



PRESS RELEASE

Three England teams to play in the European bridge Championships, France

The 49th European Bridge Teams Championships will be held in Pau, France, from 14 to 28 June 2008. It comprises three series - for Open, Women's and Seniors national teams.

Three teams representing England will be playing in the Championships and are all well versed in international and national bridge.

Open:

John Armstrong & John Holland
Paul Hackett & Tony Waterlow
Jason & Justin Hackett

NPC: Bill Hirst
Coach: David Burn

Women's:

Heather Dhondy & Nevena Senior
Catherine Draper & Anne Rosen
Sarah Teshome & Catherine Jagger

NPC: Alan Mould
Coach: Rob Cliffe

Seniors:

Chris Dixon & Victor Silverstone
Ross Harper & Andrew Thompson
Colin Simpson & David Price

NPC: Peter Czerniewski

The Open competition starts play on 15 June; the Women's competition starts on 19 June; and the Seniors competition starts on 21 June. The three England teams will be competing against some of Europe's best bridge countries, including the home nations of Ireland, Scotland and Wales. Many of the matches will be shown on BBO, which can be downloaded here.

The first European Open Championships were won by Austria, who also won the first Women's event in 1935. The first Senior Champions, Poland, were declared 30 years later. All in all, Italy has won most gold medals in the Open series (19 against France's 8 and England's 7), while England prevails in the Women's event (with 13 gold medals, against France's 11 and Denmark's 6), and France in the Seniors (with 3 gold medals, against Poland's 2 and Denmark's 1).

For further information on this press release, bridge or the EBU please contact Matt Betts, Communications Officer on 01296 317 200 or by email, Matt@ebu.co.uk. For further information on the European Teams Championship, please click here. Finally, an EBU blog will be updated during the event, click here to view.

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Notes to editors:

Press

Further information on the EBU and bridge can be found at the Media section of our website, please click here. The convention cards for the players can all be found here.

About Bridge

Bridge is one of the most enduring and popular games in the world; for over 100 years, people of all types and from all walks of life have been fascinated by the game. It is one of the most popular leisure activities in Britain, with around 300,000 people playing on a regular basis. Bridge is a trick-taking card game of skill and chance. It is played by four players who form two partnerships (sides); the partners sit opposite each other at a table. The game consists of the auction (often called bidding) and play, after which the hand is scored. Please click here for more information on bridge.

About the English Bridge Union

The English Bridge Union Limited (EBU) is a membership-funded organisation committed to promoting the game of duplicate bridge. It is also a National Bridge Organisation in its own right affiliated to the European Bridge League and the World Bridge Federation. New players are the lifeblood of the game and the EBU are keen to encourage them. For more information on the English Bridge Union please visit: www.ebu.co.uk

