

UNDER THE AUSPICES OF



HCL

18TH HCL INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIP



WHERE THE SHARPEST MINDS
PARTNER TO CONQUER

PRIZE MONEY: ₹2 Million (US\$ 27,000)

18th Sept – 26th Sep, 2021

RealBridge and BridgeMagic
online platforms

www.hcl-bridge.com





About HCL International Bridge Championship

Bridge is a strategy game that teaches one to be of a tougher mindset, to use one's intellect to maximum capacity, communicate powerfully and to pursue victory diligently. These are the qualities that makes bridge a perfect fit for HCL.

HCL has been strongly supporting the game in India since 2003 through the HCL International Bridge Championship held every year in New Delhi, India. The Championship is the premier bridge tournament in the country and the biggest in terms of the prize money and participation levels. The 2019 Championship (17th edition) had a prize purse of Rs. 18 million and witnessed a record participation of nearly 1000 players from 185 Teams (55 in Gold, 102 in Silver & 28 in Bronze).

International teams having players from USA, Poland, Italy, Bulgaria, Russia, Netherlands, Israel, Sweden, Iceland, South Africa, UK, Australia, New Zealand, Croatia, Denmark, Romania, Japan, Thailand, Jordan, Sri Lanka & Bangladesh have participated in the last few editions of the Championship.

As the 2020 championship couldn't take place due to the pandemic, HCL will now be hosting the 18th edition of HCL International Bridge Championship online on RealBridge / BridgeMagic (powered by HCL) platforms from September 18-26, 2021. The total prize money for the online event will be Rs. 2 Million (USD 27,000). The Championship will have three main events and a "Team of four Bronze" event for the newcomers. There will be an IMP Pairs event along with the main Match Point Pairs event.

- Team of Four Gold - Winners will be awarded the 'Naresh Tandan Trophy'
- Team of Four Silver - Winners will be awarded the 'Mohini Tandan Trophy'
 - Open Pairs - Winners will be awarded the 'Neena Bonarji Trophy'
- Team of Four Bronze - Winners will be awarded the "HCL Rising Stars Trophy".



The Program

Saturday, September 18, 2021



Time in Hour	Activity
	TEAM OF FOUR GOLD / SILVER EVENT – SWISS LEAGUE (Total 10 Rounds of 10 Boards each)
1130 – 1245	Round 1 - Random Draw LUNCH BREAK
1400 – 1515	Round 2 - Actual Draw
1545 – 1700	Round 3 - Actual Draw
1730 – 1845	Round 4 - Actual Draw
1915 - 2030	Round 5 - Actual Draw
	TEAM OF FOUR BRONZE EVENT – SWISS LEAGUE (Total 6 Rounds of 8 Boards each)
1000 – 1110	Round 1 - Random Draw
1140 - 1250	Round 2 - Actual Draw LUNCH BREAK
1400 – 1510	Round 3 - Actual Draw
1540 – 1650	Round 4 - Actual Draw
1720 - 1830	Round 5 - Actual Draw
1900 - 2010	Round 6 - Actual Draw
	The TOP 4 teams from Bronze event will qualify for Semi-Finals after playing the Swiss league of 6 rounds.

Sunday, September 19, 2021



Time in Hour	Activity
	TEAM OF FOUR GOLD / SILVER EVENT – SWISS LEAGUE (Total 10 Rounds of 10 Boards each)
1130 – 1245	Round 6 - Actual Draw LUNCH BREAK
1400 – 1515	Round 7 - Actual Draw
1545 – 1700	Round 8 - Actual Draw
1730 – 1845	Round 9 - Actual Draw
1915 - 2030	Round 10 - Actual Draw
	The TOP 16 teams each from Gold / Silver event will qualify for the last-16 stage, after playing the Swiss League of 10 rounds.
	TEAM OF FOUR BRONZE EVENT – SEMI-FINALS (3*8 Boards)
1000 – 1110	BRONZE SF-1 (Boards 1 - 8)
1120 - 1230	BRONZE SF-2 (Boards 9 - 16)
1240 - 1350	BRONZE SF-3 (Boards 17 - 24) LUNCH BREAK
	TEAM OF FOUR BRONZE EVENT – FINALS / PLAY-OFF (3*8 Boards)
1500 - 1610	BRONZE Final / Play-off Session-1 (Boards 1 - 8)
1620 - 1730	BRONZE Final / Play-off Session-2 (Boards 9 - 16)
1740 - 1850	BRONZE Final / Play-off Session-3 (Boards 17 - 24)

Monday, September 20, 2021



Time in Hour	Activity
	PQFs of GOLD / SILVER TEAMS (4*10 Boards)
1430 – 1550	GOLD / SILVER PQF-1 - Boards (1 - 10)
1605 – 1725	GOLD / SILVER PQF-2 - Boards (11 - 20)
1740 – 1900	GOLD / SILVER PQF-3 - Boards (21 - 30)
1915 – 2035	GOLD / SILVER PQF-4 - Boards (31 - 40)
	Note: The pairs of losing Gold / Silver PQF teams will be playing in the 1st elimination round of MP Pairs.

Tuesday, September 21, 2021



Time in Hour	Activity
	QFs of GOLD / SILVER TEAMS (4*10 Boards)
1430 – 1550	GOLD / SILVER QF-1 - Boards (1 - 10)
1605 – 1725	GOLD / SILVER QF-2 - Boards (11 - 20)
1740 – 1900	GOLD / SILVER QF-3 - Boards (21 - 30)
1915 – 2035	GOLD / SILVER QF-4 - Boards (31 - 40)
	OPEN MP Pairs – Elimination-1 (2 X 24 Boards)
1830 - 2130	Match Point Pairs – S1 of Elimination-1 (24 Boards)

Wednesday, September 22, 2021



Time in Hour	Activity
	SFs of GOLD / SILVER TEAMS (4*10 Boards)
1430 – 1550	GOLD / SILVER SF-1 - Boards (1 - 10)
1605 – 1725	GOLD / SILVER SF-2 - Boards (11 - 20)
1740 – 1900	GOLD / SILVER SF-3 - Boards (21 - 30)
1915 – 2035	GOLD / SILVER SF-4 - Boards (31 - 40)
1830 - 2130	Match Point Pairs – S2 of Elimination-1 (24 Boards)
	Note: Approx. 40-50% of pairs will qualify from elim-1 to elim-2 round. The pairs of losing Gold / Silver QF teams can join the MP Pairs event in Elim-2

Thursday, September 23, 2021



Time in Hour	Activity
	OPEN MP Pairs – Elimination-2 (2 X 24 Boards)
1830 - 2130	Match Point Pairs – S1 of Elimination-2 (24 Boards)

Friday, September 24, 2021



Time in Hour	Activity
	Final / Play-off of GOLD / SILVER TEAMS (4*12 Boards)
1330 – 1505	GOLD / SILVER Teams Final / Play-off - S1 Boards (1 - 12)
1520 – 1655	GOLD / SILVER Teams Final / Play-off - S2 Boards (13- 24)
1710 – 1845	GOLD / SILVER Teams Final / Play-off - S3 Boards (25 - 36)
1900 – 2035	GOLD / SILVER Teams Final / Play-off - S4 Boards (37 - 48)
	Note: Pairs from Team Final / Play-off matches will be seeded to Elim-3 of Open Pairs in case their entry is recd before start of the Pair event. See SCoC for details.
1830 - 2130	Match Point Pairs – S2 of Elimination-2 (24 Boards)
	Note: Approx. 40-50% of pairs will qualify from elim-2 to elim-3 round (Max 84 Pairs including seeded pairs from Team Final / Play-off of Gold / Silver would play)

Saturday, September 25, 2021



Time in Hour	Activity
	OPEN MP Pairs – Elimination-3 (2*24 Boards)
1100 – 1400	Match Point Pairs – S1 of Elimination-3 (24 Boards)
1530 – 1830	Match Point Pairs – S2 of Elimination-3 (24 Boards)
	Note: The TOP 27 Pairs from elimination-3 will qualify for final of Match Point Pairs (GOLD) and Pairs ranked 28th to 55th (28 pairs) will qualify for final of Match Point Pairs (SILVER). The remaining pairs will qualify to play in the IMP Pairs final. See SCoC for details.
	IMP Pairs - Elimination Round (3*18 Boards)
	Except for Pairs who are playing in Elim-3 of MP Pairs, all other players can play in this elimination round of IMP Pairs after paying the requisite fee.
1100 - 1330	IMP Pairs – S1 of Elimination (18 Boards)
1430 - 1700	IMP Pairs – S2 of Elimination (18 Boards)
1800 - 2030	IMP Pairs – S3 of Elimination (18 Boards)
	Note: Approx. 40% of pairs from elimination round will qualify to IMP Pairs Final.

Sunday, September 26, 2021



Time in Hour	Activity
	OPEN MP Pairs – Final (Max 28 Pairs in each Gold / Silver - All play all – 54 Boards)
1100 - 1330	Match Point Pairs Final (Gold / Silver) – S1 (18 Boards)
1430 - 1700	Match Point Pairs Final (Gold / Silver) – S2 (18 Boards)
1800 - 2030	Match Point Pairs Final (Gold / Silver) – S3 (18 Boards)
	IMP Pairs - Final (3*18 Boards)
1100 - 1330	IMP Pairs – S1 of Final (18 Boards)
1430 - 1700	IMP Pairs – S2 of Final (18 Boards)
1800 - 2030	IMP Pairs – S3 of Final (18 Boards)

Prize Money

Break-up of the total prize money for different events.

All figures are in Indian rupees.

Rank	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Rank	Open Pairs Gold	Open Pairs Silver	IMP Pairs
1st	350,000	80,000	15,000	1st	80,000	15,000	40,000
2nd	200,000	50,000	10,000	2nd	60,000	12,000	30,000
3rd	100,000	30,000	7,500	3rd	50,000	10,000	20,000
4th	60,000	20,000	6,000	4th	40,000	8,000	15,000
5th to 8th	40,000	10,000	3,000	5th	30,000	6,000	12,500
9th to 16th	20,000	6,000		6th	20,000	4,000	10,000
17th to 20th	6,000	3,000		7th	15,000	3,000	8,000
				8th	12,000	2,500	6,000
				9th	10,000		5,000
				10th	8,000		4,000
				11th	6,000		3,000
				12th	5,000		2,500
				13th to 16th	3,000		2,000
				Pairs Elim-1, 2 & 3 (1st)	4,000		2,500
				Pairs Elim-1, 2 & 3 (2nd)	2,500		1,500
				Best Mixed & Best Ladies Pair - 1st	4,000		3,000
				Best Mixed & Best Ladies Pair - 2nd	2,500		1,500
Total	1,054,000	280,000	50,500	Total	374,000	60,500	181,000

Total – Rs. 2,000,000 ~ USD 27,000

***At current foreign exchange rate of 1US\$ ~ Rs. 75.**

Notes:

- 1.For international players, the final prize money will be converted as per the prevailing foreign exchange rates of the day.
- 2.TDS will be deducted as per the prevailing Indian Income Tax rules
- 3.There are two prizes each in Best mixed and Ladies pairs in open MP Pairs event. For this pairs must reach Open MP Pairs final or 3rd elimination of MP Pairs event.

Entry Fee

Team Entry –

- Team of Four - GOLD - Rs. 3500 per Team or Equivalent in Foreign Currency
- Team of Four - SILVER - Rs. 2500 per Team or Equivalent in Foreign Currency
- Team of Four - BRONZE - Rs. 800 per Team / Foreigners not allowed

Pairs Entry –

- OPEN Match Point Pairs – Rs. 1200 per Pair or Equivalent in Foreign Currency
- IMP Pairs – Rs. 600 per Pair or Equivalent in Foreign Currency

Last Date for Event Entries:

- Team of Four GOLD / SILVER / BRONZE – **16th Sep 2021 by 2100 Hrs.**
- OPEN Match Point Pairs – **19th Sep 2021 by 2100 Hrs.**
- IMP Pairs – **23rd Sep 2021 by 2100 Hrs.**

IMPORTANT NOTES FOR THE PARTICIPANTS

- All participating players should be registered under BFI Master Point Scheme, except the foreign players, who will be assigned a temporary Player ID for the event.
- **IMPORTANT** – This is a Ranking Point event and hence performance in the Gold Teams / Open MP Pairs will be eligible for Ranking Points for Indian Teams selection, as per the BFI Ranking Point Policy 2021.
- Participation in this tournament is open to all resident bridge players of Indian Nationality. Teams with one or more non-resident or OCI card holder Indian bridge player(s) or players of other NBO's of foreign nationality are also eligible to participate.
- However, the non-resident Indian / OCI Card holder Indian / foreign player(s) or an Indian resident player partnering a non-resident Indian / OCI card holder Indian/ foreign player will not be eligible for the ranking points from this tournament. In case, if the non-resident / OCI card holder / foreign player has played with 2 or more Indian partners in the team event, then all of them will be ineligible for the ranking points.
- In a ranking point Pairs event, an Indian resident player partnering a non-resident Indian / OCI card holder / foreign player will not be eligible for the **Ranking points for the event**. However, they will be eligible for the prize.

- Teams participating in “Team of Four” event in Gold / Silver categories can have a minimum of four and maximum of 8 players in the team.
- In Silver Team event, maximum two player in the team can be of the rank of National Masters (having minimum 500 Federation points) but below Life Master (i.e. below 1000 Federation points). They can play as team “Mentors” but both cannot play in a partnership. Rest of the players should be below the rank of National Master.
- By default a foreign team has to play in Gold category only. A foreign team or a foreign player(s) can participate in Silver Team event, only after getting clearance from the Technical Committee.
- For all team events, it is mandatory for each player to play a minimum 25% of the boards at each stage of the tournament. **See SCoC for more details.**
- There is no rank restriction for participation in Open MP / IMP Pairs.
- TRIOS are not allowed in any of the Pairs event.
- All the events will be played on **RealBridge / BridgeMagic** platform. For playing on **RealBridge / BridgeMagic** platform, players have to ensure that they have a laptop or PC with Camera & Microphone facility and a good internet connection. This is a mandatory condition and players should ascertain that they are equipped with the required paraphernalia before entering the event. It may please be noted that you can't play the event on mobile phone.
- Teams participating in “Team of Four” event in Bronze categories can have a minimum of four and maximum of 6 players in the team. No foreign player(s) will be allowed to participate in Bronze event.
- In Bronze event, only two players having up to 100 Master points and rest of the players with up to 50 Master Points will be allowed. The Technical committee reserves the right to reject an entry, in case they feel that a player is not eligible to participate as per the conditions.
- The Bronze event will be played only if there are a minimum of 12 teams participating in the event. In case the number is less than 12, the participating teams of Bronze category will be merged with the Silver event and no separate prizes for the Bronze event will be given.
- The MPs to be considered for participation in the Silver & Bronze events will be as on **15th Sep 2021.**
- Detailed information on the schedule & SCoC will be circulated on the Tournament Web site www.hcl-bridge.com & various Bridge related WhatsApp groups.

- All participating players should go through and abide by the tournament SCoC, which will be published on Tournament website www.hcl-bridge.com latest by 1st Sep 2021.
- Entries for all events will start from 1st Sep 2021 on Tournament website www.hcl-bridge.com.

All teams are advised to register their entries in advance on website. The following persons can be contacted for any clarification:

Srinivasan Iyengar - Tel: +91 9974164676 Email: cardpaker@gmail.com

T.C.Pant - Tel: +91 9811094407 Email: tcpant@hotmail.com

Sudhir Aggarwal - Tel: +91 9810100361 Email: sgagarwal@gmail.com

- The organizer (HCL) will have a quota of 1 Pair, directly seeded to the MP Pairs GOLD Final.
- Participating players are required to take their seats as per the program. Failure to do so will result in penalty.
- Properly filled convention card for a partnership is compulsory. CTD may like to see it if required or ask you to deposit it electronically.
- The organizing committee has the right to change the tournament schedule and format, if deemed necessary.
- All prize money will be credited to the winner's personal bank account within 15-20 days of the final day of the tournament.
- Registration will be opened online. Details of the same will be circulated on the web site (www.hcl-bridge.com) and the entry fees will be collected through an online payment gateway on the web site itself.



ORGANIZING MEMBERS

Chairperson - Mrs. Kiran Nadar
Co-Chairman - S. Sundareshan (President, BFI)
Organizing Team - Sandeep Thakral, T.C. Pant,
 Sudhir Aggarwal
Marketing & Finance - S.S. Mishra and Rajat Chandolia

TECHNICAL MANAGEMENT

In-charge - T.C. Pant and Sudhir Aggarwal
Website - Sudhir Aggarwal, Srinivasan Iyengar & HCL Team
Tournament Operation - Team of "Bridge From Home" - Sukrit Vijaykar,
 Srinivasan Iyengar, Sanjay Chakraborty, Stanley Nazrath, S. Vijayraghavan
Scorer - Srinivasan Iyengar

TOURNAMENT DIRECTORS

Chief Tournament Director (CTD) - Sudhir Aggarwal
TDs - V.K. Sharma, Sanjay Chakraborty, Narasinga Rao,
 K.S. Swaminathan, Sukrit Vijaykar, Daxin Das, Aparjitha Iyer,
 Raghu Rajkumar, Baskar, Rounaq Ghosh

REVIEWERS

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