



## EUROPEAN BRIDGE LEAGUE

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*President*

To the attention of:  
The Presidents of the European NBOs

Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> June 2020

### EBL Championship Cycle

Dear presidents, dear friends,

The cancellations and postponements of events planned for 2020 will also have consequences for the cycle of events in the future.

Although the EBL Executive Committee took some preliminary decisions a few weeks ago, I did not want to communicate anything to you at that time, since the WBF had not yet finalized its own future schedule and the EBL schedule is affected by the WBF's decision. The WBF has now fixed its schedule as follows, which has been communicated to you directly:

- 2021: World Youth Team Championships (WYTC) in Salsomaggiore in August.
- 2021: World Team Championships (WTC, Bermuda Bowl etc.) in Salsomaggiore in late August/early September.
- 2022: World Youth Transnationals.
- 2022: World Bridge Games (WBG, "Olympiad").
- 2023: WYTC.
- 2023: WTC.
- 2024: World Bridge Series (WBS, "Rosenblum" etc.).

The EBL considered the following in arriving at its decisions:

- The European National Youth Team Championships (ENYTC) are typically held in July/August, so cannot be held in the same year as the WYTC.
- The European National Team Championships (ENTC) can be held in the same year as the WTC, since there is usually a three months' gap between the events.
- If the EBL maintained the ENTC in the even-numbered years, it would mean a two year wait for the next one which is unsatisfactory. Furthermore, it would necessitate the European participation at the 2021 WTC being based on the ENTC in 2018 which does not appear ideal.

In summary, the EBL's future schedule of its main championships will look as follows:

- 2021: ENTC in Funchal, Madeira/Portugal June 12-22.
- 2021: European National Youth Pairs Championships (and Youth Coach Seminar) in July/August.
- 2022: European Transnational Championships in June/July.
- 2022: European National Youth Teams Championships (qualifying for the 2023 WYTC).

I would remind you that the European representation at the 2021 WYTC (postponed from 2020) is still based on the 2019 ENYTC, with the age restrictions adjusted by one year so that any player who would have been eligible in 2020 will also be eligible in 2021.



This schedule may not be ideal for everyone but is the best we can do under the circumstances.

I hope that we will still be able to stage the Small Federation Games in Vilnius in October 2020 and the Champions' Cup in Pezinok in November 2020 as scheduled, but we must be prepared for changes depending on the development of the virus situation. Fortunately, both Lithuania and Slovakia have been able to control the spread very well, being some of the "best in class" countries in that respect.

Also on behalf of my colleagues on the Executive Committee I wish you all a pleasant and safe summer, and hope to see you soon again at the green tables.

Jan Kamras