

# INTERPROVINCIAL TEAMS

## RULES and REGULATIONS



1. The Interprovincial Competition will consist of three independent events: one for Open Teams, one for Regional/Area Master Teams and the third for Intermediate Teams.
2. Each province will be represented by three teams in each of the three events. Each team may consist of either four, five or six players. Every player in the Interprovincial Competition must be an affiliated member of the C.B.A.I. and/or the N.I.B.U.
3. A player representing a province must either:
  - i) be an affiliated member of a club in that province (including an online club recognized by C.B.A.I. or N.I.B.U.) and normally domiciled in Ireland; or
  - ii) be normally domiciled in that province; or
  - iii) be a native of that province by birth; or
  - iv) have represented that province, in an Interprovincial Teams event, in the previous five (5) years. Having represented a province, a player may not represent a different province at any level in the following year unless released by the incumbent province.
4. A playing year is considered to run from 1<sup>st</sup> September each year until 31<sup>st</sup> May in the following year. A player's eligibility for an event is determined by his/her standing on the last day of the playing year prior to that in which the tournament takes place<sup>1</sup>.
5. Players are eligible for teams as follows.
  - i) Every player is eligible to play in the Open Teams.
  - ii) A player in the Regional/Area Master Teams must hold less than one hundred (100) National Points/Red Points. In addition, one team of four, five or six players in this event must each hold less than forty (40) National Points/Red Points<sup>2</sup>.
  - iii) Every player in the Intermediate Teams must have less than ten (10) National Points/Red Points.
6. Each province will nominate a Provincial Manager, who will be the representative and point of contact with the province for I.B.U. The Provincial Manager may or may not be a player. The Provincial Manager will be responsible for:
  - i) convening the selectors, selecting and submitting eligible teams;
  - ii) ensuring the team members receive all relevant communications from IBU and are aware of the rules of the contest, including scoring; and
  - iii) collecting and sending playing fees on behalf of the province as a single payment to IBU.
7. Each province may nominate a Captain for each of their three Teams. Different teams may have the same captain. The captain will assign each player to a specific team prior to the start of the event. A player may not be transferred to another team once the event has commenced (see Rover Player / Rover Pair).
8. The captain may nominate one 'Rover Player' or 'Rover Pair' if the province has thirteen or fourteen players respectively.
  - i) The 'Rover Player' or 'Rover Pair' is NOT assigned to a specific team of their province
  - ii) The 'Rover Player' or 'Rover Pair' maybe assigned to another team in their province at the end of a round
  - iii) The 'Rover Player' or 'Rover Pair' may play only ONCE against a team of an opposing province.

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<sup>1</sup> For example, eligibility for the Interprovincial teams in the 2024/25 season is determined by a player's standing on 31<sup>st</sup> May 2024. Upgrades in September 2024 are disregarded.

<sup>2</sup> Or, using CBAI 2024 criteria, two teams of Regional Masters and one team of Area Masters. Area Masters can also 'play up' in a Regional Master team.

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9. A change in partnership and/or change in line-up on any team may only be made at the end of a round. Substitutions are allowed in extreme circumstances, subject to the permission of the Chief Tournament Director.
  10. Seating rights do not apply, but the Tournament Director may require the captain to submit any of his/her team line-ups to him/her prior to the start of any round.
  11. Highly Unusual Methods (HUM) and Brown Sticker Conventions are not allowed.
  12. Each event consists of nine (9) rounds, i.e. each team plays a match against each of the three teams in the other three provinces.
    - i) Matches in the Open Teams event and Master event will be ten (10) board matches.
    - ii) Matches in the Intermediate Teams event will be eight (8) board matches.
    - iii) The Tournament Director may alter the number of boards per match if necessary, including during the tournament.
  13. Each match will be scored by Imps converted to Victory Points as per W.B.F. continuous scale. At the end of each event, the province with the highest total number of Victory Points in each event will be declared the winner of that event.
  14. If two or more provinces are tied at the end of an event, then in order below, the winner will be the province with
    - i) the highest number of wins (=2 pts.) and draws (=1 pt.) by V.P. attained in their matches
    - ii) the highest number of Victory Points in all direct matches between each remaining tied province
    - iii) the highest number of Nett IMPs in all direct matches between each remaining tied province
    - iv) the highest IMP Quotient in all direct matches between each remaining tied province.
  15. Each member of the winning provincial team in each competition is awarded a champion's medal. Prize money is not awarded.
  16. Masterpoint awards are at the discretion of C.B.A.I. and N.I.B.U. as appropriate.
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*Approved by IBU Council  
19<sup>th</sup> February 2024.*

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