

## EUROPEAN BRIDGE LEAGUE

Yves Aubry  
EBL President

To The Presidents of the EBL NBOs

Cc EBL Executive Committee members

Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2018

Dear Presidents, dear Friends,

During a Management Committee meeting held in Philadelphia, the WBF has made two decisions that will impact on our European Championships:

1/ The number of teams to qualify for the World Bridge Team Championships to be staged in Sanya from 18<sup>th</sup> October to 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2019 from Zone 1 will now be 8 instead of the current 6 in each category.

This means that during the forthcoming EBL Team Championships in Ostend in June 2018, 8 teams (instead of 6) will qualify in the Open/Women/Seniors Teams.

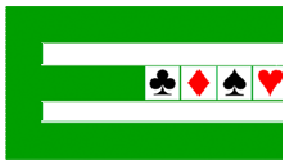
2/ A fourth Series will be established to start at the World Team Championships in Sanya in October 2019. In addition to the existing 3 Series (Bermuda Bowl, Venice Cup and D'Orsi Senior Bowl), a new Mixed Team Series will be added and played in the same format (Round Robin of 24 Teams with KO) during the same period.

Thus, the EBL has to organise a National Mixed Teams Championship to qualify 8 teams for the World Mixed Team Championships in 2019.

During our meeting on 23<sup>rd</sup> March in Lausanne, the EBL Executive Committee made the following decisions:

- ♥ The EBL Mixed Teams Championship will be held from Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> to Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> February 2019
- ♥ Venue - still to be determined. Any propositions of candidacy will have to be sent to the EBL Secretariat office at [secretariat@europeanbridge.org](mailto:secretariat@europeanbridge.org) by the 10<sup>th</sup> April. The EBL will make the final decision on the Venue during the next EBL Management Committee meeting on the 13<sup>th</sup> April.

Taking into account that many Federations organise trials for the European Team Championships, it is now too late to organise the Mixed Teams Championship in Ostend in June.



Running the event from the Friday to the Thursday means that only one week-end needs to be blocked off in the NBOs' calendars but also it allows the players to return home on the 1<sup>st</sup> March and so be able to participate in national events on 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> March.

In relation to proposing a candidate venue for the organisation of the European Mixed Teams Championship, a Venue shall provide for 25 to 30 teams, thus being between 500 to 600 m<sup>2</sup>. The EBL would appreciate a location close to an international airport with direct flights from the majority of European countries and a hotel offering affordable prices for the Bridge players.

I would like to thank you for your help in finding a suitable location where we can enjoy this new EBL Championship together.

Sincerely yours,

Yves Aubry