



European Bridge League

Administering the Mind Sport BRIDGE in Europe

EUROPEAN BRIDGE LEAGUE • YOUTH COMMITTEE

Growing Youth Bridge in Europe

A candidature for the EBL Youth Committee, 2026 to 2030

Presented to the EBL Executive Committee • 6 July 2026



OUR VISION

Why we are here

More young people playing bridge in Europe, **more often**, at **lower cost**, with **better support** for players, coaches, and local clubs.



Structured

A connected youth ecosystem across countries



Self sustaining

Backed by proper funding, not one off effort



Autonomous

Run by a motivated, operational committee

THE COMMITTEE

Five candidates ready to lead the new term

All with active youth bridge backgrounds.



Morten Bilde

Local Initiatives &
Fundraising



Richard Ritmeijer

Online Competitions



Milan Macura

Coaching & Camps



Marianne Harding

Finance & Budget



Stefan Skorchev

Communications



Liaison seat

Open to one EC member

We welcome a liaison seat for an EC member, while keeping an independent, operational and non political spirit.

THE PLAN

Eight strategic priorities

A connected programme that turns young players into teachers, builds local and online play, and funds it sustainably.

1



Communications

2



Bridge Teachers

3



Events & Camps

4



Clubs & Arenas

5



Online League

6



Rankings & Calendar

7



Fundraising

8



Fund & Budget

Strategic priorities



Communications

Regular, transparent and accessible communication between the committee and EBL member countries, built on three channels.

- A public website as the single source of truth
- Email for formal announcements
- A chat group as a lightweight nudge layer
- Open cooperation beyond the EBL



Creating Bridge Teachers

To spread the game we need to teach the teachers, and make a professional career attractive.

- Coaching the coaches: former juniors trained as the next generation of instructors
- A structured progression with growth incentives

Strategic priorities



Live Youth Events and Camps

Stimulate more live bridge by building a broader network of international youth tournaments and camps.

- A wider international tournament network
- Direct support for local organisers



Local Clubs and Bridge Arenas

Grow weekly local youth clubs across Europe and encourage NBOs to open bridge arenas for the wider community.

- Sustainable local infrastructure: space, materials, teachers, support
- Spaces for informal learning and youth mental health
- Room for those who take years to master a finesse

Strategic priorities



Online European Youth League

Build on the RealBridge collaboration into a continuous seasonal online youth league, financially self supporting.

- Individual rankings and bridge related prizes each season
- A modest admission fee to strengthen commitment



Junior Rankings & Event Calendar

A running European junior ranking that combines live and online results, alongside a central youth calendar.

- Open events listed with youth discounts
- Independent of championships unless those are open to all

Strategic priorities



Fundraising

Active fundraising beyond annual federation fees. People invest in specific projects, so we will create those projects.

- EU programmes and foundations
- Corporate sponsors
- Parent communities



Fund Management and Budget

The EBL Youth Fund is managed by the committee with a clear structure. Any EBL member can apply within an announced project type.

- Applications assessed on fit with the announced priorities
- A streamlined reporting flow for those funded
- Mass bridge as the top spending priority

OUR REQUEST

What we ask from the EC



A formal mandate

To establish the new Youth Committee for the 2026 to 2030 term.



A liaison seat

One EC member linked to the committee.



Coordinator contacts

Access to national coordinator contact lists.



Past funding archive

An archive of previous funding applications, to show what federations really need.



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EBL YOUTH COMMITTEE • GROWING YOUTH BRIDGE IN EUROPE

Let us grow youth bridge across Europe, together.

Morten Bilde • Richard Ritmeijer • Milan Macura
Marianne Harding • Stefan Skorchev

