

THE IRISH BRIDGE UNION



President:
Mrs Sheila Gallagher
Vice President:
Ms Ciara Burns

INTER-COUNTY TEAMS BURKE PERPETUAL TROPHY

The All-Ireland final of the Inter-county teams will take place in Templeogue Castle Community Bridge Centre, Dublin 6W
on Saturday, 1st March 2014 at 1.30 p.m.
and Sunday, 2nd March 2014 at 11.00 a.m.

ENTRY FEE in the Final is €100 per team

1. This competition is open to all affiliated players of the C.B.A.I. and the N.I.B.U. Teams may consist of 4, 5 or 6 players. Players on each team must be (a) a native by birth or (b) be normally domiciled in or (c) regularly play as Club members in that county or city. All team members do not have to be members of the same club. County and city boundaries are as per boundaries of local authorities.
2. Teams with an original entry of 4 players may substitute one player of their team to play in the All-Ireland final. The substitute must be a member of an affiliated club or be a native by birth or be normally domiciled, in that county or city. The substitute must **NOT** have played for any other team in the qualifying round of that county or city.
3. The competition consists of a qualifying round (one or two sessions) in each county and city, and an All-Ireland final.

QUALIFYING FEE is €2.50 per player

4. All teams in a qualifying round are deemed to be qualifying for the Burke Trophy in that county or city, unless they declare otherwise to the T.D. or tournament organizer, prior to the commencement of play in that qualifying round.
5. Adjacent counties, or a county and its city, may combine to hold a qualifying round. Any team which is entitled to represent both adjacent counties or represent both the county and its city **MUST** declare to the T.D. or tournament organizer which county or city they are qualifying for, prior to the commencement of play in that qualifying round.
6. The format of the qualifying round is decided by the T.D. who will seed teams across all sections. It is recommended to hold a full round robin, minimum of 24 boards with matches of 3+ boards. The highest placed team for each county and for each city, qualify for the final. Teams **MUST** take up their first qualification. If a tie cannot be split, all the tied teams qualify for the All-Ireland final.
7. Player(s) who do not qualify in one county or city may seek qualification for another county or city, provided they either regularly play as Club member(s) of an affiliated club in that county/city or are native by birth or are normally domiciled in that county/city.
8. Each region will be responsible for their county / city qualifying rounds. The tournament organizer will send a list of all the teams entered in the qualifying round, the qualifying fee of €10 for each team and the names of the qualifier(s) for the All-Ireland final to either joint Hon. Secretary of the I.B.U, no later than **24th February 2014**. Please make cheques payable to the 'Irish Bridge Union'.
9. A qualifying fee of €40 (equivalent to an entry of four teams) is a pre-requisite for a county or city to be represented in the All-Ireland final. Where two adjacent counties, or a county and its city, combine to hold a qualifying round, a qualifying fee of €80 is required for the two teams (i.e. €40 per team). An entry of at least ten teams and at least sixteen teams in the qualifying round entitles a county or city to be represented by two and three teams respectively in the All-Ireland final.
10. Each county and each city is entitled to be represented in the All-Ireland final. If a county or city did not hold a qualifying round, then a team(s) from that county or city may make a request to either joint Hon. Secretary of the I.B.U., through their regional secretary or county secretary, for direct entry into the All-Ireland final.
11. If a team has to withdraw from the All-Ireland final, then the next team in order of merit in the qualifying round for that county or city shall be invited to play in the All-Ireland final.
12. Seating rights do not apply either in the qualifying round or in the All-Ireland final, but the Tournament Director may require the captain to give his/her team line-up to the T.D. prior to the start of any match.
13. Highly Unusual Methods (HUM) and Brown Sticker Conventions (BSC) are not allowed.
14. The winners of the Burke Perpetual Trophy have automatic entry into the following year's All-Ireland final.

Please contact either joint Hon. Secretary of the I.B.U. through your county or regional secretary, with any queries.

Joint Hon. Secretaries:-

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