



Home International Regulations

2009

BRIDGE GREAT BRITAIN

**RULES & REGULATIONS FOR THE
HOME INTERNATIONAL SERIES**

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1 Scope

These Rules and Regulations are established by the Expanded Committee of Bridge Great Britain (BGB) and shall apply to all matches in the Home International Series.

All issues and difficulties raised prior to an event will be resolved by BGB.

During an event the Chairman of Appeals will determine how any problems are to be resolved.

All events sponsored by BGB are played under the most recent version of the International Code "Laws of Duplicate Contract Bridge", with such modifications as have been approved by the WBF Laws Commission. Rules and Regulations whose special provisions supplement the Laws will be interpreted, where necessary, as provided in the EBL Commentary on the Laws.

2 Programme

BGB shall arrange the programme of matches which shall take place on set dates during a single competition year. A competition year runs from 1st July to 30th June of the following calendar year.

Any disputes will be resolved by the Expanded Committee of BGB.

In extreme circumstances, and on the joint application of all the countries concerned, BGB may permit a match to be rescheduled. This must be within four weeks of the due date. If the match cannot be rescheduled in good time BGB will award a match score as it sees fit.

3 Entry

The Home International Series comprises the Camrose Trophy (Open Teams), The Lady Milne Trophy (Women's Teams), the Junior Camrose Trophy (Under 25's) , the Peggy Bayer Trophy (Under 20's) and the Seniors Camrose (Over 60's).

Participating NBOs are the English Bridge Union, the Northern Ireland Bridge Union, the Contract Bridge Association of Ireland, the Scottish Bridge Union and the Welsh Bridge Union.

To participate in the Home International series each NBO is required to pay an entry fee to Bridge Great Britain at the start of the competition year.

Each NBO may enter one team in each event, but see sections 12.1 and 13.1

Each country entered must play against each other such country. Entry and subsequent refusal to play shall result in disqualification.

If a team withdraws from any of the Home International Series it will not be replaced. Matches will be rescheduled appropriately. Each team may have up to six playing members, plus a non-playing captain.

4 Eligibility

Each nominated player must be a member of the NBO for which he is selected to play, and must satisfy one of the following criteria to qualify to represent that NBO

- a) he was born in the country governed by that NBO
- b) he has a natural parent who was born in that country (parents by legal adoption replace natural parents, but parents by marriage do not)
- c) he has been a bona fide resident of the country governed by that NBO for at least two years prior to nomination
- d) he has previously represented that NBO as a resident and has since moved away, but retains membership of that NBO and has not subsequently represented any other country.

4.1 Proof of Eligibility

It is the responsibility of each NBO to ensure that all selected players are eligible to represent it, and to provide evidence if required to do so by BGB (prior to a match) or a Chairman of Appeals (during a match). Failure to prove eligibility may result in disqualification.

4.2 Change of eligibility

No player may seek to play for more than one country for events in the same season.

If a player satisfies eligibility conditions for more than one country he must state which NBO he wishes to represent at the start of the competition year on or before 1st July.

Once registered with one NBO a player is eligible to represent only that NBO until he notifies BGB of his desire to change allegiance.

A player may change allegiance from one NBO to another by registering the change with both NBOs and the Secretary of BGB at the start of a new competition year. He may not represent his new NBO until two full competition years have elapsed since he represented another NBO.

Playing in a Transnational event organised by the EBL or WBF, or representing another NBO in a friendly match does not affect eligibility. Representing Ireland in an EBL or WBF event does not affect eligibility to represent the CBAI or NIBU in the Home International series. Representing Great Britain in such an event does not affect eligibility to represent England, Scotland or Wales.

5 Organisation of matches

5.1 General Procedures

The organising NBO is responsible for providing copies of the Laws, these Rules and Regulations, copies of the "Statement of Procedure in BGB Appeal Committees" and other relevant documents. The Secretary of BGB will provide a copy of these Rules and Regulations for the Chairman of Appeals.

5.2 Venue and Facilities

The host NBO is responsible for hiring a suitable venue, and for arranging for sufficient staff to run the event to the standard required. Details on the level of staffing and job descriptions can be obtained from the Secretary. Playing facilities should include two or more separate playing rooms (NOT one large

room divided by screens). One room shall be designated "Open", to which spectators may be admitted, and the other "Closed" from which all but participating players and authorised personnel are excluded. A designated area will be provided for Line-up.

The host NBO may charge spectators for admission to the match.

5.3 Vu-Graph

A Vu-Graph presentation shall be made of play of at least one table in the Closed Room. If the host NBO does not wish to provide this facility they must apply to BGB for dispensation, which will be granted only in exceptional circumstances.

Match Managers should be aware that vu-graph is primarily for the benefit of spectators, and should seek to ensure that all countries get a reasonable allocation of vu-graph time. For the Junior Camrose it is traditional that all countries appear on vu-graph during the first few matches, and thereafter as the results dictate.

BGB supports public presentation of matches on the internet. Internet broadcasts may be made from more than one room, and all teams must be prepared to play in such rooms as and when required. For the Peggy Bayer team captains can state that their team does not wish to appear on Vugraph or BBO.

5.4 Officials

Matches shall be organised by a Match Manager appointed by the host NBO. He is responsible for the venue, provision of equipment and facilities, BBO Operators, recorders, stewards, hand and scoring records.

A Director in Charge will be nominated by the host NBO and endorsed by the other NBOs His name shall be submitted to BGB for approval at least one month in advance of the match. Assistant Directors shall be appointed by the host NBO in consultation with the Director in Charge.

A Chairman of Appeals shall be appointed by BGB. His duties are to represent BGB, and to form and chair Appeals Committees. He has plenary powers to resolve problems that may arise during a match, and may override the Match Manager. He shall investigate any complaints regarding conduct, and report on any incident that may give rise to disciplinary procedures.

5.5 Hospitality

A reasonable level of hospitality is expected of the host NBO. They should ensure that there is adequate provision of refreshments for players and officials during and after play and organise a Closing Ceremony at which the results will be announced and opportunity afforded to the visiting Captain(s) to express their appreciation.

If possible teams should be provided with a private area for scoring.

The host NBO is not responsible for hotel expenses of the visiting teams, which must be settled on departure. If the maximum hotel rates exceed the figures determined annually by the Committee, the host NBO shall pay any excess. The host NBO shall be responsible for organising transfer from the nearest reasonable point of arrival, provided it is informed of travel arrangements at least seven days in advance. In the event of any disagreement, the decision of the Chairman of Bridge Great Britain shall be final.

The cost of all hospitality will be charged to the respective teams.

If feasible, all the above package rates will be administered by the host NBO on a central billing system. In the event that any host NBO fails to comply with this, the other NBOs may apply to BGB for the difference between the stated cost and the actual cost. Hosts of a home international match are requested to inform other NBOs of any unusual or unexpected arrangements with a hotel venue, such as payment constraints.

The travelling expenses of the Chairman of Appeals will be borne by BGB. If the Chairman of Appeals does not belong to the host NBO, BGB will play all his expenses.

All other expenses are the responsibility of the host NBO.

6 Teams

Each NBO shall inform both BGB and the host NBO of the names of the Captain and members of each team at least 14 days before the start of each match and also send details to Anna Gudge at anna@ecats.co.uk for inclusion on the BGB website.

If a country has submitted the names of fewer than six players a fifth or sixth player may be added prior to the commencement of the second play period.

Subject to the approval of the Chairman of Appeals, the members of a team may be changed up to the posting of the line-up for the first session of the event, but not thereafter.

Immediately before the commencement of the first session the Captain of each team shall nominate to the Director the members of his team. Thereafter no substitute or reserve player shall be permitted to play.

In the case of the Junior Camrose and Peggy Bayer Trophies, it is permitted that a “floating pair” be selected to play in either event.

7 Match Rules

All conversation at the table shall be in English.

7.1 Open Room

No player may leave the Open Room until the play session is completed unless accompanied by a person designated by the Director, nor may he watch play at other tables. No spectator may enter the Open Room while play is in progress. If a spectator leaves the Open Room while play is in progress he may not return until the play session has been completed. Non-playing captains are prohibited from entering the Open Room once play has commenced in the Closed Room.

7.2 Closed Room

Only the following personnel are authorised to be present in the Closed Room.

- a) Participants assigned to play in the Room
- b) Tournament Directors on duty
- c) Personnel needed to ensure the smooth running of the match
- d) The Chairman of Appeals
- e) Hotel staff for the provision of refreshments etc.
- f) A maximum of two journalists accredited by the Chairman of Appeals, who must remain in the Closed Room for the duration of the session.

Once play has been concluded in the Closed Room, players may leave when permitted to do so by an authorised official

7.3 Vu-Graph Closed Room

The presentation shall show play at one table in the Closed Room, which may house more than one table.

All teams must participate in the public presentation when and as often as required.

7.4 Spectators

It is the duty of the match manager to make spectators aware of their responsibilities.

During play in the Open Room they must refrain from mannerisms or remarks, and must not converse with a player or display any reaction to bidding or play.

Spectators are permitted to observe the cards of one player only. They should be seated behind that player and may not get up to walk round the table, or seek to look at the cards of any other player.

Spectators may not draw attention to any irregularity or mistake, nor speak on any question except by request of the Director.

Non-playing members of a team are not allowed to watch their team-mates playing at the tables.

A player is responsible for the actions of any spectator who is associated with him (as distinct to a spectator casually attracted to the table by his presence there).

The Director in Charge and/or the Match Manager is empowered to control the presence of spectators, individually or collectively.

7.5 Smoking, Alcohol and Mobile Phone Regulations

There shall be no smoking or consumption of alcohol in the playing areas. This may include the lobby in the immediate vicinity of the actual playing rooms, the toilets adjoining the playing rooms which are designated for the use of the players, and any other rooms/lobby areas to be decided on site. Such areas will be identified to the participants by the Match Manager. The ban on consumption of alcohol in the playing areas also applies to tournament staff.

During a play session no player may leave the playing area in order to smoke.

Alcohol, mobile phones, pagers or other electronic equipment may not be brought into the playing area. Any player or team official bringing such an item into these areas will result in his team being fined 2VP. The penalty is automatic. Constant violation of this regulation will result in the player being prohibited from playing and in the team official not being admitted into the playing area.

The Chairman of Appeals may, at his discretion, prohibit a player from bringing other equipment into the playing area.

7.6 Non-playing Captain

A Non-playing Captain (NPC) may watch a pair in play at a table, in the open room, designated by the Director. An NPC who has watched his pair in play and who then leaves the table shall not return (except with the prior agreement of the Director), nor shall he approach any other table in play until the next scoring interval.

An NPC may not converse with players once any player has withdrawn a hand from the board to be played until play has

been completed. Only then may he call the Director to make a protest or request a ruling. He may, however, act during the auction or play for any of the following reasons:

- a) To cause a decision as to whether his side will request a ruling to be deferred
- b) To protect the rights of his team if he believes them to have been jeopardised
- c) To curtail unnecessary discussion
- d) To restrain inappropriate behaviour by a member of his team
- e) To ensure that a non-playing pair is not watching their team-mates in play
- f) To require that a Director is called to the table, but only for the purposes of implementing one or more of the above listed rights.

The Captain is not permitted to suggest tactics during the course of a session, nor to draw attention to the state of the match.

7.7 Appeals

All appeals must be made by the Team Captain.

In the case of the Camrose and Lady Milne Trophies an appeal deposit of £50 is payable. The Appeals Chairman or Appeals Committee shall have the right to retain the deposit if in their opinion the appeal was frivolous.

The time limit within which an appeal may be lodged will be specified by the Director in Charge, normally the 30-minute provision of Law 79C.

An Appeals Chairman may consider the appeal alone. If he/she wishes to take advice he/she may do so. He/she may co-opt up to 2 persons to constitute an Appeals Committee. Unless such persons are clearly independent of any interest in either Country involved in the Appeal, the Appeals Chairman should seek the approval of the captains of the teams party to the appeal. If this is not given then he/she must hear the appeal alone.

It is a requirement that the decision of the Appeals Committee or Appeals Chairman be fully documented, together with the Law(s) relevant to the decision.

The decisions of the Appeals Committee shall be final.

Any complaints regarding the composition or procedures of the Committee shall be referred to BGB, which shall act as the National Authority.

7.8 Hand Records

Hand copies should be available after each stanza , and complete records of bidding and play produced on site for each Captain and the Secretary of BGB, if time allows.

Subject to adequate security, hand copies may be released to vugraph commentators and directors at the commencement of each stanza.

8 Rules of Play

8.1 When Screens are in Use

The use of screens in the Camrose and Lady Milne Trophies is mandatory.

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. 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.

The use of bidding boxes is mandatory

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. 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 in turn make their calls in like manner and bidding tray is

slid back again. This procedure is continued until the auction is completed.

If a player makes an alertable bid it is his/her responsibility to alert the player on the same side of the screen to that fact. Once the bid has been passed to the other side of the screen, it is the responsibility of his/her partner to alert their screen mate.

After a legal opening lead is faced, the screen aperture is opened sufficiently so that all players may see the dummy and the cards played to each trick.

A player may at any time during the auction, by written question only, ask for an explanation of an opponent's call; the screen-mate must respond in writing.

Any questions during the play period must be made with the screen aperture closed; again, both question and answer must be in writing. The screen aperture is opened after the response has been made.

Failure to observe the requirements for written questions and responses constitutes an offence subject to penalty. The Directors have been instructed to apply this condition strictly.

All communication through the screen as to meanings and explanations is expressly forbidden until the end of the play.

8.2 When Screens are Not in Use

Screens will not be used in the Junior Camrose, Peggy Bayer or Seniors Camrose.

The use of bidding boxes is mandatory.

Calls made using cards are treated under the Laws in the same way as spoken calls. A call is considered to have been made when the call is removed from the bidding box with apparent intent (but the Director may apply Law 25). A call may be changed without penalty under Law 25A if:

- (i) The change is solely due to the player having taken out the wrong card in error, and
- (ii) He changes, or attempts to change it, instantly when he realises that he has removed the wrong card by mistake.

The Match Manager or Tournament Director may instruct that the final call is displayed on the board in the centre of the table.

8.3 Computer Dealing

Computer dealing is mandatory. The Chairman of Appeals must be satisfied as to the arrangements for computer dealing and the production of boards and hand records, but does not have to be physically present.

8.4 Late arrival

Any team not seated and ready to play at the start of a session will be fined 1VP and a further VP for every five minutes thereafter. If any team has been late at the commencement of a session 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.

8.5 Slow Play

At approximately half way, and approximately 10 minutes before the end of play, the Director is required to notify each table of the time remaining. Failure of the Director to meet this requirement will not absolve the players from penalty.

At the end of the allocated time the Director must impose, for any table still in play, a fine of 1VP for any delay up to five minutes, and an additional fine of 1VP for each further delay of five minutes or part thereof. A 1 VP fine will be levied on each team unless the Director considers only one pair to be at fault, in which case only the offending pair shall incur a 1VP fine.

Where the same pair incurs a subsequent fine, this shall automatically be increased by 50%, and the Director will normally exercise his authority to require the withdrawal of that partnership for the next session.

To give effect to such decision the Director shall inform the Team Captains of it.

For substantial or repeated delays the Director should impose a more severe penalty, or refer the facts to the Chairman of Appeals.

Appeal against fines for slow play may be based only on a question as to the Director's findings of fact.

They do not apply to the Peggy Bayer Trophy, where any penalty will be at the discretion of the Director in Charge.

8.6 Replaying a stanza which has been played at the same polarity in both rooms

Where a stanza has been played at the same polarity in both rooms, the Chairman of Appeals, in consultation with the Match Manager, will decide whether there is time to replay the stanza. If there is insufficient time, each team will be fined 3VP for the unplayed stanza. i.e. both teams receive a score of 12 VPs for the unplayed match.

8.7 Systems

A team of six players are restricted to a maximum of four systems.

Convention cards for all events must be submitted electronically to Anna Gudge at anna@ecats.co.uk for publication on the BGB website.

In the Camrose, Lady Milne and Seniors Camrose, failure to comply within the specified period will result in the players being restricted to WBF Category 3 for the first play period.

In the Junior Camrose and Peggy Bayer, failure to comply within the specified period will result in the players being restricted to "Simple Systems" for the first play period.

All players must also bring a copy of their own convention card to the table.

Systems should be accurately and legibly typed or printed to a standard that permits a legible photocopy, on one Convention Card, together with a maximum of two A4 sized supplementary sheets.

The Convention Card Editor, supplied by the WBF, may be downloaded from www.eurobridge.org or <http://bridge.ecats.co.uk> and used to generate Convention Cards.

No change in basic methods or material change to a system or convention during an event is permitted without the approval of the Director in Charge. Permission will normally be given provided that the Director is assured that neither the original submission nor the change is made to gain an unreasonable advantage, and that the change is made to a method in common use.

8.8 Permitted Systems and Defences

The Camrose Series is considered to be a Category 1 event as defined within the WBF Systems Policy. The Lady Milne Trophy and Seniors Camrose are Category 2 events, and the Junior Camrose and Peggy Bayer are Category 3 events. Details of the WBF Systems Policy can be found on the BGB website: www.bridggreatbritain.org.

Thus Highly Unusual Methods (HUMs) are not permitted in the Lady Milne, Seniors Camrose, Junior Camrose and Peggy Bayer. They are permitted in the Camrose Series, but full details must be provided to the opposing team(s) a full 28 days in advance of the match.

Where a team has a pair or pairs using a HUM system that team loses seating rights whenever these pair(s) are selected to play. Opponents may bring written defences to the HUM system to the table as an aide memoire.

A pair may prepare written defences against the Brown Sticker elements of any system. Such defences will have to be given to the opponents (two clearly legible copies) prior to the start of the match. Written defences against Brown Sticker conventions are deemed to be part of the opponents' convention card.

The two members of a partnership are restricted to a single system in any one weekend, and both must play the same system and conventions in bidding and play.

8.9 Alerting

The WBF Alerting Policy has been adopted for the Home International series as follows.

The following classes of calls should be alerted:

1. Conventional bids should be alerted, non-conventional bids should not.
2. Those bids which have special meanings or which are based on or lead to special understandings between the partners. (A player may not make a call or play based on special partnership understanding unless an opposing pair may reasonably be expected to understand its meaning, or unless his side discloses the use of such call or play in accordance with the regulations of the sponsoring organization). See Law 40(b).
3. Non-forcing jump changes of suit responses to opening bids or overcalls, and non-forcing new suit responses by an unpassed hand to opening bids of one of a suit.

If screens are not in use, do **NOT** alert the following:

1. All doubles.
2. Any no-trump bid which suggests a balanced or semi-balanced hand, or suggests a no-trump contract.
3. Any call at the four level or higher, with the exception of conventional calls on the first round of the auction.

Nevertheless, players must respect the spirit of the Policy as well as the letter.

8.10 Scoring

At the end of each session North and East at each table must agree the scores and initial the official table scorecard.

The Captains of the respective teams must agree the score at the completion of each play session and sign an official results slip.

Protest time concerning the result is 30 minutes after the end of each play period.

If at the end of protest period no protest has been lodged, the posted result shall become the official result of the match except in these circumstances:

- a) There is a pending appeal
- b) There is to be an adjustment in respect of fines

- c) Where a replay of one or more boards has been directed and is still in progress.

8.11 Master Point Awards

For each player who plays at least one-third of the boards, Master Point Awards for the Camrose Trophy, Lady Milne Trophy and Junior Camrose & Peggy Bayer Trophies, awarded at the discretion of each Home NBO, are as follows:

Camrose Trophy:

| | |
|--|-------------|
| For each 32-board match won (having played at least 16 boards): | 2 nationals |
| For the winners of each weekend: | 2 nationals |
| For the runners-up of each weekend: | 1 national |

One representative “cap” will be awarded for each weekend.

Lady Milne Trophy:

| | |
|--|-------------|
| For each 32-board match won (having played at least 16 boards): | 2 nationals |
| For the winners: | 2 nationals |
| For the runners-up : | 1 national |

Junior Camrose Trophy:

| | |
|----------------------------|-------------|
| To the overall winners: | 2 nationals |
| To the overall runners-up: | 1 national |

Peggy Bayer Trophy:

| | |
|----------------------------|------------------|
| To the overall winners: | 200 Local points |
| To the overall runners-up: | 100 Local points |

Seniors Camrose

Where there is a tie in Victory Points both teams receive the award for winning.

9 Conduct

9.1 Standard of Dress

Players are expected to adhere to a standard of dress and personal grooming suitable for the venue (normally a high-class hotel).

9.2 Disciplinary Powers

The Chairman of Appeals may at his discretion investigate any matter touching upon or arising out of the Laws, the Proprieties of the Game, or these Rules and Regulations. This shall be the case irrespective of the way in which such a matter has come to his attention.

Consequent upon the findings of such investigation he is empowered:

- a) to impose such penalty as he shall decide in respect of the score or the participation of any individual, pair or team in that match
- b) to award an adjusted score on any board involved

The powers of the Chairman of Appeals shall extend to the suspension or disqualification of any pair or players, or disqualification of a team.

This in no way affects the powers of the Director to maintain discipline.

9.3 Disciplinary proceedings

All complaints about a player's behaviour shall be reported to the NBO of the player involved for further action as appropriate.

9.4 Penalties

Breaches of these regulations by a player or non-playing captain where a penalty is not otherwise provided shall carry an automatic fine of 1 VP.

10 Reports

It is essential that immediately the match is completed and the final score agreed, the match result shall be posted on a website whose address has been previously submitted to Anna Gudge for inclusion on the BGB website. The following reports should then be sent to the Secretary of BGB:

- a) A statement from the Match Manager, containing the following information:
match details and report on the venue

names of all players in each team and their
Captain
line-up forms
name of Director in Charge

- b) Results of each match and the overall result signed by all the Captains, the Chairman of Appeal and the Director in Charge
- c) A confidential report from the Director in Charge, concerning observations and/or recommendations regarding the venue and facilities.
- d) A confidential report from the Chairman of Appeals, together with copies of all Appeals Forms and rulings made during the event.

All reports should be printed in dark ink so as to facilitate photocopying.

11 Championship Table and Trophies

Each NBO shall be credited with the number of Victory Points gained in each of the matches.

The winners of the Trophies shall be the countries with the greatest number of Victory Points gained over the series. In the event of two or more countries gaining an equal number of VP's the Trophy shall be held jointly by such countries.

The NBO of the winning team shall be responsible for insuring the Trophies.

The Trophies shall be in the custody of the winning team for 12 months.

The NBO of the winning team shall be responsible for the engraving at the expense of BGB, and for bringing the Trophy to the presentation match of the next season.

12 Special Regulations – Camrose Trophy

12.1 Format

Six teams will compete, the sixth team rotating between each country, with the country hosting the second weekend providing the second team that year. If, for any reason, that country is unable to field a second team, then the holders from the previous year will be invited to field a second team. No player or pairs may play for more than 1 team each year.

Five head-to-head matches of 32 boards, in 16-board stanzas, will be played on each of two weekends. The scores from the first weekend will be carried forward to the final weekend.

The two teams from the same country will play against each other in the first match of each weekend.

Teams will consist of a maximum of 6 players.

The draw for 2009 is as follows:

- Team A: Northern Ireland
- Team B: Wales
- Team C: Republic of Ireland
- Team D: EBU
- Team E: Scotland
- Team F: England

12.2 Seating rights

The team printed first in the schedule sits North-South in the Open Room and East-West in the Closed Room throughout the match.

Seating rights alternate between the two teams. In the first stanza the Captain of the second-named team nominates his pairs first; in the second stanza the first-named Captain nominates first.

Line-ups must be submitted at least five minutes before a stanza is due to begin. A designated area shall be provided for Line-up.

12.3 Trophies

With regard to the trophies between teams for the direct matches, if a country is fielding 2 teams that year, the destination of the trophy will be worked out on the cumulative scores of the two teams

12.4 Systems

Convention cards for the two weekends of the Camrose Trophy must be submitted electronically to Anna Gudge at anna@ecats.co.uk for publication on the BGB website by 1st December 2008 and 1st February 2009 respectively.

Failure to comply within the specified period will result in the players being restricted to WBF Category 3 for the first play period.

The Camrose Series is considered to be a Category 1 event as defined within the WBF Systems Policy.

Highly Unusual Methods (HUMs) are permitted in the Camrose Series, but full details must be provided to the opposing team(s) a full 28 days in advance of the match.

Where a team has a pair or pairs using a HUM system that team loses seating rights whenever these pair(s) are selected to play. Opponents may bring written defences to the HUM system to the table as an aide memoire.

A pair may prepare written defences against the Brown Sticker elements of any system. Such defences will have to be given to the opponents (two clearly legible copies) prior to the start of the match. Written defences against Brown Sticker conventions are deemed to be part of the opponents' convention card.

12.5 Screens

Screens will be used

12.6 Hospitality

The host nation shall organise a buffet-style meal at 17.30 on Friday.

The dinner on the Sunday of the first weekend will be informal. On the Sunday of the second weekend the teams will be expected to attend the prize-giving dinner at which all the trophies will be presented.

A package comprising three nights' dinner, bed and breakfast, plus sandwich lunches on Saturday and Sunday will be organized by the host NBO at a cost of no more than £275 or €400 per person, calculated on a single room basis.

12.7 Schedule

The time allowed for a 16-board stanza shall be 2 hours 10-minutes, with a 15-minute scoring break between stanzas and a 30-minute break between matches played on the same day.

1st weekend:

| | | | | |
|------------------|---------------|--------------------------|-------|-------|
| Friday: | 17.00 | Captain's meeting | | |
| | 17.30 | Buffet meal | | |
| | 19.30 – 21.40 | D v F | C v E | B v A |
| | 21.55 – 00.05 | D v F | C v E | B v A |
| Saturday: | 10.00 – 12.10 | A v C | B v D | F v E |
| | 12.25 – 14.35 | A v C | B v D | F v E |
| | | Lunch | | |
| | 15.10 – 17.20 | E v A | F v B | C v D |
| | 17.35 – 19.45 | E v A | F v B | C v D |
| | 20.30 | Dinner | | |
| Sunday: | 10.00 – 12.10 | B v C | A v F | E v D |
| | 12.25 – 14.35 | B v C | A v F | E v D |
| | | Lunch | | |
| | 15.10 – 17.20 | F v C | E v B | D v A |
| | 17.35 – 19.45 | F v C | E v B | D v A |
| | 20.30 | Dinner | | |

2nd weekend:

| | | | | |
|------------------|---------------|--|-------|-------|
| Friday: | 17.00 | Captain's meeting | | |
| | 17.30 | Buffet meal | | |
| | 19.30 – 21.40 | F v D | C v B | A v E |
| | 21.55 – 00.05 | F v D | C v B | A v E |
| Saturday: | 10.00 – 12.10 | A v D | B v E | C v F |
| | 12.25 – 14.40 | A v D | B v E | C v F |
| | | Lunch | | |
| | 15.10 – 17.20 | F v A | D v B | E v C |
| | 17.35 – 19.45 | F v A | D v B | E v C |
| | 20.30 | Dinner | | |
| Sunday: | 10.00 – 12.10 | E v F | A v B | D v C |
| | 12.25 – 14.40 | E v F | A v B | D v C |
| | | Lunch | | |
| | 15.10 – 17.20 | C v A | D v E | B v F |
| | 17.35 – 19.45 | C v A | D v E | B v F |
| | 20.30 | Reception & prize-giving dinner | | |

12.8 Fixtures

| Year | Date | Host country |
|-------------|---|---------------------|
| 2009 | 9 th – 11 th January | Wales |
| | 6 th – 8 th March | England |
| 2010 | 8 th – 10 th January | Scotland |
| | 5 th – 7 th March | Northern Ireland |
| 2011 | 7 th – 9 th January | Republic of Ireland |
| | 4 th – 6 th March | Wales |
| 2012 | 6 th – 8 th January | England |
| | 2 nd – 4 th March | Scotland |
| 2013 | 4 th – 6 th January | Northern Ireland |
| | 1 st – 3 rd March | Republic of Ireland |
| 2014 | 10 th – 12 th January | Wales |
| | 7 th – 9 th March | England |
| 2015 | 9 th – 11 th January | Scotland |
| | 6 th – 8 th March | Northern Ireland |

12.9 VP Scale (32 boards)

| IMPs | VPs | IMPs | VPs |
|---------|---------|----------|--------|
| 0 - 3 | 15 - 15 | 47 - 52 | 23 - 7 |
| 4 - 10 | 16 - 14 | 53 - 58 | 24 - 6 |
| 11 - 16 | 17 - 13 | 59 - 65 | 25 - 5 |
| 17 - 22 | 18 - 12 | 66 - 73 | 25 - 4 |
| 23 - 28 | 19 - 11 | 74 - 82 | 25 - 3 |
| 29 - 34 | 20 - 10 | 83 - 91 | 25 - 2 |
| 35 - 40 | 21 - 9 | 92 - 100 | 25 - 1 |
| 41 - 46 | 22 - 8 | 101+ | 25 - 0 |

13 Special Regulations – The Lady Milne Trophy

13.1 Format

Six teams will compete, the sixth team rotating between each country, with the country hosting the match providing the second team that year. If, for any reason, that country is unable to field a second team, then the holders from the previous year will be invited to field a second team.

Five head-to-head matches of 32 boards, in 16-board stanzas, will be played.

The two teams from the same country will play against each other in the first match.

Teams will consist of a maximum of 6 players.

The draw for 2009 is as follows:

Team A: Scotland

Team B: England

Team C: Northern Ireland

Team D: CBAI

Team E: Wales

Team F: Republic of Ireland

13.2 Seating Rights

The team printed first in the schedule sits North-South in the Open Room and East-West in the Closed Room.

The Captain of the second-named team nominates his pairs first. Line-ups must be submitted at least five minutes before a stanza is due to begin.

A designated area shall be provided for Line-up.

13.3 Systems

Convention cards for the Lady Milne Trophy must be submitted electronically to Anna Gudge, anna@ecats.co.uk , by 1st March 2009. Failure to comply within the specified period will result in the players being restricted to WBF Category 3 for the first play period.

The Lady Milne Trophy is considered to be a Category 2 event as defined within the WBF Systems Policy.

Thus Highly Unusual Methods (HUMs) are not permitted Lady Milne.

A pair may prepare written defences against the Brown Sticker elements of any system. Such defences will have to be given to the opponents (two clearly legible copies) prior to the start of the match. Written defences against Brown Sticker conventions are deemed to be part of the opponents' convention card.

13.4 Screens

Screens will be used

13.5 Hospitality

The host nation shall organise a buffet-style meal at 17.30 on Friday.

On the Sunday evening the teams will be expected to attend the prize-giving dinner at which all the trophies will be presented.

A package comprising three nights' dinner, bed and breakfast, plus sandwich lunches on Saturday and Sunday will be organized by the host NBO at a cost of no more than £275 or €400 per person, calculated on a single room basis.

13.6 Schedule

The time allowed for a 16-board stanza shall be 2 hours 10-minutes, with a 15-minute scoring break between stanzas and a 30-minute break between matches played on the same day.

| | | | | |
|------------------|---------------|--|-------|-------|
| Friday: | 17.00 | Captain's meeting | | |
| | 17.30 | Buffet meal | | |
| | 19.30 – 21.40 | D v F | C v E | B v A |
| | 21.55 – 00.05 | D v F | C v E | B v A |
| Saturday: | 10.00 – 12.10 | A v C | B v D | F v E |
| | 12.25 – 14.40 | A v C | B v D | F v E |
| | | Lunch | | |
| | 15.10 – 17.20 | E v A | F v B | C v D |
| | 17.35 – 19.45 | E v A | F v B | C v D |
| | 20.30 | Dinner | | |
| Sunday: | 10.00 – 12.10 | B v C | A v F | E v D |
| | 12.25 – 14.40 | B v C | A v F | E v D |
| | | Lunch | | |
| | 15.10 – 17.20 | F v C | E v B | D v A |
| | 17.35 – 19.45 | F v C | E v B | D v A |
| | 20.30 | Reception & prize-giving dinner | | |

13.7 Fixtures

| Year | Date | Host country |
|-------------|---|---------------------|
| 2009 | 17 th – 19 th April | Republic of Ireland |
| 2010 | 16 th – 18 th April | England |
| 2011 | 15 th – 17 th April | Northern Ireland |
| 2012 | 13 th – 15 th April | Wales |
| 2013 | 12 th – 14 th April | Scotland |
| 2014 | 11 th – 13 th April | Republic of Ireland |
| 2015 | 17 th – 19 th April | England |

13.8 VP Scale (32 boards)

| IMPs | VPs | IMPs | VPs |
|---------|---------|----------|--------|
| 0 - 3 | 15 - 15 | 47 - 52 | 23 - 7 |
| 4 - 10 | 16 - 14 | 53 - 58 | 24 - 6 |
| 11 - 16 | 17 - 13 | 59 - 65 | 25 - 5 |
| 17 - 22 | 18 - 12 | 66 - 73 | 25 - 4 |
| 23 - 28 | 19 - 11 | 74 - 82 | 25 - 3 |
| 29 - 34 | 20 - 10 | 83 - 91 | 25 - 2 |
| 35 - 40 | 21 - 9 | 92 - 100 | 25 - 1 |
| 41 - 46 | 22 - 8 | 101+ | 25 - 0 |

14 Special Regulations - Junior Camrose & Peggy Bayer Trophies

14.1 Format

Each team in each event will play two matches against each other team in the same event. Each match will be between teams of four over 12 boards with IMP scoring converted to VPs according to the WBF published scale.

As soon as the number of teams is known, the draw shall be undertaken publicly by the BGB Secretary for the order of play and seating rights, with the condition that the host nation shall be 'C'.

14.2 Seating Rights

The team printed first in the schedule sits North-South in the Open Room and East-West in the Closed Room.

The Captain of the second-named team nominates his pairs first. Line-ups must be submitted at least five minutes before a stanza is due to begin.

A designated area shall be provided for Line-up.

14.3 Eligibility

Players in the Junior Camrose must be under 25 years of age, and players in the Peggy Bayer Trophy must be under 20 years of age, at the beginning of the year of the event.

A Junior in full-time education may represent the NBO of his place of education provided he has not sought to represent another NBO earlier in that competition year (starting 1st July). This eligibility lasts until the end of the competition year in which his full-time education ceases, or his place of full-time education changes to another NBO. The requirement to wait for the statutory two competition years when changing NBO of allegiance is waived for a Junior taking up or losing eligibility based on place of education.

Under no circumstances may a player represent more than one NBO in any one competition year.

14.4 Systems

Convention cards for the Junior Camrose and Peggy Bayer must be submitted electronically to Anna Gudge, anna@ecats.co.uk , by 1st January 2009. Failure to comply within the specified period will result in the players being restricted to “Simple Systems” for the first play period.

Thus Highly Unusual Methods (HUMs) are not permitted.

A pair may prepare written defences against the Brown Sticker elements of any system. Such defences will have to be given to the opponents (two clearly legible copies) prior to the start of the match. Written defences against Brown Sticker conventions are deemed to be part of the opponents’ convention card.

The Junior Camrose & Peggy Bayer are considered to be a Category 3 event as defined within the WBF Systems Policy.

In the case of the Junior Camrose and Peggy Bayer Trophies, it is permitted that a “floating pair” be selected to play in either event.

14.5 Screens

Screens will not be used

14.6 Hospitality

In the case of the Junior Camrose and Peggy Bayer Trophies, it is expected that competitors are met at the point of arrival, and suitable arrangements made for their departure.

For the Junior Camrose and Peggy Bayer Trophies a package comprising three nights' dinner, bed and breakfast, plus sandwich lunches on Saturday and Sunday will be organized by the host NBO at a cost of no more than £200 per person, calculated on a shared room basis. If single occupancy is required the rate is increased to £275 per person.

It is recommended that the hosts do not provide free alcohol at the closing dinner.

14.7 Schedule

The time allowed is 96 minutes and these are the recommended timings:

| Friday: | Evening | Captain's meeting | | Sit Out |
|------------------|----------------|--------------------------------------|-------|----------------|
| Saturday: | 11.00 – 12.36 | A v D | E v B | C |
| | | Lunch | | |
| | 13.05 – 14.41 | C v A | D v E | B |
| | 14.55 – 16.31 | E v C | B v D | A |
| | 16.45 – 18.21 | B v A | D v C | E |
| | 18.30 | Dinner | | |
| | 20.00 – 21.36 | A v E | C v B | D |
| | 21.50 – 23.26 | D v A | B v E | C |
| Sunday: | 11.00 – 12.36 | A v C | E v D | B |
| | | Lunch | | |
| | 13.05 – 14.41 | C v E | D v B | A |
| | 14.55 – 16.31 | A v B | C v D | E |
| | 16.45 – 18.21 | E v A | B v C | D |
| | 20.30 | Dinner & closing ceremony | | |

In the event that only four teams are participating in the Junior Camrose or Peggy Bayer the schedule will be adjusted to nine matches by omitting the Saturday morning session. Each team shall play three matches against each other team. Seating rights alternate for the first two matches, and for the third match they will be decided by a blind line-up.

14.8 Fixtures

| Year | Date | Host country |
|-------------|--|---------------------|
| 2009 | 20 th – 22 nd February | Northern Ireland |
| 2010 | 19 th – 21 st February | Wales |
| 2011 | 18 th – 20 th February | Scotland |
| 2012 | 17 th – 19 th February | Republic of Ireland |
| 2013 | 15 th – 17 th February | England |
| 2014 | 21 st – 23 rd February | Northern Ireland |
| 2015 | 20 th – 22 nd February | Wales |

14.9 VP Scale (12-board matches)

| IMPs | VPs | IMPs | VPs |
|-------------|------------|-------------|------------|
| 0 – 1 | 15 – 15 | 29 – 32 | 23 – 7 |
| 2 – 6 | 16 – 14 | 33 – 36 | 24 – 6 |
| 7 – 9 | 17 – 13 | 37 – 40 | 25 – 5 |
| 10 – 12 | 18 – 12 | 41 – 45 | 25 – 4 |
| 13 – 16 | 19 – 11 | 46 – 50 | 25 – 3 |
| 17 – 20 | 20 – 10 | 51 – 55 | 25 – 2 |
| 21 – 24 | 21 – 9 | 56 – 61 | 25 – 1 |
| 25 – 28 | 22 – 8 | 62+ | 25 – 0 |

15 Special Regulations - Seniors Camrose

15.1 Format:

Each team will play two matches against each other team. Each match will be between teams of four over 14 boards with IMP scoring converted to VPs according to the WBF published scale.

15.2 Seating Rights

The team printed first in the schedule sits North-South in the Open Room and East-West in the Closed Room.

The Captain of the second-named team nominates his pairs first. Line-ups must be submitted at least five minutes before a stanza is due to begin.

A designated area shall be provided for Line-up.

15.3 Eligibility

Players in the Seniors Camrose must be in or before 1950.

15.4 Systems

Convention Cards for the Seniors Camrose must be submitted electronically to Anna Gudge, anna@ecats.co.uk , by 1st May 2009. Failure to comply within the specified period will result in the players being restricted to WBF Category 3 for the first play period.

The Seniors Camrose is considered to be a Category 2 event as defined within the WBF Systems Policy. Thus Highly Unusual Methods (HUMs) are not permitted .

A pair may prepare written defences against the Brown Sticker elements of any system. Such defences will have to be given to the opponents (two clearly legible copies) prior to the start of the match. Written defences against Brown Sticker conventions are deemed to be part of the opponents' convention card.

15.5 Screens

Screens will not be used

15.6 Hospitality

A package comprising three nights' dinner, bed and breakfast, plus sandwich lunches on Saturday and Sunday will be organized by the host NBO at a cost of no more than £275 or €400 per person, calculated on a single room basis.

On the Sunday evening the teams will be expected to attend the prize-giving dinner at which all the trophies will be presented.

15.7 Schedule:

| | | | | |
|-----------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------|-------|-------|
| Friday | 17.00 Captain's meeting | | | |
| | 18.00 | Dinner | | |
| | 19.30 – 21.20 | D v F | C v E | B v A |
| | 21.35 – 23.25 | A v C | B v D | F v E |
| Saturday | 11.00 – 12.50 | E v A | F v B | C v D |
| | 13.05 – 14.55 | B v C | A v F | E v D |
| | | Lunch | | |
| | 15.40 – 17.30 | F v C | E v B | D v A |
| | 17.45 – 19.35 | F v D | C v B | A v E |
| | 20.30 | Dinner | | |
| Sunday | 10.00 – 11.50 | A v D | B v E | C v F |
| | 12.05 – 13.55 | F v A | D v B | E v C |
| | | Lunch | | |
| | 14.40 – 16.30 | E v F | A v B | D v C |
| | 16.45 – 18.35 | C v A | D v E | B v F |
| | 19.30 | Drinks reception | | |
| | 20.00 | Dinner | | |

15.8 VP Scale (14 board matches)

| IMPs | VPs | IMPs | VPs |
|-------------|------------|-------------|------------|
| 0 - 2 | 15 - 15 | 31 - 34 | 23 - 7 |
| 3 - 7 | 16 - 14 | 25 - 38 | 24 - 6 |
| 8 - 10 | 17 - 13 | 39 - 43 | 25 - 5 |
| 11 - 14 | 18 - 12 | 44 - 48 | 25 - 4 |
| 15 - 18 | 19 - 11 | 49 - 54 | 25 - 3 |
| 19 - 22 | 20 - 10 | 55 - 60 | 25 - 2 |
| 23 - 26 | 21 - 9 | 61 - 66 | 25 - 1 |
| 27 - 30 | 22 - 8 | 67+ | 25 - 0 |