

5th SMALL FEDERATIONS GAMES
&
45th TALLINN BRIDGE FESTIVAL
24th - 30th September 2012

CONDITIONS OF CONTEST

Venue

Meriton Grand Conference & Spa Hotel
Paldiski mnt 4, Tallinn

Schedule of Events

5th Small Federations Games

Monday 24 September

09:30 Opening cocktails and draw for the two groups

10:30–14:30 Rounds 1 to 2

15:30–19:30 Rounds 3 to 4

Tuesday 25 September

10:00 Guided tour of Tallinn

14:00–20:00 Games, Rounds 5 to 7

Wednesday 26 September

10:00–14:00 Semi-finals (A1-B2, B1-A2) & Consolation

15:00–19:00 Final & Consolation

20:00 Victory Banquet

Thursday 27 September

45th Tallinn Bridge Festival

Invitational Pairs: Swiss 11x4 boards, IMP across the field

Thursday 27 September

15:00–16:55 Rounds 1–3

17:05–19:00 Rounds 4–6

19:15–19:50 Rounds 7–9

21:20–21:55 Rounds 10–11

Teams: Danish 9x6 boards

Friday 28 September

11:00–14:50 Rounds 1–4

16:10–18:00 Rounds 5–6

After Round 6 the play continues in final groups

A — 10 teams, B — 10 teams, C — rest of teams

18:20–21:10 Final rounds 7–9

Open Pairs: 5 sessions by 5x2 boards, match points

Saturday 29 September

11:00–20:30 Sessions 1–5

Board-a-Match: 12x2 boards + final round of 4 boards (10+ points 2:0)

Sunday 30 September

10:00–14:30

Victory Ceremony

Sunday 30 September

15:00

Entry fees (50% discount for juniors)

Teams (per team)	120 €
Open Pairs (per pair)	60 €
Board-a-match (per team)	60 €

SUPPLEMENTAL CONDITIONS OF CONTEST

Disclosure of Systems

The European Bridge League's Systems Regulations and Systems Policy 2000 apply to Festival events. All Festival events are designated as Category 2 events. Consequently, **HUM Systems** are not permitted but **Brown Sticker Conventions** are permitted.

Contestants are required to make full written and oral disclosure of their Systems. Every participating partnership must complete accurately a Convention Card (WBF, EBL or on form provided by organisers). Supplementary Sheets are deemed to be part of the Convention Card. Failure to comply with this obligation can result in penalties being imposed.

All pairs will be responsible for ensuring that they have two properly completed convention cards at the table at the start of each session. Failure to comply with this regulation can result in penalties being applied.

Both members of a partnership must adopt the same methods in the auction and in their carding.

Players are advised that no photocopying facilities will be provided on site.

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 Directors and the Tournament Appeals Committee are empowered to impose penalties for any breach in disclosure. A decision on such a matter by the Tournament Appeals Committee is final. A decision on such a matter by the Director may in certain clearly-defined instances, be subject to appeal to the Tournament Appeals Committee, using the normal procedures for the filing of appeals.

Dealing

The boards will be pre-dealt and duplicated.

Appeals

When lodging an Appeal, the appellant must deposit the sum of 10 EUR 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 Appeals Committee will be appointed by Chief Tournament Director prior to the event and he can appoint additional members if needed.

A pair or team should notify Director about filing an appeal within **10 minutes** of the conclusion of the match or round. In the case of **last match or round of the event** within **5 minutes**.

In the first instance such notification need not be in writing, but it should be committed to the official Appeals form as soon as it 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 its 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 teams or pairs concerned.

Ties

If teams are tied, the tie shall be broken by total number of IMPs.

In match points pair events the final % result of a pair will be rounded up to two digits after decimal point.

Line-Ups

In each match the first named team will be the Home Team. The Home sits in the North-South direction in the Open Room and in the East-West direction in the Closed Room throughout the match. The Home Team has the right to seat its players after the Visiting Team has done so.

Adding Players to a Team

Each team is entitled to have six members. If only four or five members are registered at the time of the original entry, additional member may be registered with notification to Tournament Register.

Length of Matches

The time allowed to complete any match will be on the basis of approximately 8 minutes 30 seconds per board.

Verification of Scores

An electronic device called the Bridgemate will be used for the official recording of scores throughout the Festival. This recording is the responsibility of the pair sitting North/South at each table. The N/S pair at each table will be responsible for the keying of the scores into the Bridgemates and O/W has the obligation to check this 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 Chief Tournament Director may be corrected up to **20 minutes** after the scores are published at the end match or round.

Thereafter, the results will be final, except in the case of awaiting decision of the Tournament Appeals Committee on a filed appeal. Obvious errors by the organisation will be corrected within a reasonable time frame.

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.

Victory Point penalties, where applicable, shall be deducted from the score of the offending team at the conclusion of the match. These Victory Point penalties shall not affect individual matches for the purpose of tie-breaking procedures, but may determine a team's ranking.

Penalties assessed in IMPs shall be deducted from the score of the offending team at the conclusion of the match during which the penalty was imposed, before its VP score is calculated. However the score of the non offending team shall not be affected.

Late Arrival

Any team not seated and ready to play at the announced starting time of a Session or a match will be assessed penalties according to the following scale:

Minutes Late Penalty

0+ – 5 Warning

5+ – 10 ½ VP

10+ – 15 1 VP

And so on

Over 15 minutes late the Tournament Director may include recommendation of forfeit of the match.

If any team has been fined for being late at the commencement of a round the fines for slow play in the same round will be based on the time at which all players were seated at the table and ready to play.

Slow Play

Excess time apportioned to a pair during the match in **Teams** event:

0+ – 5 minutes late ½ VP

5+ – 10 minutes late 1 VP

Over 10 minutes late the Tournament Director has power to end the match with reduced number of boards.

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 for as long as he considers desirable.

The Tournament Director will normally issue warnings when teams are in danger of penalties for slow play, but an absence of warning does not diminish the responsibility of the players or their liability to be fined.

If the two sides at the table are not considered to bear equal responsibility for the late finish the prescribed penalty will be divided between the two teams proportionately to the extent to which each side is deemed to have contributed to the overrun.

The time allowed for completion of a round in **Pairs event** is based on approximately 8½ minutes per board, including changes. If this time limit is exceeded, penalties can be imposed at the discretion of the Tournament Director. If the Tournament Director has reason to suppose that the delay in any round is

caused by one pair rather than the other, he may assess the penalty against the delinquent pair only. 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 of the board. The pair (which includes either player) responsible for fouling a board will be assessed a penalty of 50% of the match points available on a board during the Session.

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.

If any player in Teams event looks at his cards before counting and has 14 or more cards the board is "fouled". The offending side will be penalized ½ VP for each occasion.

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 their bidding cards in the respective pockets of the bidding box.

Screens

The North and East players sit on the same side of the screen throughout. It is North's responsibility to place the board on, and to remove the board from, the bidding tray. It is West's responsibility to adjust the screen aperture. The sequence is this: North places the board on the bidding tray. The aperture is closed (and remains so during the whole of the auction period) so that the bidding tray can just pass under it. The players remove the cards from the board. Calls are made with the cards from the bidding box. The player places the selected call in the bidding tray, which will be visible only on the player's side of the screen. A player's first call should touch the extreme left of his own segment of the bidding tray, with subsequent calls overlapping neatly and evenly to the right. Players should make every effort to perform these actions as quietly as possible. With screens in use a call is considered 'made' when placed on the tray and released.

After two players on the same side of the screen have made their calls, North or South (as the case may be) slides the bidding tray under the centre of the screen so as to be visible only to the players on the other side. They then make their calls in like manner and the bidding tray is slid back again. This procedure is continued until the auction is completed. It is considered desirable that players should vary the tempo randomly when returning the tray under the screen. After all four players have had the opportunity to review the auction (equivalent to the right of having the auction restated) the players replace their bidding cards in their respective bidding boxes. After a legal opening lead is faced, the screen aperture is opened the minimum necessary to permit all players to see the dummy cards and the cards played to each trick. If a defender exposes a card and, because of the screen, declarer does not see it, dummy may draw attention to the irregularity.

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".

NB! In Estonia the Precision Club Two Clubs opening **is not** subject to alert.

Use of the stop card

Use of the stop card is highly recommendable.

Looking at partner

Players are requested not to look at their partners during 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 the Tournament Director.

Non-Smoking

Smoking in the building is prohibited. Any player smoking in the building could cause his team to be fined ½ VP or pair 10% of match points available, plus a fine of 10 EUR. 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 offender's team to be fined ½ VP or offender's pair 10% of match points available, plus a fine of 10 EUR.

Repeated violation of this regulation may, and constant violation of this regulation 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 only silent/vibrator) in the Playing Area.

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

Spectators

Spectators are not permitted consume any alcoholic drinks in 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.