



NATIONAL OPEN TEAMS: REGIONAL QUALIFYING HEAT 2026

GENERAL INFORMATION

- 1. Dates:** 1st Phase: 27th & 28th March 2026
2nd Phase: 24th & 25th April 2026
- 2. Times:** Friday 27th March 20.00
Saturday 28th March 11:00
Times may change depending on number of entries
Friday 24th April 20.00
Saturday 25th April 15:00
- 3. Venue:** VidaMar
- 4. Director:** To be announced
- 5. Entries:** By 23rd March by email to abm@abridgemadeira.com or info@abridgemadeira.com
- 6. Entry fee:** In accordance with the current ABM Table of Entry Fees, to be paid at the start of the first session.
- 7. Subscriptions:** Annual membership fee must be paid up at submission of entry
- 8. Format:** Depending upon number of entries (Phase 2 will take place only if there are 5 or more registered teams).
Phase 1 will be played as a round-robin.
In Phase 2, teams will be divided into 2 groups, one competing for the top 4 places, and a second competing for the remaining places. The leading team will choose opponents from the teams ranked 2 to 4. Day 1 will consist of 32 boards played in two stanzas. On Day 2 the leading teams will play each other for first place; the 3rd and 4th placed teams will compete for 3rd place.
The remaining teams will play in a separate pool.
- 9. FPBridge regulation:** Up to two changes may be made to the team originally entered
- 10. DRD* requirement:** A minimum of 4 teams must participate
- 11. Qualifying:** The top two teams will go through to the first phase of the National Finals representing ABM
- 12. Confirmation:** The qualifying teams must confirm their intention to play in the National finals no later than the end of the third day after the end of the tournament
- 13. Substitutes:** The team placed 3rd will be eligible to play in the National Final if one of the top two teams cannot take up its place
- 14. National finals:** Phase 1: Porto, 22nd – 24th May
Phase 2 (¼ & ½-finals): Lisbon, 6th - 7th June
Phase 3: (Final) 12th - 13th December, venue TBC
- 15. ABM subsidy:** The winning team is guaranteed support in accordance with ABM regulations for 2026. ABM will support a second team subject to the subsidy policy.

* DRD = *Direção Regional de Desporto: department of the Regional Government*