



# 21<sup>st</sup> HCL INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIP



September 14 - 22, 2024

PRIZE MONEY

**₹27 Million**  
(USD 325,000)

VENUE

The Leela Ambience  
Convention Hotel, Delhi



For queries, contact



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[www.hcl-bridge.com](http://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. It is these 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 last championship in 2023 had a prize purse of Rs. 26 million (USD 310,000). The previous editions of the tournament have witnessed participation by over 1000 players from 185 teams. International teams having players from USA, Poland, Italy, Bulgaria, Russia, Netherlands, Israel, Sweden, Norway, 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.

The 21<sup>st</sup> HCL International Bridge Championship will be held from 14<sup>th</sup> September to 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2024 at the Leela Ambience Convention Hotel, New Delhi. The total prize money has been increased this year by extra Rs.1 Million to Rs.27 Million (USD 325,000), one of the highest across any Bridge tournament worldwide. The Championship will have the following events:

- Team of Four Gold- Winners will be awarded the 'Naresh Tandan Trophy'
- Team of Four Silver- Winners will be awarded the 'Mohlni Tandan Trophy'
- Open Pairs- Winners will be awarded the 'Neena Bonarji Trophy'
- An IMP Pairs Event
- A ProAm event on the last day of the tournament (22<sup>nd</sup> Sep, 24) in which Amateur player will partner a Professional player. The ProAm event will have a maximum of 36 pairs. Further details will be provided shortly to interested players. Those interested in ProAm event may please contact Mr. Sandeep Thakral on 91-9910034918.
- From this year onwards the sponsors are starting a new 2-day Mixed IMP Pairs event, to be played for "N K Gupta Trophy".

# THE PROGRAM

14  
SEP

## Saturday, September 14, 2024

Time in Hour	Activity
	<b>MIXED IMP PAIRS EVENT – ELIMINATION</b> (5 Sessions of 10 Boards each)
1000 – 1015	Director's Announcements & Display of Seating Plan for the event
1015 – 1135	SESSION 1 (10 Boards)
1135 – 1145	Break
1145 – 1305	SESSION 2 (10 Boards)
1305 – 1400	Lunch Break
1400 – 1520	SESSION 3 (10 Boards)
1520 – 1530	Break
1530 – 1650	SESSION 4 (10 Boards)
1650 – 1720	Tea Break
1720 – 1840	SESSION 5 (10 Boards)
	<b>The TOP 26 Pairs will qualify for the Mixed IMP Pairs Final. Rest will play the MIXED STRATA – II event</b>

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SEP

## Sunday, September 15, 2024

Time in Hour	Activity
	<b>MIXED IMP PAIRS EVENT – FINAL</b> (All Play All 50 Boards with Barometer Scoring. Will be divided in 5 Sessions of 10 boards each)
1000 – 1125	SESSION 1 (10 Boards)
1125 – 1135	Break
1135 – 1300	SESSION 2 (10 Boards)
1300 – 1400	Lunch Break
1400 – 1525	SESSION 3 (10 Boards)
1525 – 1535	Break
1535 – 1700	SESSION 4 (10 Boards)
1700 – 1730	Tea Break
1730 – 1855	SESSION 5 (10 Boards)
	<b>MIXED IMP PAIRS EVENT – STRATA – II</b>
1015 – 1315	SESSION 1 (22 Boards)
1315 – 1415	Lunch Break
1415 – 1715	SESSION 2 (22 Boards)

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SEP

## Monday, September 16, 2024

Time in Hour	Activity
	Note: There will be 2 parallel team events in Gold & Silver category.. See the criteria for Silver category participation in the "Notes for Participants". <b>TEAM OF FOUR GOLD &amp; SILVER EVENT – SWISS LEAGUE</b> (5 Rounds of 10 Boards each)
1000 – 1015	Director's Announcements & Display of Draw for Team of Four Events
1020 – 1145	Round 1
1205 – 1330	Round 2
1330 – 1430	Lunch Break
1430 – 1555	Round 3
1615 – 1740	Round 4
1740 – 1810	Tea Break
1810 – 1935	Round 5

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SEP

## Tuesday, September 17, 2024

Time in Hour	Activity
	<b>TEAM OF FOUR GOLD &amp; SILVER EVENTS – SWISS LEAGUE</b> Continues (5 Rounds of 10 Boards each)
1000 – 1125	Round 6
1145 – 1310	Round 7
1310 – 1410	Lunch Break
1410 – 1535	Round 8
1555 – 1720	Round 9
1720 – 1750	Tea Break
1750 – 1915	Round 10
1930 – 2000	<b>Captain's meet for the Top 16 qualifying teams of the GOLD &amp; SILVER event for Pre-QF knock out</b>

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SEP

## Wednesday, September 18, 2024

Time in Hour	Activity
	<b>TEAM OF FOUR GOLD &amp; SILVER – KO Pre-Quarter Finals (4*14 boards)</b>
1000 – 1200	Session 1
1215 – 1415	Session 2
1415 – 1515	Lunch Break
1515 – 1715	Session 3
1715 – 1745	Tea Break
1745 – 1945	Session 4
	<b>OPEN MP PAIRS – ELIMINATION 1 (3 Sessions of 18 Boards each)</b>
1030 – 1300	Session 1
1300 – 1400	Lunch Break
1400 – 1630	Session 2
1630 – 1700	Tea Break
1700 – 1930	Session 3
1930 onwards	Cocktails & Dinner (Hosted by HCL)
2015 – 2045	Draw of Lots for ProAm Tournament

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SEP

## Thursday, September 19, 2024

Time in Hour	Activity
	<b>TEAM OF FOUR GOLD &amp; SILVER – KO Quarter Finals (4*14 boards)</b>
1000 – 1200	Session 1
1215 – 1415	Session 2
1415 – 1515	Lunch Break
1515 – 1715	Session 3
1715 – 1745	Tea Break
1745 – 1945	Session 4
	<b>OPEN MP PAIRS – ELIMINATION 2 (3 Sessions of 18 Boards each)</b>
1030 – 1300	Session 1
1300 – 1400	Lunch Break
1400 – 1630	Session 2
1630 – 1700	Tea Break
1700 – 1930	Session 3
	<b>MP PAIRS STRATA II (2 Sessions of 22 Boards each)</b>
1100 – 1400	Session 1
1400 – 1500	Lunch Break
1500 – 1815	Session 2

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SEP

## Friday, September 20, 2024

Time in Hour	Activity
	<b>TEAM OF FOUR GOLD &amp; SILVER – KO Semi Finals (4*14 boards)</b>
1000 – 1200	Session 1
1215 – 1415	Session 2
1415 – 1515	Lunch Break
1515 – 1715	Session 3
1715 – 1745	Tea Break
1745 – 1945	Session 4
	<b>OPEN MP PAIRS – ELIMINATION 3 &amp; IMP PAIRS - ELIMINATION (3 Sessions of 18 Boards each)</b>
1030 – 1300	Session 1
1300 – 1400	Lunch Break
1400 – 1630	Session 2
1630 – 1700	Tea Break
1700 – 1930	Session 3

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SEP

## Saturday, September 21, 2024

Time in Hour	Activity
	<b>TEAM OF FOUR GOLD &amp; SILVER – Finals (4*14 boards) &amp; Play-Off</b>
0900 – 1100	Session 1
1115 – 1315	Session 2
1315 – 1400	Lunch Break
1400 – 1600	Session 3
1615 – 1815	Session 4
	<b>OPEN MP PAIRS– FINAL (GOLD &amp; SILVER) – Barometer Scoring</b>
0930 – 1300	Session 1
1300 – 1400	Lunch Break
1400 – 1745	Session 2
	<b>IMP PAIRS – FINAL (2 Sessions of 24 Boards each)</b>
1000 – 1330	Session 1
1330 – 1430	Lunch Break
1430 – 1745	Session 2
	<b>IMP PAIRS STRATA – II (2 Sessions of 22 Boards each)</b>
1030 – 1330	Session 1
1330 – 1430	Lunch Break
1430 – 1730	Session 2
1830	Prize Distribution & Closing Ceremony

22  
SEP

## Sunday, September 22, 2024

Time in Hour	Activity
	<b>Pro-Am Pairs Tournament (IMP Scoring) – Max 54 Boards</b>
0930 – 1315	Session 1 (28 Boards)
1315 – 1400	Lunch Break
1400 – 1730	Session 2 (26 Boards)
1800	Prize Distribution

# PRIZE MONEY

Break-up of the total prize money as per different events:

TEAM EVENTS			PAIR EVENTS					
Rank	Gold	Silver	Rank	Open Pairs Gold	Open Pairs Silver	IMP Pairs	MP Pairs STRATA-II	IMP Pairs STRATA-II
1st	44,00,000	16,00,000	1st	12,80,000	2,00,000	2,00,000	80,000	80,000
2nd	24,00,000	9,20,000	2nd	8,40,000	1,50,000	1,50,000	50,000	50,000
3rd	12,00,000	4,80,000	3rd	6,40,000	1,20,000	1,20,000	36,000	36,000
4th	9,00,000	3,60,000	4th	4,80,000	80,000	80,000	24,000	24,000
5th to 8th	4,50,000	1,80,000	5th	3,20,000	60,000	60,000	18,000	18,000
9th to 16th	1,80,000	72,000	6th	2,50,000	40,000	40,000	12,000	12,000
17th to 20th	60,000	25,000	7th	2,00,000	30,000	30,000	10,000	10,000
			8th	1,50,000	20,000	20,000	8,000	8,000
			9th	1,00,000	15,000	15,000	7,000	7,000
			10th	90,000	10,000	10,000	6,000	6,000
			11th	75,000				
			12th	60,000				
			13th to 16th	50,000				
			Pairs Elim-1, 2 & 3 (1st)	15,000				
			Pairs Elim-1, 2 & 3 (2nd)	10,000				
			Best Mixed & Best Ladies Pair - 1st	20,000				
Swiss League Winner	50,000	40,000	Best Mixed & Best Ladies Pair - 2nd	11,000				
Total	1,24,30,000	47,96,000		48,22,000	7,25,000	7,25,000	2,51,000	2,51,000

  

SPECIAL EVENTS			
Rank	ProAm IMP Pairs Event	Mixed IMP Pairs Event	Mixed IMP Pairs STRATA-II
1st	6,00,000	2,50,000	15,000
2nd	4,00,000	1,80,000	12,000
3rd	3,00,000	1,20,000	8,000
4th	1,80,000	90,000	6,000
5th	1,40,000	75,000	5,000
6th	1,00,000	60,000	4,000
7th	80,000	40,000	
8th	60,000	30,000	
9th	50,000	25,000	
10th	40,000	20,000	
11th	30,000	15,000	
12th	20,000	10,000	
13th to 16th		5,000	
Pairs Elimination (1st)		10,000	
Pairs Elimination (2nd)		5,000	
Total	20,00,000	9,50,000	50,000
Grand Total		2,70,00,000	

All figures are in Indian Rupees.

**Note 1** – For international players, the final prize money will be converted as per the prevailing foreign exchange rates of the day. TDS will be deducted as per the prevailing Indian Income Tax rules

**Note 2** – There are two prizes each for Best mixed and Ladies pairs in open MP Pairs event. For winning this prize pairs must reach Open MP Pairs final or atleast 3rd elimination of MP Pair event.

## ENTRY FEE

- Mixed IMP Pairs – Rs. 2,500 per Pair
- Mixed IMP Pairs STRATA II – No entry fee for this event. Non qualifiers from Mixed IMP Pairs elimination round can only participate in this event.
- Team of Four Gold – Rs. 10,000 for 4 member team and Rs. 2000 for additional member.
- Team of Four Silver – Rs. 8,000 for 4 member team and Rs. 1,500 for additional member.

**Note:** In the Team of Four Gold and Silver events, the 16 teams qualified to play the KO stage will pay additional Rs. 3,000 per team.

- Open MP Pairs – Rs. 4,000 per pair.
- Open MP Pairs STRATA II – No entry fee for this event. Non qualifiers from Match Point Pairs elimination-1 round can only participate in this event.
- IMP Pairs – Rs. 2,500 per Pair
- IMP Pairs STRATA II – No entry fee for this event. Non qualifiers from IMP Pairs elimination round can only participate in this event.

**Note:** There will be a 50% concession on entry fee for a Team / Pair consisting of all under-30 players.

## IMPORTANT NOTES FOR THE PARTICIPANTS

- In SILVER event, a team can have only one **“National Master or above level player”**, who will be treated as the team mentor. All other players should be below the rank of “National Master”. In case, a team is found to have more than one player above “National Master” level, the team will get scratched from Silver event.
- **Any player who has played in any of the Previous Finals of HCL Team of Four – Silver event (from 2013 onwards) will be treated as equivalent to “National Masters” for this purpose, irrespective of the fact that he / she may not have attained the status of “National Master” in terms of Master Points.**
- All foreign teams will participate in the GOLD event only, unless tournament committee gives them special permission to participate in “SILVER” category.
- The MPs to be considered for participation in the Silver event will be as on **1<sup>st</sup> Sep 2024**.
- The TOP 26 pairs from Elimination-3 round of MP Pairs will qualify for MP Pairs GOLD final, whereas pairs ranked 27-52 will play in the MP Pairs SILVER final. The rest of the Elimination-3 qualifiers will be seeded to the IMP Pairs final.
- The Match Point Pairs STRATA – II is only for those non qualifiers, who could not qualify to the elim-2 round of the MP Pairs event. Similarly the Mixed IMP Pairs Strata-II and IMP Pairs STRATA – II is only for those non-qualifiers, who have played the elimination event but could not qualify to the Finals. Any non-qualifier not interested to play the STRATA-II event is kindly requested to inform the same to TC Pant through WhatsApp (Mob: 9811094407) or personally at the venue.



- Registration for all events will only be done online. The Registration will be considered “complete”, only once the payment of entry fee is made online through the payment gateway on the registration page. All non-payment entries may be deleted 10 days before the entry due date.
- No entry for **team event** (Gold & Silver) will be accepted after the stipulated closing time of **2000 hrs on Monday, September 9, 2024.**

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

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

Sudhir Aggarwal – Tel: +91 9810100361 Email: sgaggarwal@gmail.com

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

- **Closing time for entries of Mixed IMP Pairs is 2100 hrs on Wednesday, September 11, 2024.**
- **Closing time for entries of MP Pairs is 2100 hrs on Monday, September 16, 2024.**
- **Closing time for entries of IMP Pairs is 2030 hrs on Thursday, September 19, 2024.**
- **Sponsor will have a quota of 2 Pairs, directly seeded to the MP Pairs GOLD Final. Sponsor can nominate any player to play in the final, irrespective of whether the player has played in elimination round or not. However, a sponsored player is not eligible for Ranking Points, if he / she has first played in the elimination round and after not qualifying has again re-entered the final.**
- Participating players are required to take their seats as per the program; failure to do so will result in penalty.
- Displaying of properly filled convention cards at the table is compulsory. Copies of blank Convention cards will be made available at the venue.
- Players will be provided Lunch at the venue. Tea /coffee and snacks during scheduled tea breaks, will also be provided.
- Players are requested not to bring Tea/Coffee/Cold drinks/Lunch inside the playing arena.
- Please visit the Tournament web site **[www.hcl-bridge.com](http://www.hcl-bridge.com)** for accommodation details in nearby hotels and their contacts. Details will be updated around 15th July 2024.
- The applicable Supplementary Conditions of Contest (SCoC) will be published on the tournament web site **[www.hcl-bridge.com](http://www.hcl-bridge.com)** by 1st July 2024.
- Tournament will follow the WBF - 2017 Laws of Duplicate Bridge.
- 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 bank accounts within 15-20 days of the final day of the tournament, with the condition that player has sent the required documents asked by the HCL accounts department for transferring the same into their bank accounts.

# Organizing Committee

## ORGANIZING MEMBERS

**Chairperson** - Mrs. Kiran Nadar

**Co-Chairman** - Mr. Prasad Keni (President, BFI)

**Organizing Secretary** - Sandeep Thakral,

**Members** - T.C. Pant, Sudhir Aggarwal & Srinivasan Iyengar

**Marketing, Administration & Finance** - Rajat Chandolia, Rakesh Kalra, S.S. Mishra & their Teams

## TECHNICAL MANAGEMENT

**Head of Operations** - T.C. Pant

**Technical Management** - T.C. Pant & Sudhir Aggarwal

**Bulletin** - Dr. Prakash Paranjape & Bhola Nath Das

**Website** - Sudhir Aggarwal, Sandeep Thakral & HCL Team

**Bridgemates & Scoring** - Srinivasan Iyengar, Kaustubh Deodhar & Prithvi Singh

**Dealing** - Chetan Raval, SRC Sekar and Team

**BBO Vu-Graph** - Pramod Samant, Ms. Meenal Thakur, Soumik, Subrata Adhikari, Abhishek Roy

## TOURNAMENT DIRECTORS

**Head TD** - Laurie Kelso (Head TD, WBF)

**CTD** - Sudhir Aggarwal

**Joint CTD** - M.B.V. Subrahmanyam, Pranab (Ranju) Bhattacharya

**TDs:** - VK Sharma, Sanjay Chakraborty, Gora Roy Choudhary, Narasinga Rao, K.S. Swaminathan, B G Daxindas, Rounak Ghosh, Ashok Girdhar



## VENUE

The Leela Ambience Convention Hotel, Delhi  
1, CBD, Maharaja Surajmal Marg,  
(Near YAMUNA SPORTS COMPLEX),  
DELHI – 110032, INDIA

[www.hcl-bridge.com](http://www.hcl-bridge.com)