

University Bridge

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European Bridge League

Italy-3/2/2005

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History

- 1st European University Championship in Antwerp 1994 (European Cultural Capital)
- Each year: European University Championship in European Cultural Capital
- Recognition by FISU bridge as a sport in 2001
- 1st FISU- World University Championships in Brugge 2002; 2nd FISU-Championships in 2004
- 2005 Rotterdam “European University Cup”

- FISU: International University Sport Federation
 - 2 official languages: En, Fr
 - HQE: Brussels (13 persons)
 - +/- 150 National University Sport Federations members in the World
- Events:
 - Summer Universiades (8000 participants), Izmir 2005
 - Winter Universiades (2000 participants), Innsbruck 2005
 - 25 World Championships in 2004 (Bridge: Istanbul)
- www.fisu.net
- 10 commissions (supervision, technical, control, medical, press, regulations)
- Technical Commission Bridge: Geert Magerman

EUSA

- EUSA: European University Sport Association
 - HQE: Hanover
- Bridge is not officially recognized as a sport
- Rotterdam University Cup 2005:
 - patronage by EUSA
 - Last step to recognition
- 2007: 1st EUSA Championships?

University Bridge -Events

- Organizing Committee FISU&EUSA events: National University Sport Federation
- Even years: FISU- World Championships Events
 - competition between national teams (1 per country; may 2 per country from 2006)
 - 2002: Brugge (Belgium)
 - 2004: Istanbul (Turkey)
 - 2006: Tianjin (China)
 - 2008: FISU-procedure of bidding
- Odd years: Continental Events
 - Competition between university teams (unlimited number per Country/University)
 - Rotterdam 2005: European University Cup (patronage EUSA)
 - Tianjin 2005: Azian University Championships
 - Atlanta 2005 (?): ACBL University Championships

Participation FISU-events (1)

- Students:
 - Nationality: the country they represent
 - Between 17 and less than 28 (on 1st Jan of the year of the event)
 - Full-time student (till the year preceding the event)
- Team: max 6 players, 2 officials
- Dead-lines for entry before start:
 - General Entry Form (engagement or intention participation): at least 6 months
 - Payment Deposit: at least 5 months
 - Quantitative Form (confirmation participation): 3 months
 - Nominative and Individual Forms (names of the athletes): 1 month
- Other dead-line before start: organization of a National University Bridge Championships (!)

Participation FISU-events (2)

- At arrival:
 - A passport/ID-card
 - Student card (former student: proof of obtained academic degree)
 - Paiement in cash:
 - 45 US\$ per day per athlete (standard)
 - FISU-contribution: 20 US\$ (FISU-member); 40 US\$ (non FISU-member)
- It is necessary to contact your National University Sport Federation (!):
 - Forms and deposit must be entered by your National University Sport Federation to the Organizing Committee of the FISU-event
 - the organisation of a National University Bridge Championship may be a condition for participation (!)

Rotterdam

- Data: 24-29 August 2005
- Venue: Rotterdam-Netherlands, Erasmus University
- Very low costs for accomodation and entrance:
 - 200 €per person/5days (4 bedrooms)
 - 225 €per person/5days (2 or 3 bedrooms)
- Participation:
 - Competition between Universities/ Highschools
 - Teams from all Universities and High Schools
 - Every University may send any number of teams
 - Every countries may send any number of teams
- All information:
 - www.unibridge.org
 - Femmy Boelaerts: teams2005@hotmail.com
 - Paul Magerman: paul@dua.be

Participation Rotterdam

- Students:
 - Nationality: the country they represent
 - Between 17 and less than 28 (on 1st Jan of the year of the event)
 - Full-time student (till the year preceding the event)
- Unlimited number of university teams per university and per country
- Entry and hotel-reservation by e-mail:
 - Harry Vande Peppel, a.vdpeppel@wxs.nl
- Payment of the booking: before the 1st May 2005 (accountnumber: www.unibridge.org)
- Establishment of a good relation with the National University Sport Federation: organization of a National University Bridge Championships (!)

Specific values (1)

Bridge in University Bridge Clubs

- Recognition of bridge as a sport by FISU and EUSA will help to create financial and other support for the development of bridge:
 - By recognition at the local university level:
 - Financial support, logistic support, insurance, facilities for events, ...
 - By recognition at by national level (National Sport Federations, National Olympic Committee, ...):
 - Financial support, administratif support, ...
 - By recognition at international level (European Union, ...)

Specific values (2)

Bridge in University Bridge Clubs

- Age-pyramid:
 - gapping School programme and adult Bridge Clubs
 - decreasing average age of the Bridge World (higher age, less members, less structure, less ...)
- Sport and University Spirit:
 - adapted social environment for starting and playing Bridge
 - students like to play bridge between students in a different way than Adult Bridge Club
 - decision makers of tomorrow play bridge, sponsors?

University Bridge Clubs

- Young in different aspects:
 - Board (50% students, 50% under 35)
 - Yearly club-activities (sport, studentparties, ...)
 - A lot of initiatives: extra training, activities with foreign student bridgeclubs, ...
- Special lessons:
 - Very fast (8 to 10 lessons of 2 h with theory and practice)
 - For free and yearly
 - For all students of High Schools and Universities of the City
 - Big promotion campaign adapted to students
- Immediate integration in national and international competition

University Bridge Clubs

- University spirit:
 - fair competition
 - a lot of friendship
 - well organized but more flexible
 - international students
- Weekly club evening (21 boards) allowing
 - participation at exams-period
 - social activities after bridge
- Organization of a yearly big tournament

Key Elements for success

- Young motivated board
 - this will keep the club young
- Yearly renewal of membership by fast lessons
 - to maintain the university spirit and to have enough members (some students may leave after their student period)
- Integration in national competition:
 - to link immediately students with the club
 - crucial at the start-up of the club to built the club
- Support of the National Bridge Federation

How do I make University Bridge Clubs?

- Create the structure/environment
 - Creation of a National University Committee and a national responsible for University Bridge
- Support at start-up (and afterwards):
 - Motivate some dynamic students to build a University Bridge Club and be in the board (see characteristics)
 - Give logistic support:
 - Material;
 - Publicity in bridge environment;
 - Publicity campaign in the University environment
 - Provide teachers for the fast classes
 - Accept that this may need different rules and views (fast lessons, competition, ...), be cooperation with their initiatives
 - Make a lot of publicity for their initiative, (national bridge magazine)

How do I make University Bridge Clubs?

- Other support
 - Support their yearly big fund raising tournament or other initiatives with directors, material (boards, biddingboxes, ..), space, computerlicences, ...
- Participation at international Championships:
 - provide financial support for participation at the University Championships! (via the University Bridge Clubs)

**Create University Bridge Dynamics in your
National Bridge Federation!!!!**

Information Request

- WBF:
 - Request for information: www.unibridge.org
 - 52 University Bridge Clubs in the World
- A lot of results are not complete or information was only partial: please fill in the request for your federation at www.unibridge.org!
- Europe: (actual count: 42 bridgeclubs)
 - Belgium (1),
 - France (5),
 - Ireland (2),
 - Netherlands (1)
 - Norway (1)
 - Poland (6) (Wrosclaw: +/- 120 students!)
 - Spain (2)
 - Scotland (1)
 - United Kingdom (23!!)

University Bridge Antwerp

- Established in 1998:
 - Board Age (21, 23, 28, 34)
 - 50 members (average age: 25y)
 - 6 teams in national competition (1 team in 1st division)
- National competition: 5 teams
- International Competition:
 - 2 teams in European Championships Wroclaw (Bronze Medal)
 - 1 team in Istanbul (Silver Medal)
- Financed by:
 - membership of Honor
 - yearly big fund raising tournament: Dua Trophy
- New initiative: DUA Schools (Sunday Morning)

Suggestions

- Nominate a university responsible in your country
- Make up the existing situation of university bridge clubs (fill in the request at www.unibridge.org)
- Try to build new university bridge clubs
- Contact your National University Sport Federation:
 - To organise together a national bridge Championships
 - To help you to develop bridge at the universities
- Participate with a lot of university teams in Rotterdam 2005 and with 2 teams in China 2006

Create University Bridge Dynamics in your National Bridge Federation!!!!

University Platform

- www.unibridge.org providing:
 - All latest news about comming championships (Rotterdam 2005, China 2005 and 2006, Atlanta 2005)
 - Results of the Request for information
 - All information about University Bridge:
 - University clubs in the World with contact
 - University contact in each country

In the future:

- Free access code for University Room at E-bridge

University Corner

- FISU-file: different forms
- FISU Magazine (with report FISU-Championships Istanbul 2004)
- FISU DVD presentation
- Request for Information University Bridge WBF
- Flyer Rotterdam 2005

Contact and Information

- www.unibridge.org
 - All contacts for events and in Europe
- Geert Magerman
 - Kruibekstraat 150 b2, B-9150 Bazel
 - Geert.magerman@pandora.be
 - Tel + 32 477 861213

Thank you!

Thank you very much for
your attention!

Questions?