



## EUROPEAN BRIDGE LEAGUE

Yves Aubry  
President

To The Presidents of the EBL NBOs

Cc EBL Executive Committee  
FMB President – G. Vivaldi

21<sup>st</sup> December 2017

**2<sup>nd</sup> EUROPEAN OPEN WINTER GAMES**  
**Fairmont Hotel - Monaco**  
**17<sup>th</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2018**  
**Organised by the European Bridge League**  
**with the Monegasque Bridge Federation**

Dear Presidents, dear Friends,

I am delighted to inform you that we have already received entries from a high-quality field of players for this event, which is open to all players worldwide.

To make it a real success, you could assist us by publicising the 2<sup>nd</sup> European Winter Games on your own website with the Banner and link as attached in our email.

We would like you to take note of **two important improvements** compared to our first information letter and to information disbursed in some media and leaflets – one involves an **increase in the total cash prize purse** and the other in the **starting times on the 17th and 20th of February** (the latter offering participants in the FMB Trophy a full additional session of play).

### **Format of the Championships**

These Championships comprise two team events, the Zimmermann Cup (3 days of “Swiss” qualification followed by 4 days of knockout matches) and the FMB Trophy (4 days of “BAM” for non-qualifiers and new entries).

### **Entry fees**

- Zimmermann Cup including FMB Trophy = € 1250
  - o Women Teams = € 750
  - o U26 Teams = € 500
- FMB Trophy only = € 500



### **Schedule of play** (provisional)

In a change from previous information it has been decided that play in the Zimmermann Cup and FMB Trophy will start at 10:00 every day:

Saturday 17/2/18	10:00	ZC Qualifying rounds 1-5
Sunday 18/2/18	10:00	ZC Qualifying rounds 6-10
Monday 19/2/18	10:00 19:30	ZC Qualifying rounds 11-15 Tourist Office Cocktail
Tuesday 20/2/18	10:00 10:00	ZC knockout round of 16 FMB Trophy Qualifying
Wednesday 21/2/18	10:00 10:00	ZC Quarter-finals FMB Trophy Qualifying
Thursday 22/2/18	10:00 10:00	ZC Semi-finals FMB Trophy Finals A and B
Friday 23/2/18	10:00 10:00 20:30	ZC Final and 3 <sup>rd</sup> /4 <sup>th</sup> place play-off FMB Trophy Finals A and B Championship Closing Ceremony

### **Registration**

The registration process is available and all entries to the Championships must be submitted electronically **latest two days prior to the starting date of the respective events** (not by e-mail) via the EBL Website at

<http://www.eurobridge.org/repository/competitions/18monaco/microsite/Participants.htm>

Bridge players from all WBF zones are entitled to participate in the Championships provided they are members in good standing of a National Bridge Federation (NBO).

To be eligible for participation in the 2018 European Winter Games a player must comply with the EBL Rules & Regulations and the EBL Eligibility Code under the control of the EBL Credentials Committee.

Entries received will be automatically forwarded to the NBO of each proposed player, and are subject to their NBO's approval and to the EBL Credentials Committee. Entry applications submitted after the deadline will be accepted only if technically convenient. Withdrawals of accepted entries are subject to the same deadline.

**Competitor's Commitment form:** For those who have not already signed it in a previous EBL event - to be signed once and valid for all future EBL Championships by Players, Captains, Coaches and other Officials in Championships before the start of the event (form attached) and sent by email to [secretariat@europeanbridge.org](mailto:secretariat@europeanbridge.org).



### **Awards**

European Bridge League Gold, Silver and Bronze Medals will be awarded.

EBL Master Points will also be awarded.

The winning team of the main event will receive the Zimmermann Cup.

### **Cash prizes**

Please note that our sponsor, Pierre Zimmermann, has kindly increased the cash prize purse as well as the total number of cash prizes (from 32 till 36!) as follows:

Zimmermann cup: € 101 600

FMB Trophy: € 42 400

Special Prizes: € 6 000

### **Rules & Regulations**

The Rules & Regulations, including the Anti-doping Regulation, the Eligibility Code, the Code of Discipline, and the Dress Code are published, together with the Systems Policy, on the EBL website.

### **Hotel accommodation**

Special prices have been negotiated with hotels in Monaco. All details and reservations are available at the following link <http://www.wintergames.bridgemonaco.com/>

### **Contact**

For further information, please contact:

- ♥ General information => Catherine Vitry - EBL Secretariat at [secretariat@europeanbridge.org](mailto:secretariat@europeanbridge.org)
- ♥ Local information (hotel, transportation) => Monegasque Bridge Federation at [wintergames@bridgemonaco.com](mailto:wintergames@bridgemonaco.com)
- ♥ Technical information => Jan Kamras at [jankamras@gmail.com](mailto:jankamras@gmail.com)

Sincerely yours,

Yves Aubry