



**COMÓRTAISÍ NÁISIÚNTA  
BANTRACHT NA TUAITHE  
CLÁR 2025**

**ICA NATIONAL  
COMPETITIONS  
PROGRAMME 2025**



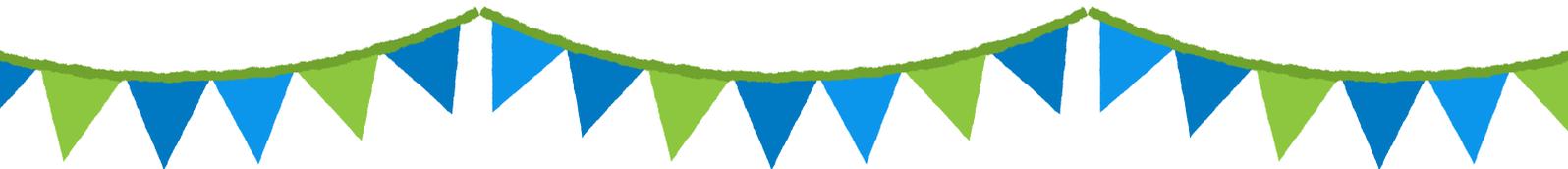
**National Competitions  
Chairperson:  
Esther Cahill**

**National Competitions Secretary:  
Deirdre Hickey  
Mobile: 086 174 1118  
Landline: 021 733 2302  
Postal Address:  
Berrings  
Co. Cork  
P12 HC78**

# Points of Note to all competitors in ICA National Competitions:



1. The National competitions are open to ICA members only.
2. A paid-up member for the purpose of entering the competition(s) is a member for whom current membership fee has been received and recorded in the Central Register of Members at the registered office of the Association.
3. The National Competitions Committee reserves the right to confirm the active membership status for entrants. Please ensure you have your membership card with you when attending competitions.
4. Please adhere strictly to the criteria of each specific competition.
5. There must be at least two entries in any competition for it to be held.
6. Judges' decisions are final in all competitions.
7. No late entries will be accepted.
8. From 2020 onwards, 1st Prize in any competition will only be awarded to the same entrant/team for two consecutive years. Having enjoyed 1st Prize for two consecutive years, the winning entrant/team will not be allowed participate in this competition again for a period of one year.
9. All Cups, Plaques, Shields and Trophies must be returned to the ICA National Competitions Committee one month prior to that competition being run again or at an event in the first half of 2025 (if any).
10. Names and photographs of competition entrants/winners/audiences may be posted on our website [www.ica.ie](http://www.ica.ie) and on our Facebook page "ICA National Competitions". If you do not want your name/photograph posted to those sites, please indicate this clearly to the Competitions Committee on your entry or at competition events.
11. Entering any of the National ICA competitions is deemed acceptance of the terms of entry, points of note and the rules as directed by the ICA National Contest Committee.
12. All booking for B&B must be made with **Catherine Ross** for the competitions weekend 7th - 10th March 2025. Contact No. **087 267 9167**



The National Competitions Committee wish to thank all ICA members who took part in the 2024 competitions, and we also look forward to great participation in our 2025 Programme.

We would also like to thank the Manager and all the staff in Central Office and in An Grianán for their absolute cooperation in running Contests Weekend.

Entries for 2024 competitions were greatly increased in some areas e.g. Eleanora Cup for Drama saw a record entry. We hope that this trend will continue for 2025.

We are very grateful to Gempack Foods who have once again supported our competitions, and we thank them sincerely for that.

We as a committee intend to do our best to deliver a good programme with more limited resources. Due to reduction in sponsorship, we felt we had no option but to increase entry fees to some competitions.

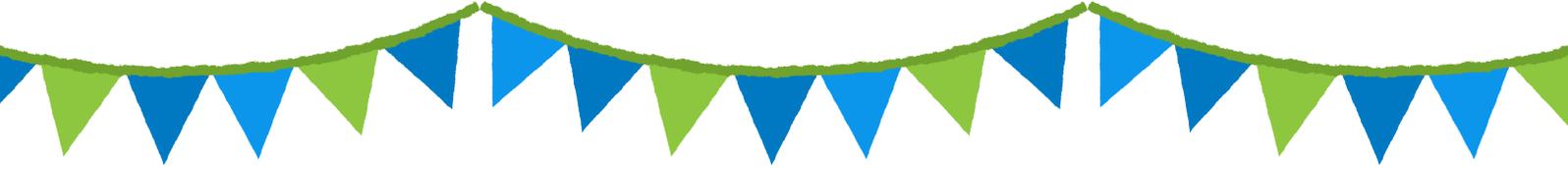
We hope you understand.

Míle Buíochas as ucht bhur dtacaíocht

Thanks for your support.

Cathaoirleach/Rúnaí

Chairperson/Secretary



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# 1. National Contests Weekend 2025

Date: Saturday 8th March & Sunday March 9th 2025

Location: An Grianán



## Gempack Baking & Creative Writing Final

Date: Monday 10th March 2025

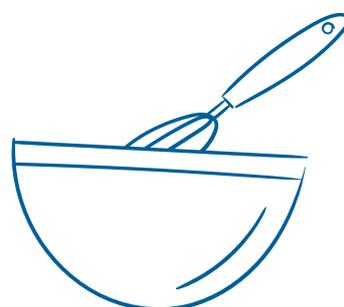
Location: An Grianan

**PLEASE NOTE FEDERATION HEATS MUST BE HELD FOR THE FOLLOWING COMPETITIONS: 1, 5, 18.**

## 2. Gempack Baking Competition

Closing Date: Friday February 21st 2025

National Final: Monday March 10th 2025



The GEMPACK Baking Competition Final will be held in An Grianán on Monday March 10th 2025.

The competition is for a **Dundee Cake, 20cm round tin.**

One cake per Federation. **Proof of Gempack purchases is required at Federation and National Competitions.**

The Federation Winners will be invited to come to An Grianán on **Sunday March 9th, 2025.** High tea B&B and Monday lunch will be provided (sponsored by Gempack) Registration of the entries will take place at 10.30am on Monday March 10th.

Cookery Demonstration 11am- 1pm

The names of the Federation winners must be submitted to National Contest Secretary, **Deirdre Hickey, Berring's, Co. Cork P12 HC78** by Friday 21st February 2025.

### 3. Creative Writing Competition

**Closing Date:** Friday 24th January 2025.

**National Final:** Monday 10th March 2025 in An Grianán.

Entry Fee: €10 – please make cheques payable to ICA Contests.



A short story titled **“If wishes came true.....”**

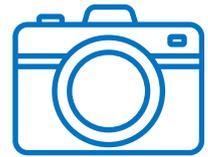
(Maximum 2,000 words (word count must be stated)).

Please send entry marked “Creative Writing Competition” to National Contests Secretary, **Deirdre Hickey, Berring’s Co. Cork P12 HC78**. Please include your name, address, telephone number, email address, Guild and Federation on a separate sheet of paper and submit with your entry.

**Entries must be typed on one side of paper only, using double line spacing and font - Times Roman, size 12. Send a hard copy to Deirdre Hickey with your entry fee of €10 not later than 24th January 2025 and email a copy to [deirdrehickey46@gmail.com](mailto:deirdrehickey46@gmail.com).**

We hope to produce the **Creative Writing Booklet** containing all entries. Your story will be included unless you opt out at the time of submitting your entry. If you would like us to return the original story, please include a stamped self-addressed envelope. Six stories will be shortlisted to go forward to the **National Final in An Grianán on 10th March 2025** and will be read by the writer or a person of their choosing on Monday afternoon. The shortlisted writers will be treated to dinner on Sunday evening, B&B and Monday lunch.

## 4. Inter Federation Cup for Art - Photography



**Closing Date:** Friday March 7th 2025

**Entry Fee:** €5.00 per photograph. Please make cheques payable to ICA Contests.

**Titles: Colour Photograph:** Sunset

**Black and White Photograph:** "A person at work."

Size of Photographs - 5x7 inches, 13 x 18 cm - unmounted.

Photographs entered must have been taken by the entrant.

Please send entry marked "Photography" to National Contests Committee Secretary **Deirdre Hickey Berring's, Co. Cork, P12 HC78** by Friday March 7th 2025.

Please include your name, address, telephone number, email address, Guild and Federation on a separate sheet of paper and submit with your entry.

**Please** enclose an appropriately sized stamped self-addressed envelope for return.

**No details of entrant on photograph.**

## 5. Baumann Cup for Art



**Closing Date:** Friday March 7th 2025

**Painting:** "*The Power of the Sea*"

**Entry Fee:** €10.00 - Please make cheques payable to ICA Contests.

Unsigned, unmounted and unframed (Acrylics only – mixed medium will be disqualified) on canvas - **not larger than 14 " X 18" (35.5 cm x 46cm)**. Please send entry marked "Baumann Art" to National Contests **Deirdre Hickey, Berring's, Co. Cork P12 HC78** by Friday March 7th 2025.

Please include your name, address, telephone number, email address, Guild and Federation on a separate sheet of paper and submit with your entry.

**Please** include stamped self-addressed envelope for return. No details of entrant on painting.

## 6. National Table Quiz



**Closing date:** Friday, February 21st 2025

**Final:** Saturday 8th March at 2pm

**Entry Fee:** €285 - Please make cheques payable to ICA Contests.

- Team of three participants which can be made up from the same Guild as before or from different Guild members in a Federation but only one team from each Federation can go forward for the National Final.
- Entry Fee €30 at Federation round.
- Out of the entry fees for the table quiz, we are asking Federations to pay for dinner, B&B for their winning team to attend the National Final at An Grianán on Saturday 8th March at 2pm. Teams must make own arrangements for lunch.
- Total cost €285 payable to National Contest Secretary before 21st February 2025.
- There will be ten rounds with ten questions in each round at the National Final. There will be some questions in very basic Irish.

Please send names of winning team (printed in Block Capitals) and cheque for €285 made payable to ICA Contests to National Contests Secretary, **Deirdre Hickey, Berring's, Co. Cork, P12 HC78** marked "National Table Quiz", Please include contact numbers and email addresses.

## 7. Patsy Lawlor Cup for Set Dancing - Full Set (open Guild competition)



**Closing date:** Friday, February 21st, 2025

**National Final:** Sunday 9th March 2025

**Entry fee:** €5 pp on the door at the Final.

Teams will be required to dance two figures of their chosen set.

Marching on and off floor not permitted. Dancing shoes (jig, hornpipe, batter) not permitted. Uniforms will not gain extra marks / Teams need not all be from the same Guild.

Bring your own music on CD or Tape and Player for the National Final.

Please send entry details marked “Patsy Lawlor Cup – Full Set” which should include the names of sets being danced, names of the Competitors and their Guilds, contact name, address, telephone number and email address to National Contests Secretary, **Deirdre Hickey, Berring’s, Co. Cork P12 HC78** no later than 21st February 2025.

## 8. Patsy Lawlor Shield for Set Dancing - Half Set (OPEN GUILD COMPETITION)



**Closing Date for entry:** 21st February 2025.

**Final:** Sunday March 9th 2024

**Entry fee:** €5 pp on the door at the Final.

Teams will be required to dance two figures of their chosen set.

Marching on and off floor not permitted. Dancing shoes (jig, hornpipe, batter) not permitted.

Uniforms will not gain extra marks. Teams need not all be from the same Guild.

Bring your own music on CD or Tape and Player for the National Final.

Please send entry details marked "Patsy Lawlor Shield - Half Set", which should include the names of sets being danced, names of the Competitors and their Guilds, contact name, address, telephone number and email address National Contests Secretary, **Deirdre Hickey, Berring's, Co. Cork P12 HC78.**

## 9. Baumann Shield for Music (OPEN GUILD COMPETITION)



**Closing date for entry:** 21st February 2025

**National Final:** Sunday 9th March 2025

**Entry fee:** €5 pp on the door at the Final.

Two Songs: 1. ABBA (any one of their songs)  
2. A song which relates to a county

Group: minimum of 4 singers (need not all be from same Guild)

Accompanist need not be an ICA member, but all singers must be paid up members.

No backing tracks allowed.

Costumes will not gain marks.

Please send entry marked "Baumann Music", which should include the names of the 2 songs, Guild, Federation, contact name, address, telephone number and email address to National Contests Secretary, **Deirdre Hickey, Berring's, Co. Cork P12 HC78**

## 10. Eleanora Gibbon Shield for Music (OPEN GUILD COMPETITION)



**Closing date for entries:** 21st February 2025

**National Final:** Sunday 9th March 2025

**Entry fee:** €5pp at the door at the Final.

Dhá amhrán as Gaeilge (two songs in Irish)

1. Amhran a d'foghlaím tu' fado (A song you learnt long ago)
2. Amhran Faoi le Eire (A song related to/with something to do with Ireland)

Group: minimum of 4 singers(need not all be from the same Guild)

Accompanist need not be an ICA member, but all singers must be paid up members.

No backing tracks allowed.

Costumes will not gain marks.

Please send entry marked "Eleanora Gibbon Shield" which should include the names of the two songs, Guild, Federation, contact name, address, telephone number and email address to National Contests Secretary, **Deirdre Hickey, Berring's, Co. Cork P12 HC78.**

## 11. Eleanora Gibbon Cup for Drama (OPEN GUILD COMPETITION)



**Closing date:** 21st February 2025

**National Final:** Sunday 9th March 2025 in An Grianán.

**Entry Fee:** €5pp at the door at the Final.

**Theme:** The Big Surprise

Twenty minutes empty stage to empty stage.

Tables/chairs/hand-held props/musical instruments/electronic devices only.

Please send entry marked “Eleanora Gibbon Cup for Drama”, which should include the names of the performers and their Guild, Federation, contact name, address, telephone number and email address to: National Contests Secretary, **Deirdre Hickey, Berring’s, Co. Cork P12 HC78.**

## 12. Comórtas Gael Linn



**Closing date:** Friday 21st February 2025

**Scéal:** “An laenthenta saoire is fearr a bhi agam a riamh”

**Entry Fee:** €10 with cheques payable to ICA Contests.

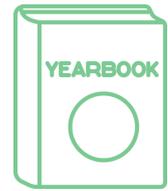
Suas go dtí 700 focal (up to 700 words).

Please send entry marked “**Comórtas Gael Linn**” with your entry fee to National Contests Secretary, **Deirdre Hickey, Berring’s, Co. Cork P12 HC78.**

## 13. Guild Year Book for the Betty Manning Trophy

**Closing Date:** Friday April 4th 2025.

**Entry Fee:** €10 with cheques payable to ICA Contests.



The competition for 2024-2025 is to produce a Guild Yearbook, which will give details of all Guild activities for the year. The Yearbook will be from April 2024 to March 2025. It will be a record of all the things the Guild did during the above ICA year with and for its members. It should include photographs, reports or anything of relevance to a particular Guild event. The Yearbook should promote the Guild by including information on Guild meetings, outings, classes, workshops and activities such as crafts, drama, sports etc. The Yearbook should tell of the fun and friendship enjoyed by Guild members throughout the year. The Yearbook should tell of charitable work and community involvement. It should celebrate the successes of members and of the Guild. It should speak of Guild involvement at Federation and National level.

It may be handwritten and/or computer generated.

Presentation will be important.

The yearbook must be A4 size.

The Guild Yearbook must be the work of at least three Guild members, but we would envisage it being a real Guild effort with various people being involved throughout the ICA year, recording events as they happened.

Entries to be sent marked "Guild Book of the Year" to the National Contest Secretary, **Deirdre Hickey, Berring's, Co. Cork P12 HC78**. Please include contact name, address, telephone number, email address, Guild and Federation on a separate sheet of paper.

## 14. Inter Federation Trophy for Crafts



**Closing Date:** Friday March 28th, 2025

**Craft:** “Decorative Panel/Collage”

**Entry Fee:** €10.00 – Please make cheques payable to ICA Contests.

Minimum size 9 x 14 inches. Maximum size 12 x 14 inches.

Maximum Relief depth 3 inches.

Any medium.

Please send entry marked **“Craft”** to National Contests Committee Secretary **Deirdre Hickey, Berrings, Co. Cork P12 HC78.**

Please include your name, address, telephone number, email address, Guild and Federation on a separate sheet of paper and submit with your entry.

**Please** enclose a stamped self-addressed envelope for return.

All entries will be judged during **Handcraft Week April 2025.**

## 13. Muriel Gahan Rosebowl.



**Closing Date:** Friday 28th March 2025

**Item:** Round Box any medium (no premade box to be used)

**Entry Fee:** €10.00 with cheques payable to ICA Contests.

Please send entry marked **“Muriel Gahan”** to National Contests Committee Secretary, **Deirdre Hickey, Berring’s, Co. Cork P12 HC78.**

Please include your name, address, telephone number, email address, Guild and Federation on a **separate sheet of paper** and submit with your entry. **Please** include an appropriately sized stamped self-addressed envelope for return.

All entries will be judged during **Handcraft week April 2025.**

## 16. Memorial Handcraft Trophy

**Closing date:** Friday, 28th March, 2025

**2025 Craft:** Gold Work

**Entry Fee:** €10 with cheques payable to ICA Contests

**Minimum size 4 x 4 inches**

**must show padding plus 3 other techniques**



Please send entry marked “**Memorial Handcraft**” to National Contests Committee Secretary **Deirdre Hickey, Berring’s, Co. Cork P12 HC78.**

Please include your name, address, telephone number, email address, Guild and Federation on a **separate sheet of paper** and submit with your entry. **Please** include an appropriately sized stamped addressed envelope

All entries will be judged during **Handcraft Week April 2025.**

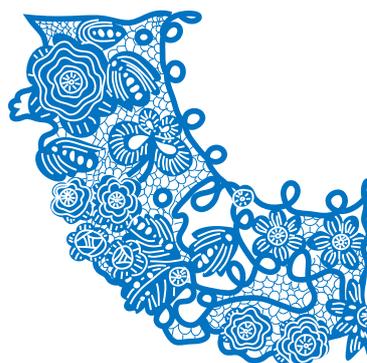
## 17. Lace (New Competition)

**Closing date:** Friday, 28th March, 2025

**Item:** Carrickmacross

**Entry Fee:** €10 with cheques payable to ICA Contests

**Minimum size 10 x 10 inches**



Please send entry marked ‘Lace’ to National Contests Committee Secretary, **Deirdre Hickey, Berring’s, Co. Cork P12 HC78** with your name, address, telephone number, email address, Guild and Federation on a separate sheet of paper and submit with your entry. Please enclose an appropriately sized stamped addressed envelope for return.

All entries will be judged during **Handcraft week April 2025.**

## 18. Breda McDonald Trophy / Hobby section for beginners

**Closing Date:** Friday 28th March 2025

**Entry Fee:** €10 - Please make cheques payable to ICA Contests



The competition is not open to Handcraft Teachers.

### Three of any of the following items

- Pressed Flower Picture
- Decoupage – flat [includes serviette art / deco patch]
- Knitting (small items minimum size 6 inches/15 cm)
- Glass Etching
- Glass Painting
- Needle Felting
- Pin Flair
- 3D Decoupage
- Button Art
- Cane Edge Tray
- Ribbon Work (not Ribbon Embroidery)
- Wool Crochet (Pin Cushion, Pot Holder, Toilet Roll Cover)
- Cross Stitch (Bookmark, Card or other small item)
- Quilling
- Plastic Canvas (Small Item)
- Parchment

The three items must be the work of one person.

Points to be judged.

1. Shape
2. Design

Points 1 – 10 awarded for each item submitted. (Each to be a different craft).

Trophy awarded to person gaining most points in this section.

Entry form at the end of this booklet and online from [www.ica.ie](http://www.ica.ie) Competitions Section.

**Please** forward completed entry form and cheque to National Contest Secretary **Deirdre Hickey, Berring's, Co. Cork P12 HC78** and include appropriately sized stamped self-addressed envelope for return.

All Entries will be judged during Handcraft Week April 2025

**Trophy will be presented at the National AGM in 2025**

## 19. ICA Trophy for Reporting

**Closing Date:** Friday 21st February 2025

**Write a report on:** “Women in Sport”

**Entry Fee:** €5 - Please make cheques payable to ICA Contests.



The report should be maximum 700 words.

**Please** send entry marked “Reporting” to National Contest Secretary, **Deirdre Hickey, Berring’s, Co. Cork P12 HC78**. Please include your name, address, telephone number, email address, Guild and Federation on a separate sheet of paper and submit with your entry. If you would like us to return the original report, **please** include a stamped self- addressed envelope.

## 20. Pitch and Putt 2025 (OPEN GUILD COMPETITION)

**Closing Date for Entry:** 29th August, 2025

**Competition Date:** Saturday 13th September, 2025

**Location:** Seapoint and An Grianán.

**Entry Fee:** €150 - Please make cheques payable to ICA Contests.



The National Pitch and Putt Competition will take place in Seapoint Pitch and Putt Club, Termonfeckin, Co. Louth with a Fourball Shot Gun start at 11:00am.

Teams should arrive for 10.30am to give everyone time to get to their allocated tee box.

The competition is open to teams of 4.

The fee for a team of 4 is €150 which includes lunch for 4 at An Grianán and Green Fees at Seapoint Pitch and Putt Club.

Entry forms at end of this booklet or online from our Web site [www.ica.ie](http://www.ica.ie) competitions section

## 21. NATIONAL PITCH AND PUTT COMPETITION 2025

The National Pitch and Putt Competition will take place on Saturday, 13th September 2025 in Seapoint Pitch and Putt Club with a Fourball Shot Gun start at 11:00 am. Teams should arrive for 10:30 am to give everyone time to get to their allocated tee box.

The competition is open to teams of 4.

**The fee for a team of 4 is €150** which includes lunch for 4 at An Grianán and Green Fees at Seapoint Pitch and Putt Club.

Please complete the form below and send your entry and fee to **Deirdre Hickey, Berring's, Co. Cork P12 HC78**

All entries must include participants' names and please make all cheques payable to "ICA Contests".

**The closing date for entries is Friday August 29th 2025.**

### Pitch and Putt Entry Form 2025

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NAME OF FEDERATION: \_\_\_\_\_

PARTICIPANTS NAMES:

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_

Team Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Team Contact Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Team Contact Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

## 22. BREDA McDONALD TROPHY – Entry Form 2025

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Guild: \_\_\_\_\_

Federation: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate which 3 items are included from the following hobbies:

- Pressed Flower Picture
- Decoupage – flat [includes serviette art / deco patch]
- Knitting (small items minimum size 6 inches/15 cm)
- Glass Etching
- Glass Painting
- Needle Felting
- Pin Flair
- 3D Decoupage
- Button Art
- Cane Edge Tray
- Ribbon Work (not Ribbon Embroidery)
- Wool Crochet (Pin Cushion, Pot Holder, Toilet Roll Cover)
- Cross Stitch (Bookmark, Card or other small item)
- Quilling
- Plastic Canvas (Small Item)
- Parchment

Points 1 – 10 awarded for each item submitted.(Each to be a different craft).

Trophy awarded to person gaining most points in this section.

Entry Fee €10 - Please make cheques payable to ICA Contests

Alternatively, members attending Handcraft Week can bring their entries together with their entry fee to An Grianán. Please forward completed entry form and cheque with items to Central Offic.

Judging will take place at Handcraft Week. Items can be collected from Central Office after that week. Please include a stamped self-addressed envelope for return of items if so wished. Trophy will be presented at the National AGM.

## 23. Closing dates for Competitions 2024

1. Gempack Baking Competition.....21/02/2025
2. Creative Writing.....24/01/2025
3. Inter Federation Cup for Art - Photography.....07/03/2025
4. Baumann Cup for Art, Painting.....07/03/2025
5. National Table Quiz.....21/02/2025
6. Patsy Lawlor Cup, Full Set.....21/02/2025
7. Patsy Lawlor Shield, Half Set.....21/02/2025
8. Baumann Shield for Music..... 21/02/2025
9. Eleanora Gibbon Shield for Music.....21/02/2025
10. Eleanora Gibbon Cup for Drama.....21/02/2025
11. Comórtas Gael Linn.....21/02/2025
12. Guild Yearbook.....04/04/2025
13. Inter Federation Trophy for Crafts.....28/03/2025
14. Muriel Gahan Rosebowl.....28/03/2025
15. Memorial Handcraft Trophy.....25/03/2025
16. Lace..... 25/03/2025
17. Breda McDonald Trophy.....25/03/2025
18. Reporting.....21/02/2025
19. Pitch & Putt.....29/08/2025



**End.**



**2025**

