



33RD INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE FESTIVAL

24 – 28 MARCH 2023

CONDITIONS OF CONTEST

Organisers

The event is being organised by the Cyprus Bridge Federation, who have the sole and full responsibility for all matters pertaining to it.

Venue

Atlantica Miramare Beach Hotel, Limassol, Cyprus

Schedule of Events

Open Pairs	Session 1	6:00 pm Friday 24 th March 2023
	Session 2	5:00 pm Saturday 25 th March 2023
	Session 3	5:00 pm Sunday 26 th March 2023
Open Teams	Session 1	5:00 pm Monday 27 th March 2023
	Session 2	5:00 pm Tuesday 28 th March 2023
Prizes award		During closing ceremony, approx. 8:30 pm Tuesday 28 th March 2023

Competition Formats

For the open pairs competition there will be three sessions of match-pointed duplicate pairs. The director will decide the appropriate movement to be used. The intention is to have as many pairs as possible to face all others. Contestants may sit at any position of their choosing before the start of the first session, thereafter their seating for the following session will be defined by the director. Certain seats may be reserved by the director. The overall winners will be decided based on the cumulative performance over the three sessions, all sessions having an equal weighting.

The open teams will be a six-round swiss competition, played in two sessions of three rounds each. Each round will consist of eight boards and the result of each round will be converted to victory points according to the appropriate WBF continuous VP scale.

Masterpoint awards

The Cyprus Bridge Federation is awarding both Gold and Silver masterpoints to the event to all its members, in accordance with its masterpoint scheme. Details are on the CBF website www.cyprusbridge.org.

Entry Fees

These are defined in the flyer of the competition – see CBF website

Eligibility

Players from all over the world are welcome to participate in the festival.

However, the CBF is a member of both the WBF and the EBL and is bound to follow their advice and instructions on player participation. Players who have been banned from competition by the CBF will not be allowed to take part.

Covid-19 Guidelines

The competition will be run in accordance with Cyprus government decrees for indoor congregations.

SUPPLEMENTARY CONDITIONS OF CONTEST

General

All players by their participation in this event unconditionally agree to these conditions of contest as well as the application of the Laws of Duplicate Bridge 2017 published by the World Bridge Federation (WBF). If an issue is raised that is not clearly or adequately covered in this document, then the provisions of the White Book of the English Bridge Union (EBU), used with the kind permission of the EBU, will apply.

Disclosure of systems

The European Bridge League's Systems Regulations and Systems Policy 2018 apply to this event. However, no **HUM** (Highly Unusual Methods) Systems or **Brown Sticker Conventions** are permitted.

Both members of a partnership must adopt the same methods in the auction and in their carding. All players are encouraged to have with them a suitably completed convention card, to be made available for inspection by their opponents.

All players are reminded of the need to provide **full disclosure** concerning their methods to their opponents. Failure to abide by this rule may result in the offending pair being fined and their opponents receiving an adjusted score.

Players are encouraged to call the tournament director if they consider that their opponents are playing an unauthorised system. Players discovered playing unauthorised systems will be subject to penalty and required to stop playing such systems with immediate effect. Repeated offences may result in their expulsion from the event.

The tournament director's is final. However, the director may refer any matter he considers appropriate to the organisers.

Dealing

The boards will be pre-dealt and duplicated.

Appeals and score corrections

All contestants are encouraged to check their results carefully and to report immediately to the director any error that they feel has occurred.

The score correction period for player errors expires with the start of play of the session following the one in which the error occurred or 30 minutes after the completion of the last event of the tournament, whichever is the earlier.

For director errors, the correction period expires one hour after the completion of the event and the results have been published. The CBF committee, however, may in unusual circumstances elect to make a correction of a director error at a later time.

The appeal period for a director's ruling expires 30 minutes after the completion of the session or at the starting time of the next session, whichever is earlier.

When lodging an appeal, the appellant must deposit the sum of €50 with the tournament director. This deposit will be refunded unless the committee determines that the appeal was substantially without merit, in which case the deposit will be forfeited.

The members of the appeals committee will be announced before the competition starts.

The appeal committee will examine each issue that is referred to them.

A pair should notify the director about filing an appeal within the above time limits.

In the first instance, such notification need not be in writing, but it should be committed to the appeals committee on the official appeals form as soon as is practicable with the help of the

tournament director who made the ruling and the form when completed should be given to the tournament director who will hand it to the head of the appeals committee.

The tournament director states the facts (board identification and as relevant the auction and/or play), what happened at the table, the ruling and who made the appeal. Involved pairs may add their remarks to the statement of the tournament director and may state whether they wish to make an oral statement to the appeals committee.

On receipt of the duly completed appeals form the tournament director will determine the time of hearing and as soon as possible inform members of the appeals committee and pairs involved in appeal about time and place of hearing.

The decisions of the appeals committee will be written on the appeals form and handed to the tournament director for him to notify the pairs concerned.

Ties

Ties are allowed in this event for all positions. In case of a tie, each tied pair is awarded the masterpoints appropriate for that position.

For the teams competition, if two or more teams are tied for a position on victory points, the tie is split as follows:

- Imp quotient, highest wins
- Total no. of IMPs won, highest wins
- Total no. of IMPs lost, lowest wins
- Result of match(es) between the two teams – winner wins

If the tie still cannot be broken, the teams are considered tied.

Changing a player in a pair

Once the competition has started, it will not be possible to change a player in a pair. However, subject to the tournament director's approval, it may be possible to change a player in a pair that has submitted an application of participation before the competition has started.

Length of Matches

The time allowed to complete any session will be 8 minutes per board.

Verification of Scores

Bridgemates will be used for the official recording of scores throughout the event. This recording is the responsibility of the pair sitting North-South at each table. The North-South pair at each table will be responsible for the keying of the scores into the Bridgemates and East-West has the obligation to check the input and to give his/her OK. Repeated violation of correct entering procedures may be subject to penalties.

An agreed-upon score that is proven to be erroneous to the complete satisfaction of the tournament director may be corrected up to 30 minutes after the scores are published at the end of the match or round or session. Thereafter, the results will be final.

Penalties and Fines

Monetary fines shall be paid in Euros. Monies collected shall be turned over to the tournament director for transmission to the organisers.

Match Point penalties, where applicable, shall be deducted from the score of the offending pair at the conclusion of each session. These match point penalties may affect a pair's final ranking.

Late Arrival

Any pair not seated and ready to play at the announced starting time of a session will be assessed a penalty that will be decided by the tournament director

If the delay, in the tournament director's opinion is excessive, he may decide to remove the pair from the competition, awarding appropriate scores to the other pairs.

Slow play

The tournament director will normally issue warnings when pairs are in danger of penalties for slow play. If, despite these warnings, pairs finish late, they will receive a warning in the first instance. Thereafter, the director will penalise each pair who is responsible for slow play.

An absence of warning does not diminish the responsibility of the players or their liability to be fined.

If a pair should claim that the responsibility for the slow play is with their opponents, they will do so by calling the tournament director who will take any corrective measures that are necessary in his opinion, including, at his discretion, the designation of a monitor at the table as long as he considers desirable.

Penalties imposed by the tournament director in accordance with this section are final.

Fouled Boards

Each individual player is responsible for seeing that his own cards are returned to the appropriate pocket on the board. The pair (which includes either player) responsible for fouling a board will be assessed a penalty that will be decided by the tournament director.

At all times, before looking at his cards, each player should count them. Pairs failing to notice an incorrect number may be penalised 10% of the match points available. If a board arrives at a table with the wrong number of cards in a pocket, the tournament director must be called before play commences. He will adjust the cards.

Bidding Boxes

The use of bidding boxes is mandatory throughout. Calls are made by the player placing his selected call in front of him. A player's first call should be to the left with subsequent calls overlapping neatly and evenly to the right. When the auction has been completed the players shall replace the bidding cards in the respective pockets of the bidding boxes.

Alerting

The EBL 'Alerting Policy' applies. Any call which: (i) has a special or artificial meaning, or (ii) which has a partnership meaning that may not be understood by the opponents, is a call that must be brought to the immediate attention of the opponents through the use of the 'alert procedure'.

Players are encouraged to alert in a uniform way to avoid the transmission of Unauthorised Information.

Use of the Stop Card

Use of the stop card is highly recommended.

Looking at partner

Players are requested not to look at their partners during the play of a hand. The object is to avoid any suggestion of unethical communication.

Discussions

As a matter of propriety and in order to save time, players are enjoined during the play, to avoid discussions with partner or argument with opponents. In case of a dispute a player's proper recourse is to call the tournament director.

Any discussion at the table should be in a language understood by all four players.

Non-smoking

Smoking in the premises where the competition is taking place is prohibited. Any player smoking in the building could cause his pair to be fined 10% of match points available, plus a fine of €10.

Repeated violation of this regulation may, and constant violation will, result in the player being prohibited from playing. Failure to pay the fine will result in the player being prohibited from playing.

Alcohol

The consumption of alcoholic beverages of any nature in the playing area is prohibited. No alcoholic beverages can be placed on the table or under it. But players may leave the playing area in order to consume alcohol.

Violating this regulation could cause the offender's pair to be fined 10% of match points available, plus a fine of €10. Repeated violation of this regulation may, and constant violation will, result in the player being prohibited from playing. Failure to pay the fine will result in the player being prohibited from playing.

Mobile phones

Mobile phones shall be turned off (not just put on silent mode) in the playing area.

Any player caught with a mobile phone turned on, ringing or not, could be fined €10. Players who at all costs must be available on mobile phone shall submit their phone to the tournament director for standby.

Spectators

Spectators are not permitted to consume any alcoholic drinks in the playing area, nor may they bring turned on mobile telephones, pagers or other electronic equipment. Spectators contravening any of these regulations will be required to leave the playing area immediately and will not be permitted to return for the remainder of the event without specific permission from the tournament director. The tournament director may, at his discretion, prohibit a spectator from bringing other equipment into the playing area.