



EUROPEAN BRIDGE LEAGUE

Jan Kamras
President

The Presidents of the EBL NBOs

Cc: EBL EC members
EBL Youth Committee members

9th January 2020

15th European National Youth "Pairs" Championships

Dear Friends,

I am pleased to confirm that these Championships will take place in Salsomaggiore Terme, Italy from the **7th to the 12th of August 2020**, both dates included.

You have no doubt seen the announcement by the WBF that it will hold its World Youth Teams Championships in the same location August 1st-9th 2020 - this is not a coincidence. For the first time the WBF and EBL have agreed to pilot having these events overlapping, since the WBF event is also held in Europe.

The advantages are many, for the NBOs as well as the WBF and EBL, amongst others:

- NBOs/players participating in both events save on travel costs.
- The WBF and EBL (and thereby indirectly the NBOs) save on travel for staff and officers as well as on transportation of equipment.
- It is easier to find one venue than two.
- We only "occupy" one time period for these championships rather than two, leaving more room in NBOs domestic calendars.

The EBL will also try a new format, by including a Transnational Teams event which we have not previously arranged for Youth categories. The program will look as follows:

- ◆ August 7 and 8 Transnational Open Teams, most likely "Swiss". */**
- ◆ August 9 and 10 National Open Pairs. **
- ◆ August 11 and 12 National Mixed Teams. **

* Players from the World Championships that do not qualify for the Knockout Quarter Finals may enter this event. It will serve to replace the usual WBF consolation event.

**There will be five Series; U31 (new), U26, U26 Women, U21 and U16. Depending on final participation numbers some Series may play together but there will always be separate classification and awards for each Series. U16 will definitely play separately.



In addition to the cost savings, we believe these changes will be very attractive and add new excitement for our young players, in addition to fostering contacts with players from other parts of the world.

We will provide further information early in 2020.

Sincerely yours

Gilad Ofir
EBL Youth Committee Chairman

Jan Kamras
EBL President