



BRIDGE CIRCUIT 2019 – REGULATION (UPDATED)

1 – Organization

Centro de Bridge de Lisboa (CBL, SA), with the support of the Portuguese Bridge Federation (FPB), will carry out, during the year 2019, a Bridge circuit designated by MASTERS LISBOA 2019.

2 – Purpose

The objective of this Circuit is to promote the competitiveness of the best Portuguese players and enhance the competition between these and foreign players.

3 - Formula and Specific Standards.

The Circuit comprises 5 tournaments, the first 4 limited to 60 pairs in order of registration and the fifth is limited to 40 pairs (20 tables with screens).

In the first 4 tournaments are entitled to play national and foreign players, enrolled in the FPB or any other NBO. In the fifth and last tournament will participate up to 20 pairs invited by the Organization and at least 20 pairs by order of the accumulated rank of the first 4 tournaments. All 20 pairs invited to the last tournament should integrate at least one player resident abroad or in the Portuguese Autonomous Regions of Madeira and the Azores.

The list of the invited pairs will be timely disclosed by the Organization. The first four tournaments are played by Matchpoints.

Each tournament is played in two sessions of at least 26 boards each.

The cumulative classification of these four tournaments is calculated by the average of the three best rankings obtained.

At least 20 pairs who have participated, at least, in three tournaments, in order of the accumulated classification, with unlimited substitutions, will have access to the final tournament.

The final tournament will be played in cross IMPs, four qualifying sessions and four sessions in the finals. The qualifying stage will be played in **33 rounds**, 3 boards each, all against all. For the final A, the **16 best ranked pairs** of the qualification phase. The remaining **17 pairs** will compete in the final B. In both finals, they play all against all, 3 boards per round, in two turns.

4 - Location and Schedule

Centro de Bridge de Lisboa (CBL, SA) - Av. António Augusto de Aguiar, 163 - 4º Esqº, in Lisbon, with the following schedule:

Schedule of the Qualifying Stage:

Tournament/Session	Date	Schedule
1st Tournament/1st Session	10th February	10:30-13:30 15:00-16:00
1st Tournament/2nd Session	10th February	16:30-20:30
2nd Tournament/1st Session	7th April	10:30-13:30 15:00-16:00
2nd Tournament/2nd Session	7th April	16:30-20:30
3rd Tournament/1st Session	2nd July	10:30-13:30 15:00-16:00
3rd Tournament/2nd Session	2nd July	16:30-20:30
4th Tournament/1st Session	8th September	10:30-13:30 15:00-16:00
4th Tournament/2nd Session	8th September	16:30-20:30

Final Stage:

Session	Date	Schedule
1st Qualifying	13 November	10:30-13:30 (6 Rounds) 15:00-16:00 (2 Rounds)
2nd Qualifying	13 November	16:00- 20:00 (8 Rounds)
3rd Qualifying	14 November	10:30- 13:30 (6 Rounds) 15:00-16:00 (2 Rounds)
4th Qualifying	14 November	16:00-20:30 (9 Rounds)
1st Session Finals	15 November	10:30-13:30 (6 Rounds) 15:00-16:00 (2 Rounds)
2nd Session Finals	15 November	16:00- 23:00 (9 Rounds)
3rd Session Finals	16 November	10:30- 13:30 (6 Rounds) 15:00-16:00 (2 Rounds)
4th Session Finals	16 November	16:00-20:30 (9 Rounds)

5 – Registrations

The cost of registration in qualifying tournaments is € 50 per tournament, for the 1st categories or National of Honor players, according to the FPB Ranking of 2019, and of 25,00 € for the remaining players. In the final tournament, registration is free.

6 - Tournament Director

The Tournament Directors will be appointed by the FPB.

7 – Awards

The prize pool of the four qualifying tournaments corresponds to 50% of the entry fees. The prize pool of the final tournament is 30.000 Euros. In the first 4 tournaments, the 5 best ranked pairs are awarded with 42%, 27%, 16%, 10% and 5% of the prize pool, in order of ranking. In the final A of the final tournament, the 6 best ranked pairs are awarded with 8.700 €, 6.300 €, 4.200 €, 3.000 €, 2.100 € and 1.500 €, in order of ranking. In the final B of the final tournament, the 3 best ranked pairs are awarded with 2.400 €, 1.200 € and 600 €, in order of classification.

8 – Homologation

All tournaments in the circuit will be homologated by the FPB, according to the Regulations in force in the year 2019.