Championships England
Seniors team
SPECIFIC CONDITIONS OF CONTEST**

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1. Conditions of Contest

- 1.1. The Conditions of Contest for the trial for the 2026 European National Team Championships England Seniors team 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.
- 1.2. Where the General Conditions of Contest and these Specific Conditions of Contest are in conflict, the Specific Conditions of Contest will take precedence.
- 1.3. By playing in the trial all players confirm that they accept the Special Conditions of Contest, the General Conditions of Contest and any other regulations referred to in either and will not subsequently raise any objection to their terms.

2. Scope of the Trial

- 2.1. The trial consists of one stage, played under international championship conditions, to select the team to represent England in the Senior category of the 2026 European National Team Championships, to be held in Riga, Latvia, on 1st to 7th July 2026.
- 2.2. This trial is only for the 2026 European National Team Championships and not, for example, for the world championships. The overall winners of the trial will qualify to represent England at this European Championship.

3. Entry Fee

- 3.1. The entry fee is £750.00 per team.

4. Eligibility

- 4.1. All players must meet the eligibility conditions as laid down in Section 5 of the General Conditions of Contest.
- 4.2. Subject to 4.1 above, the trial will be open to everyone who is eligible to play in the Senior category of the EBL 2026 European National Team Championships as set out in the EBL eligibility code: <https://www.eurobridge.org/regulations/other-codes-and-regulations/eligibility-code/>
- 4.3. Any player unsure of their eligibility should contact the Secretary of the Selection Committee – heather@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. Sections 7 and 8 of the General Conditions of Contest shall apply to this event in their entirety.

6. Timetable and format

- 6.1. The trial will consist of one stage from Friday 13th to Sunday 15th March 2026 at the West Midlands Bridge Club.
- 6.2. The trial will consist of a triple round robin, 3 x 14 boards against each other team. The 'home' team, whose number appears first in the draw, will have the right to seat their pairs after the 'away' players have taken their seats.
- 6.3. The schedule of play will be as below. See section 7 for the draw.

Date	Segment	Draw	Start	Finish
Friday	Round 1 match 1	1 vs 2, 3 vs 4	18:00	20:00
	Round 1 match 2	2 vs 3, 4 vs 1	20:20	22:20
Saturday	Round 1 match 3	1 vs 3, 2 vs 4	10:00	12:00
	Round 2 match 1	2 vs 1, 4 vs 3	12:30	14:30
	Round 2 match 2	3 vs 2, 1 vs 4	14:50	16:50
Sunday	Round 2 match 3	3 vs 1, 4 vs 2	17:10	19:10
	Round 3 match 1	1 vs 2, 3 vs 4	10:00	12:00
	Round 3 match 2	2 vs 3, 4 vs 1	12:30	14:30
	Round 3 match 3	1 vs 3, 2 vs 4	14:50	16:50

- 6.4. Scoring will be by IMPs converted to Victory Points (VPs) using the continuous scale.
- 6.5. In the event of an exact tie (to 2 decimal places) the tie will be split using the approach set out in the EBU White Book, with 'match/round' being treated as the aggregate across all relevant matches of the round robin.
- 6.6. The Director of the trial may bring forward starting times of sessions with the agreement of the players, or may delay starting times of sessions for appropriate reasons (for example, if a ruling is required before a session starts).

7. Entrants and draw

- 7.1. The teams entered are

Team 1: David Mossop (captain), Paul Hackett, Gunnar Hallberg, John Holland, Alan Mould & Brian Senior

Team 2: Malcolm Pryor, Ed Scerri, Rob Cliffe, Roger Bryant, Stephen Green & Trevor Ward

Team 3: Paul Barden, Jonathan Mestel, Sally Brock & Barry Myers

Team 4: Patrick Shields, Richard Chamberlain, Norman Selway & Kay Preddy

8. Systems and partnership understandings

- 8.1. 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 up to a total of three per pair may be used provided complete system cards detailing these methods are submitted to the Secretary of the Selection Committee by 4:00pm on Tuesday 6 March. These will be circulated to other participants in the trial, who will be allowed to bring written defences to these Brown Sticker methods to the table.
- 8.2. Any team containing a partnership using more than one Brown Sticker convention their team will be subjected to limitations in seating rights as regulated in the European Championship events.
- 8.3. 'HUM' systems other than those allowed at EBU Level 5 are not permitted.
- 8.4. WBF convention cards must be used by all participants.

9. Late arrival, withdrawal, or slow play

- 9.1. Sections 9, 10, and 11 of the General Conditions of Contest shall apply in their entirety to this trial.

10. Selection

- 10.1. Subject to the requirements and conditions set out in these Conditions of Contest, the winning team will be guaranteed selection. Section 21.1 of the General Conditions of Contest does not apply to this trial.
- 10.2. Selection for the team is on a self-funded basis, except that the EBU will pay entry fees, uniforms and the expenses of a non-playing captain.



English Bridge Union
Broadfields, Bicester Road
Aylesbury
HP19 8AZ
Tel: 01296 317200
Email: comps@ebu.co.uk