



12th German Bridge Trophy 2026

Procedural Regulations

Tournament Directors

Head Director: Peter Eidt

Directors: Marc van Beijsterveldt, Jacob Duschek, Gunthart Thamm and Dominik Kettel

Mode

Screens will be in use and a total of 15 rounds, 10 boards per round, will be played: 5 rounds on Saturday, 6 rounds on Sunday and 4 rounds on Monday.

1.) Qualification over 8 rounds (Swiss), the first 2 rounds being seeded.

2.) Final over 7 rounds (Round Robin) in groups of 8 teams. In the lowest group, the number of teams will be dependent on the total number of teams competing.

Carry-over for the final, based on the ranking in the qualification:

First place: 7 VP

Second place: 6 VP

...

7th place: 1 VP

8th place: 0 VP

In the lowest group, the carry-over will depend on the total number of teams competing.

The organizer reserves the right to adapt the mode.

System category

The EBL's Systems Policy will apply:

<http://www.eurobridge.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/EBL-Systems-Policy-February-2025.pdf>

The Trophy is classified as a "Category 3" event. Consequently, highly artificial systems and Brown Sticker conventions are not permitted. Bluffs of artificial and/or strong opening bids are not allowed.

The EBL's alert rules will apply:

<http://www.eurobridge.org/regulations/systems/alerting-policy/>

The EBL's Psychic Bidding Guidelines will also apply:

<http://www.eurobridge.org/regulations/systems/psychic-bidding-guidelines/>

Details and questions will be discussed during the Captains' Meeting prior to the tournament.

Convention Cards

The following cards are permitted: German Convention Card (in German) and the International Convention Card (in English), but **NOT** the mini-convention card.

Scoring with Bridgemates

Players should not leave the table until the Bridgemate shows either "End of Round ..." or "End of Tournament". As long as scores are missing, the playing time for this table continues to run, which can result in penalty points for both teams in accordance with § 41C German Bridge Federation Bylaws up to a maximum penalty of 1.5 times the standard penalty (v. §22D3c German Bridge Federation Bylaws) if the failure to notify scores is not noticed in time before the end of the match.

After the results have been posted, both teams should promptly check the result and notify the tournament director of any data input errors. Results can only be amended if they are notified up to 15 minutes after the results of the last match of a phase (qualification or final) have been posted (v. § 79 Rules).

Smoking regulations/Consumption of alcohol/mobile end devices

In this section, the term "Player" shall mean an active player of a team deployed in the match in question for the duration of the game at his/her table.

Smoking

In accordance with § 10A of the German Bridge Federation Bylaws, smoking is strictly forbidden in the playing area. This also applies to electronic cigarettes. Players are not permitted to leave the playing area in order to smoke.

Alcohol

During the playing time, Players are not permitted to consume alcoholic drinks. Further, spectators are not permitted to consume alcoholic drinks in the playing area.

Mobile end devices

Players are strictly forbidden to use mobile end devices (mobile phones, smartphones, tablets, smartwatches, etc.). This ban also applies to spectators in the playing area. In the event that Players bring mobile end devices into the playing area, they are to be placed on the table, openly and switched off. Any active or passive use of the device (this also encompasses ringing or vibrating) will be deemed a violation of this ban.

Penalties

In the event of any violation by a Player of any of points 1 to 3 above, the first violation will entail an automatic procedural penalty of 1.5 VP. The second violation will entail a penalty of 3 VP, and any further violation 4 VP. The penalty for spectators is a "red card" for the remainder of the tournament. Members of a team observing a match must leave the playing area for the duration of this match; in the event of repeated violations the tournament director can impose a penalty against the observer's team and/or bar this person from observing.

Photography and video recording

In the playing area, photography is only permitted by the tournament director, and only if no disturbance of play is feared.

The German Bridge Federation reserves the right, in accordance with § 8G German Bridge Federation Bylaws, to make video recordings.

Appeals

The right, in accordance with § 92 Rules, to request a tournament director decision ends 15 minutes after the end of the match in question.

For all matches in the qualification (Matches 1-8), the deadline for a protest against a decision already made by a tournament director is 15 minutes after publication of the results of Match 8. For all matches of the final (Matches 9-15), the deadline for a protest is 15 minutes after the results of the last match have been posted.

In accordance with §9A, Second Para., German Bridge Federation Bylaws, there is no arbitration panel; the directors agree on decisions. In accordance with § 93A Rules, a protest against any such decision may be made to the Head Director; his decision is then final.

Severability clause

The organizer reserves the right, for an important reason, to make subsequent amendments to the invitation announcement, the procedural regulations or the schedule. Such amendments shall not affect the regulations for the event as a whole.