



WORLD BRIDGE FEDERATION

GENERAL CONDITIONS OF CONTEST

**For all World Championships
and other Tournaments
held under the auspices
of the World Bridge Federation**

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Preamble

These Conditions of Contest are the standard regulations which apply to all World Bridge Championships.

The WBF Systems Policy, the WBF Alerting Policy and the WBF Policy on Psychic Bidding are part of the Conditions of Contest for every World Bridge Championship and are annexed to these General Conditions of Contest.

The WBF may also issue Supplemental Conditions of Contest further to regulate particular World Bridge Championships in accordance with their characteristics.

In the event of any inconsistency between these Conditions of Contest and any Supplemental Conditions of Contest, the Supplemental Conditions of Contest shall prevail.

Expressions used in these Conditions of Contest and not defined shall have their ordinary meaning in duplicate bridge terminology (which may include expressions defined in the Laws of Duplicate Bridge 2007). In the event of any doubt or dispute as to such meaning, the decision of the Tournament Rules and Regulations Committee shall be final and conclusive. The singular shall include the plural and vice-versa and reference to one gender shall include the other.

1. World Mind Sport Games (WMSG)

When the World Bridge Championships are held in conjunction with the World Mind Sport Games, these Conditions of Contest should be read in conjunction with the General Conditions of Contest provided by the International Mind Sports Association (IMSA) for use at such events.

2. Definitions for the General Conditions Of Contest

Unless repugnant to the context or obvious meaning, the following expressions where used in these Conditions of Contest shall have the following meanings:

2.1 Appeals Form

means the form prescribed by the WBF for the lodging of appeals at a World Bridge Championship.

2.2 Approved Recorder

means:

- a) any person subject to approval of both teams and by the Chief Tournament Director
- b) a person approved for the purpose by the Chief Tournament Director or his designee
- c) either Captain of the playing teams, or
- d) the North or South player

2.3 *Brown Sticker Announcement Form*

Means the form designed for the announcement of Brown Sticker Conventions (bids, overcalls and subsequent auction) as referred to in the WBF Systems Policy

2.4 *Chief Tournament Director and Assistant Chief Tournament Director*

mean the respective Directors so designated by the WBF for a World Bridge Championship.

2.5 *Convention Card Desk*

means the facility set up at the site of a World Bridge Championship for the filing of Systems and for the provision of other services relating thereto.

2.6 *Director or Tournament Director*

means a Director as defined in the Laws of Duplicate Bridge 2007 appointed for a World Bridge Championship.

2.7 *Eligible Zone*

means Zone 1 to 8 inclusive.

2.8 *Executive Council*

means the Executive Council of the WBF established under the Constitution and By-Laws of the WBF.

2.9 *Guide to Completion*

means the publication of that name issued by the WBF to instruct players in the correct completion of WBF Convention Cards for a World Bridge Championship copies of which may be obtained from the WBF Systems Administrator whose address can be found in the Supplemental Conditions of Contest

2.10 *Highly Unusual Methods (HUM)*

mean any of the systemic agreements so described in the WBF Systems Policy.

2.11 *Host NBO*

means the NBO which hosts a World Bridge Championship.

2.12 *HUM System*

means a System that utilizes Highly Unusual Methods.

2.13 *IMSA*

means the International Mind Sports Association created in 2005 under the aegis of Sportaccord.

2.14 *Law*

means a Law contained in the Laws of Duplicate Bridge 2007, these being numbered from 1 to 93 inclusive.

2.15 *Line-Up Desk*

means the facility set up at the site of a World Bridge Championship for the teams to register their Line-ups and for the provision of other services relating thereto.

2.16 *NBO*

means a National Bridge Organisation that is a member of the WBF.

2.17 *Playing Area*

the area defined by the WBF which may include the lobby in the immediate vicinity of the actual playing rooms, the toilets adjoining the playing rooms which are designated for the use of the players and any other rooms/lobby areas to be decided on site. Such areas will be identified to the participants through the Daily News at the Championships.

2.18 *President*

means the President of the WBF.

2.19 *Schedule of Play*

means the schedule for the play of a World Bridge Championship, either as contained in the Supplemental Conditions of Contest or as subsequently determined by the WBF.

2.20 *Session*

means a segment of play (as prescribed by the Schedule of Play) after which scores are computed.

2.21 *Supplemental Conditions of Contest*

means the additional Conditions of Contest issued from time to time by the WBF for the further regulation of World Bridge Championships

2.22 *Supplementary Sheets*

means such additional pages containing System details as are annexed to and form part of WBF Convention Cards in accordance with these and the Supplemental Conditions of Contest.

2.23 *System*

means all agreements and understandings a pair has as to the meaning of any call or play as those respective expressions are defined in the Laws of Duplicate Bridge 2007.

2.24 *these Conditions of Contest*

means these General Conditions of Contest.

2.25 *Tournament Appeals Committee*

For the purposes of Sections 31, 32, 33 and Appendix 1 - Guidelines for hearing appeals and other proceedings of the Committee of these Conditions of Contest:

“Committee” means the Tournament Appeals Committee appointed for the World Bridge Championship by the President.

“Chairman” means the Chairman of the Tournament Appeals Committee, and also means, where applicable, the designated chairman referred to in Sections 31 and 33.1.

2.26 *Tournament Rules and Regulations Committee, Tournament Appeals Committee and Credentials Committee*

mean the respective committees constituted either generally or for a World Bridge Championship pursuant to the By-Laws of the WBF.

2.27 *WMSG*

means the World Mind Sport Games, comprising Bridge, Chess, Draughts, GO and on occasion, Chinese Chess (Xiangqi), and other accepted Mind Sports held under the auspices of IMSA.

2.28 *WBF*

means the World Bridge Federation, Inc., a corporation incorporated in Switzerland.

2.29 *WBF Alerting Policy*

means the Policy, issued by the WBF from time to time, that regulates the alerting procedure in a World Bridge Championship (see Appendix 3: WBF Alerting Policy)

2.30 *WBF Convention Card or Card*

means the Convention Card authorized by the WBF for the disclosure of Systems by contestants in a World Bridge Championship and includes Supplementary Sheets. See also Appendix 2.

2.31 *WBF Convention Booklet*

means the definition of bidding conventions published under that name by the WBF for use by contestants in a World Bridge Championship in conjunction with the WBF Convention Cards. For the interpretation of these General Conditions any special partnership understanding is included in the terms “convention”, “conventional call”, “conventional play”, “conventional agreement” or the like. The Convention Booklet is contained within the WBF Guide to Completion of the Convention Card (see Section 2.9)

2.32 *WBF Policy on Psychic Bidding*

means the policy, issued by the WBF from time to time, that specifies the WBF’s Policy with regard to Psychic Bidding (see Appendix 4: WBF Psychic Bidding Policy)

2.33 *WBF Systems Policy*

means the Policy, issued by the WBF from time to time, that regulates the use of Systems in a World Bridge Championship. See Appendix 2: WBF Systems Policy

2.34 ***World Bridge Championship***

means any event so designated by the WBF from time to time and if the context permits, also means the totality of such events scheduled for play at a particular site.

2.35 ***World Standard Card***

means the Card devised by the WBF for use in specific circumstances defined in the Supplemental Conditions of Contest, copies of which will be available at a World Bridge Championship and are available on the websites (see Section 48.5).

2.36 ***Zonal Conference or ZC***

means a union of NBOs as described in the Constitution and By-Laws of the WBF.

2.37 ***Zone***

means a geographical zone of the WBF and includes any NBO or NBOs representing a Zone.

3. **Conditions Of Entry**

3.1 ***General***

World Bridge Championships are conducted under the auspices of the WBF and all events designated as World Bridge Championships shall be played in accordance with the Laws of Duplicate Bridge 2007. These Conditions of Contest, and any Supplemental Conditions of Contest, supplement the Laws of Duplicate Bridge 2007 as required.

3.2 ***Media***

By participating in a World Bridge Championship, each Zone and each NBO and its contestants agree that all or part of any event may be filmed, recorded, or otherwise documented or publicized at the discretion of the WBF.

3.3 ***Competition Requirement***

Each Zone and each NBO agrees that in the interest of promoting goodwill in the world, and for the proper conduct of a World Bridge Championship, it shall instruct its contestants that they must compete against all other contestants. Entry in a World Bridge Championship and subsequent refusal to play against any other team or contestant as required by the Schedule of Play shall result in immediate disqualification of any team, or of any contestant refusing to play. Such disqualification shall extend for the balance of the World Bridge Championship involved. Furthermore, the offending contestant(s) and their Zone and NBO shall be subject to suspension from participation in any future event conducted under the auspices of the WBF (including World Bridge Championships) for such period as the WBF in its discretion shall determine.

3.4 ***Political Statements***

Each National Organisation further agrees that for the proper conduct of the World Mind Sport Games it shall also instruct its competitors that at no time

during the course of or in relation to the event may they make any form of public political statement or comment. Any contestant(s) making such a statement may be disqualified from the event or events in which they participated or intend to participate and shall be subject to suspension from participation in any future event conducted under the auspices of IMSA, for such period as IMSA in its discretion shall determine. The governing body for the contestant's discipline may also in its discretion suspend the contestant and their National Organisation from participation in any future event conducted under its auspices.

3.5 Invitation to Participate

Participation in a World Bridge Championship is by WBF invitation only. Furthermore, no player shall be eligible to compete unless his name has been submitted in writing by his Zone or NBO to the WBF, for invitation by the WBF - see also Section 4

4. Eligibility

4.1 General

To be eligible for participation in the World Bridge Championships a competitor must a) comply with the Olympic Charter as well as with the rules of the WBF, and b) must be entered by his NBO with whom he should be a member in good standing. He must notably respect the spirit of fair play and ethics, and behave accordingly.

4.2 Credentials Committee

Pursuant to the By-Laws of the WBF, the President has appointed a Credentials Committee, whose functions shall be (subject to these Conditions)

- a) to determine all questions relating to the rights and eligibility of players and non-playing captains whose names have been submitted by an NBO for invitation to compete in a World Bridge Championship ("nominated"), The names of players and non-playing captains submitted by the Zonal Conferences of eligible Zones and/or NBOs for invitation to a World Bridge Championship must be transmitted to the President, or his designee, in writing, as prescribed by the relevant Supplemental Conditions of Contest;
- b) in its discretion, to refuse to invite any player or non-playing captain whose name has been submitted for invitation by an NBO, as aforesaid, to participate in a World Bridge Championship. In any such case of refusal, no reason shall be given by the Credentials Committee.

4.3 Eligibility Requirements

The Credentials Committee must ensure that each nominated contestant satisfies the birth and residence requirements of the Zone to which the NBO nominating him belongs and also satisfies the eligibility requirements of WBF By-Law 8.9 (c) as follows:

Except for those players being nominated for participation in any WBF Junior Championship or Transnational Event (as defined by the Executive), to determine

that any competitor in a WBF Tournament must be a national of the country of the NBO entering him for participation, subject to the following:

If a competitor is a national of two or more countries at the same time, he may represent either one of them, as he may elect.

If a competitor has represented one country in a WBF Tournament or a zonal tournament and has changed his nationality or acquired a new nationality, he shall not participate in a WBF Tournament to represent his new country until after three years of such change or acquisition. This period may be reduced or even cancelled upon the request of the NBO with the approval of the WBF Executive Council.

If an associated State, province or overseas department, a country or colony acquires independence, if a country becomes incorporated within another country by reason of a change of border, or if a new NBO is affiliated as a member of WBF, a competitor may continue to represent the country to which he belongs or belonged. However, he may, if he prefers, choose to represent his country or be entered in a WBF Tournament by his new NBO if one exists. This particular choice may be made only once.

Entries may be rejected if any NBO whose nominated contestants are submitted for invitation is in arrears in the payment of monies due to the WBF for annual dues or for entry fees to any WBF event (including non-championship events such as the Worldwide Bridge Contest). No male shall be a playing member of, or a substitute player in, a team or pair competing in a women's event.

4.4 *Over-Riding Eligibility Regulations:*

The Supplemental Conditions for a specific event, not reserved to national representatives, may specify over-riding Eligibility Regulations..

4.5 *Eligibility for Youth Players*

4.5.1 WBF Junior events

To be eligible to play in a WBF Juniors Championship, the player must not have achieved his/her 25th birthday by December 31 of the year prior to the year of the Championship.

4.5.2 WBF Youngster events

To be eligible to play in a WBF Youngsters Championship the player must not have achieved his/her 20th birthday by December 31 of the year prior to the year of the Championship.

4.5.3 University events

To be eligible to play in a WBF University Championship the player must not have achieved his/her 28th birthday by December 31 of the year prior the year of the Championship.

4.6 Eligibility for Senior Players

To be eligible to playing Senior Events the player must be at least 60 years of age or attain the age of 60 during the calendar year of the Championship

5. Official Language

English is the official language of a World Bridge Championship. During a match the players may converse only in English unless both captains (in team games) or all four players at the table (in pairs events) agree to use some other common language at their own risk. If necessary, each captain is responsible for the provision of an interpreter for translation into English.

The Laws printed in English will be used by the Tournament Directors to adjudicate irregularities. No appeal due to misunderstanding in a language other than English will be heard.

6. Ethics and Deportment

All contestants in World Bridge Championships are required to conform at all times to the highest standards of ethics and deportment, according to the Code of Discipline of the WBF. The WBF expects all teams and partnerships to play to win at all times and in all circumstances. All contestants (including non-playing captains) are also expected to accept the decisions of the Tournament Appeals Committee and Disciplinary Commission in a sportsmanlike manner (See also Section 31.3)

7. Anti-Doping Regulations

It is mandatory for all participants to follow the WBF Anti-Doping Regulations (See Appendix 9 – WBF Anti Doping Regulations)

8. Dress Code

NBOs are asked to take note of the recognition of Bridge as a Sport by the IOC and requests that players should, at all times, be dressed appropriately:

8.1 World Bridge Teams Championships & World Bridge Games

in the World Bridge Teams Championship (Bermuda Bowl, Venice Cup, D’Orsi Senior Bowl, Ortiz-Patiño Trophy, Damiani Cup, Rona Cup) and in the World Bridge Games (previous Olympiad), it is obligatory for all teams to adopt the following dress code:

8.1.1 Formal Occasions

The WBF has a policy which seeks to encourage Federations to provide Teams, which participate in World Championships, to be dressed in appropriate uniforms which incorporate a badge or emblem identifying the country which those players represent.

8.1.2 Playing rooms

Everyone entering the playing rooms is obliged to wear the official identification badge provided by the organisation. In case of loss the organisation will provide a duplicate badge at a cost of €5.00

All players, captains and coaches of participating teams are required to wear T-shirts, polo shirts, shirts or blouses that are of the same colour and contain the Federation's logo.

Team members must be supplied with sufficient changes of clothing to ensure that they look smart and presentable at all times.

If sweaters, cardigans and sweatshirts are used they must be of the same colour and carry the Federation's logo.

All players are expected to be respectably dressed and are also required to follow the instructions given by the TD.

Any player, captain or coach not respecting the dress code into the playing area will receive a warning on the first occasion and a subsequent breach will result in that team being fined 2 VP, plus a fine of €100. This penalty is mandatory. Failure to pay the fine will result in that person being prohibited from entering the playing area.

8.1.3 Publicity

The team uniform must contain its Federation logo and may contain discreet sponsor logos.

8.2 *World Bridge Series and World Youth Congress*

In the World Bridge Series and Youth Congress, participants in teams, pairs and individual events are expected to be smartly dressed, with a jacket and tie for male players and the equivalent style of dress for the women players. During play participants are required to wear T-shirts, polo shirts, shirts or blouses that contain the Federation's or Club's logo.

9. Restrictions and Security

The following restrictions apply to the playing areas (see definition of these areas in Section 2.17)

9.1 *Smoking and Alcohol*

9.1.1 Smoking

Smoking in the building is prohibited. No player may leave the playing area in order to smoke.

Any player smoking in the building will cause his team to be fined 2 VP, (or 6 IMPs in a knockout match), or in the case of pairs events, will result in his partnership being fined 25% of the match points available on a board during the session, plus a fine of €100. Repeated violation of this regulation may, and constant violation will, result in the player being prohibited from playing. Failure to pay the fine will result in the player being prohibited from playing.

9.1.2 Alcohol

The consumption of alcoholic beverages of any nature in the playing area and the toilet area is prohibited. No player may leave the playing area in order to consume alcohol.

Any player consuming alcohol during or after the round in the playing area or the toilet area will result in his team being fined 2 VP, (or 6 IMPs in a knockout match), or in the case of pairs events, will result in his partnership being fined 25% of the match points available on a board during the session, plus a fine of €100.

Repeated violation of this regulation may, and constant violation of this regulation will, result in the player being prohibited from playing. Failure to pay the fine will result in the player being prohibited from playing.

9.2 Mobile Phones and Electronic Devices

Mobile phones and electronic devices may not be brought into the playing area and toilets.

Any player, captain or coach bringing a mobile phone and or electronic device into the playing area and toilets will cause his team to be fined 2 VPs, (or 6 IMPs in a knockout match), or in the case of pairs events, will result in his partnership being fined 25% of the match points available on a board during the session, plus in all cases, a fine of €100. This penalty is mandatory. Failure to pay the fine will result in the player being prohibited from playing.

The Head Tournament Director may, at his discretion, prohibit a player from bringing other equipment into the playing area.

Anyone entering the playing area may be required to comply with procedures put in place by the WBF for the detection of such electronic equipment.

See also Section 28.2 for restrictions pertaining to spectators.

The Head Tournament Director will arrange for random checks of players, captains and coaches to ensure that there is compliance with these prohibitions. Refusal to submit to these checks will bar the individual concerned from entry to the playing area and toilet area, and from remaining there. Refusal to submit to these checks will result in the individual being barred from the playing area and toilet area for the duration of the match or until such time as the Head Tournament Director in consultation with the Championship Committee shall decide

9.3 Security

For security reasons all people at the Championship Venue must wear their official identification badge.

10. Disqualification from any WBF Championship event or Tournament

Should a team, pair or individual play be disqualified as a result of a decision made by a Tournament Director, Tournament Appeals Committee, Disciplinary Commission or the Executive Council, no refund of the entry fees, either in part or in whole, will be made.

11. Vu-Graph

11.1 *Obligation to play*

All contestants are required to play on Vu-Graph, on-line Vu-Graph (internet broadcasting) and Television whenever assigned to do so by the President or the Chairman of the Championship Committee. In the absence of any contrary stipulation, the room from which play is broadcast to the Vu-Graph audience shall be the Open Room.

11.2 *Access to the Viewgraph Room*

Access to the View-graph rooms is limited to the four players, the Viewgraph operators on duty and TDs.

12. Media Presentation – Registration - Publication

Players are required to participate in any public presentation of matches, interviews etc arranged by the WBF, including video, Internet, TV, radio or any other media presentation.

NBOs and their representatives at the Championships directly authorise the WBF to take pictures and film of the participants during the course of these championships. They further give their consent to the WBF using such material and information for the furtherance of bridge. Such material and information are exclusive property of the WBF and cannot be copied, reproduced or used without its written consent.

13. Completion of WBF Convention Card

13.1 *Publication of Systems*

Registration of Convention Cards with the WBF gives the WBF the right to publish such convention cards via Internet or to any parties at the Championship in such form as it sees fit. When full systems are registered on site, for the purposes of providing additional information, these will not be published by the WBF to persons other than those requiring them for the purpose of running the Tournament

13.2 *Requirements*

Contestants are required to make full written disclosure of their System and also to make a full disclosure of the meaning of any call or play in response to a proper question at the table from an opponent. The Supplemental Conditions of Contest will set forth detailed procedures for that disclosure, in accordance with the WBF Systems Policy and in addition to rules established in these Conditions of Contest.

The full written disclosure referred to in the above paragraph is made by the completion in due form of the WBF Convention Card and Supplementary Sheets as required. Partnerships are required to file their Convention Cards and Supplementary Sheets in accordance with the Supplemental Conditions of Contest.

A Card will not be regarded as having been completed in due form for the purposes of this section unless:

- a) all sections of the Card have been accurately and legibly completed, in English, in accordance with the Guide to Completion, these Conditions of Contest, and the Supplemental Conditions of Contest;
- b) the Card and Supplementary Sheets contain a clear and sufficient explanation of the System used, including, without limitation, all competitive agreements and understandings, it being accepted by the WBF that the full particulars of some sequences (such as relays) which occur in later rounds of the auction, may be omitted from the Card without such omission constituting a breach of the requirement that the Card contain a clear and sufficient explanation of the System;
- c) the type of System and its appropriate colour are duly indicated in the prescribed place on the Card.

13.3 *Supplementary Sheets*

- a) The WBF Convention Card may be supplemented by the addition of Supplementary Sheets. The function of the Supplementary Sheets is to facilitate the full disclosure of Systems and the relationship of material on a Supplementary Sheet to material on a Card should be clearly indicated by corresponding numbers on both the Card and the Supplementary Sheet.
- b) The number of Supplementary Sheets allowed, as well as the procedures for amendment and variation of Convention Cards will be set forth in the Supplemental Conditions of Contest.

13.4 *General*

- a) If a player makes use of any conventional call not sufficiently described on his Card (including Supplementary Sheets), that player's partnership may be subject to a procedural penalty (Law 90) for the infraction and/or to disciplinary penalty as well as to score adjustments to redress any damage.
- b) The onus of disclosure is on the user. When there is a claim of damage through inadequate disclosure, the Tournament Director and the Tournament Appeals Committee will give the benefit of any doubt to the opponents.

14. Use of Convention Cards at the Table

Unless otherwise set forth in the Supplemental Conditions of Contest, each member of a pair must hand to one of his opponents at the table at the start of each Session of an event his duly completed Card and Supplementary Sheet(s) (incorporating any variations made pursuant to the provisions of the Supplemental Conditions of Contest for a specific World Bridge Championship) which shall contain in the designated place on the Card an indication of the appropriate colour. These are to be reclaimed at the end of the Session.

After withdrawing his cards from the board and until they are restored at the conclusion of the play, a player may not consult his own Card or Supplementary Sheets. He may consult the WBF Convention Booklet in respect of a call made by an opponent, but not in respect of a call made by his partner, or one made or contemplated by himself, and he may consult

written defences against Brown sticker conventions and HUM-aspects in his opponents system.

15. Alerts and Explanations

An alertable call is defined in the WBF Alerting Policy (see Appendix 3: WBF Alerting Policy)

Subject to the provisions of the regulations with regard to the use of screens (see Section 25) the partner of a player who has made an alertable call must immediately alert his opponents unless they have stated, before the auction started on the first board of the set, that they do not wish to be alerted. It is the responsibility of the alerting player to alert clearly. No explanation of the meaning of the alertable call should be made unless requested by an opponent. Request for explanation of an alertable call may be deferred until later in the auction, or until after the auction has closed in accordance with Law 20.

16. WBF Convention Booklet

Except in the case of initial action, whether offensive or defensive, showing two or more specified suits (for which the suits involved must be specified on the convention card) a reference on the Card to the name of a convention described in the WBF Convention Booklet which is contained on the WBF CCE or within the WBF Guide to Completion (obtainable from www.ecatsbridge.com [Documents section]) shall be deemed to incorporate on the Card the full text of the relevant convention as described in the WBF Convention Booklet. Should any modification of the description contained in the WBF Convention Booklet be used, sufficient details of such modification must appear on the Card in the appropriate section where the subject convention is named. No modification should be written on the WBF Convention Booklet itself.

17. Non-Playing Captains in Team Tournaments

17.1 General

A non-playing captain (NPC) may observe his team during play subject to the rules set forth in this Section and to any supplementary regulation made from time to time by the WBF before a World Bridge Championship begins. The NPC must enter the room before play begins at the start of a Session, and if the NPCs of both teams are in the room, they shall sit on the same side of the screen. In case of dispute the "Home Team" captain shall decide on which side of the screen they will sit. An NPC may observe play in the Closed Room at the discretion of the Chief Tournament Director.

17.2 Procedure during matches

- a) An NPC who leaves the room, except as provided in this Section, cannot return during that Session. Exceptionally, if the NPC is requested to leave the playing room (for the purpose of consultation or for whatever reason) by a Tournament Director, the President, the Chairman of the Tournament Appeals Committee, or the Chairman of the Tournament Rules and Regulations Committee, he may (but need not) be permitted to return to that playing room at the discretion of the Tournament Director.

- b) An NPC is bound to the same restrictions as spectators (Law 76), except that he may intervene to restrain misbehaviour or curtail unnecessary discussion on the part of his team members, and may with the concurrence of the Tournament Director speak to questions of fact or law, after the Tournament Director has been called to the table, but may not call the Tournament Director.
- c) During the time allowed for a Session, whether play is actually taking place at the moment or not, an NPC should not address members of his team at the table in any but the English language or in a language understood by the opponents. If it is desired to use a language other than English, the permission of the opponents should be sought, and, where reasonably possible, should be given. If difficulty arises, an NPC wishing to speak to his team in a language not known to the opponents should do so through an interpreter or team member who can translate for the benefit of the opponents.
- d) At any time when a comparison of scores is allowed a non-playing Captain may draw his players' attention to his observation of an infraction but he is bound as a spectator by Law 76B until that time.

17.3 Delegation of Responsibility by the NPC

NPCs are responsible for the performance of various functions detailed in these Conditions of Contest and the Supplemental Conditions of Contest. While the WBF recognizes the importance of other team officials (such as deputy-captain, coach, etc.), it is only when they are specifically named by the NPC, and have been invited to participate in the relevant World Bridge Championship by the WBF, that they may perform certain of the official functions assigned to the NPC. Such additional team officials may not enter the playing rooms unless they obtain the permission of the Tournament Appeals Committee and such Committee may impose conditions on such entrance in its discretion.

18. Substitutes in Team Tournaments

If, for any reason, a team is unable to produce four players, either at the start of a Session or because of an emergency that develops during the Session, the Tournament Director, in consultation with the captain of the team, may designate a substitute to complete the team. A substitute need not be a member of the NBO or the Zone represented by the team on which he or she substitutes, but must not be a player from another team and may not be a male in the case of an event restricted to women. In a Mixed event a man may not substitute for a woman, nor a woman for a man.

The Tournament Director, having designated a substitute, shall inform the Chairman of the Appeals Committee or his designee as soon as practicable. The results obtained by the substitute shall stand unless the Tournament Appeals Committee judges that the substitute's bridge skills were considerably greater than those of the player replaced, in which case an adjusted score may be determined. Whether or not the result stands, the Tournament Appeals Committee may impose appropriate penalties when it judges a team to be at fault.

The Tournament Appeals Committee shall have authority to determine whether, and to what extent, a substitute may become a permanent replacement.

19. Substitutes in Pair Tournaments

The Chief Tournament Director may make emergency substitutions whenever they are necessary to the smooth operation of the game. If this will, or may, cause the resultant disqualification of any contestant, the contestant shall, where practicable, be notified at the time the substitution is made. In a Mixed event a man may not substitute for a woman, nor a woman for a man.

20. Forfeits in Team Tournaments

If a team is unable to play or complete a match, the Tournament Appeals Committee may find that team to be in default and declare the match forfeited. The team in forfeit shall score zero Victory Points and zero IMPs for that match. The team winning the forfeited match shall be credited with such number of Victory Points as the Tournament Appeals Committee shall consider to be equitable in all the circumstances.

If it is, or becomes, necessary also to assign an IMP score for tie-breaking or carry-over purposes, the winning team shall be credited with the average number of IMPs, rounded up, which earn the assigned Victory Points score.

21. Substitute Boards in Team Tournaments

A “substitute board” is one introduced into play in a Session or a match, to replace a board already played at one or both tables. Depending upon the decision of the Tournament Appeals Committee, the results of a substitute board may, or may not, be counted as part of the Session or match. Substitute boards are put into play by the Tournament Director either on his own volition or by direction of the Tournament Appeals Committee.

22. Fouled Boards

A board is considered “fouled” if the Tournament Director determines that one or more cards were misplaced in the board in such a manner that contestants who should have direct comparison did not play the board in identical form. If in a team event a pre-duplicated board is wrongly dealt and Law 13 of the Laws of Duplicate Bridge 2007 applies in such a way that the board cannot be played, the board is considered to be a fouled board.

22.1 Fouled Boards in Team Tournaments

A board is not considered fouled if the boards played in the same match are identical even though that board may differ from the like numbered board played in simultaneous matches.

In general, a fouled board should be replayed through the substitution of a new board. In addition, penalties will apply in certain circumstances (in accordance with the Supplemental Conditions of Contest). replays through the substitution of one new board shall not be permitted after the result of a match may be known to the contestants, as to which circumstances the Tournament Director’s decision shall be binding. That match is scored as though the board had never been played*.

The same rules apply whenever a substitute board would normally be played, for example, when a board is nullified by the Tournament Appeals Committee. When the Tournament Director has reason to believe the Tournament Appeals Committee may wish to have a substitute board played in the final Session of a match, he should have a provisional board played during the Session with an extra time allowance of 8 minutes. The Tournament Director, on his own volition, may instruct that a provisional board be played pending a future decision.

***Example:** if the 7th board in a 16-board match is fouled and the error is discovered when the contestants are computing the result of the match, the board is disregarded and the match is scored as though it consisted of only 15 boards.

22.2 Fouled Boards in Pair Tournaments

When a board has been fouled, the Tournament Director shall determine where the foul occurred. If guilt can be determined, penalties should be assessed in accordance with the Supplemental Conditions of Contest. Procedures for scoring fouled boards are contained in the Supplemental Conditions of Contest.

23. Bidding Boxes

Starting with the dealer, players place the bidding cards on the table in front of them, from the left and neatly overlapping so that all calls are visible and faced towards partner; players should refrain from touching any bidding cards until they have determined their call. A call is considered to have been made when the bidding card(s) is removed from the bidding box with apparent intent (but Law 25 may apply and if a player's mind was elsewhere as he makes an unintended call the 'pause for thought' should be assessed from the moment when he first recognizes his error).

Alerts should be made by the use of the alert card; it is the responsibility of the alerting player to ensure that his opponents are aware of the Alert.

A player "announces" a skip bid by placing the Stop card in front of him, then placing his bid card as usual, and eventually removing the Stop card. His LHO should not call until the Stop card has been removed. (If the Stop card has been removed hastily or has not been used, an opponent may pause as though the Stop card has been used correctly.)

Until they are removed from the table, a player obtains a review of the auction by inspecting the bidding cards. When such inspection is not feasible a player may obtain a review of the auction at his first turn to play to trick one. If a player whose pass will conclude the auction removes his bidding cards from the table he is deemed to have passed.

If screens are in use the foregoing is modified – see section 25

24. Play of the Cards

During the course of play, each card should be played towards partner in a consistent manner and placed on the table in the same position each time so that it can be seen by all players at the table.

Quitted tricks should be placed consistently in a neat row in front of the player, evenly overlapping with tricks won pointing towards partner and tricks lost pointing towards the opponents.

25. Screens

Screens will be used whenever possible in a World Bridge Championship.

25.1 Description of the Operation

The North and East players sit on the same side of the screen throughout. It is North's responsibility to place the board on, and to remove the board from, the bidding tray. It is West's responsibility to adjust the screen aperture. The sequence is this: North places the board on the bidding tray. The aperture is closed (and remains so during the whole of the auction period) so that the bidding tray can just pass under it. The players remove the cards from the board.

Calls are made with the cards from the bidding box. The player places the selected call in the bidding tray, which will be visible only on the player's side of the screen. A player's first call should touch the extreme left of his own segment of the bidding tray, with subsequent calls overlapping neatly and evenly to the right. Players should make every effort to perform these actions as quietly as possible. With screens in use a call is considered 'made' when placed on the tray and released.

After two players on the same side of the screen have made their calls, North or South (as the case may be) slides the bidding tray under the centre of the screen so as to be visible only to the players on the other side. They then make their calls in like manner and the bidding tray is slid back again. This procedure is continued until the auction is completed. It is considered desirable that players should vary the tempo randomly when returning the tray under the screen.

After all four players have had the opportunity to review the auction (equivalent to the right of having the auction restated) the players replace their bidding cards in their respective bidding boxes.

After a legal opening lead is faced, the screen aperture is opened the minimum necessary to permit all players to see the dummy cards and the cards played to each trick. If a defender exposes a card and, because of the screen, declarer does not see it, dummy may draw attention to the irregularity.

25.2 Changes to Bids Made

A call placed and released may be changed under the Director's supervision:

- a) If it is illegal or inadmissible (in which case the change is obligatory), if screens are in use, as soon as either screenmate is aware of this; or
- b) If it is determined by the Director to be a call inadvertently selected or
- c) Under the provisions of Law 25. Under the provisions of Law 25A it should be noted that if a player's attention is diverted as he makes an unintended call the 'pause for thought' should be assessed from the moment when he first recognizes his error.

25.3 Alerts and Explanations

- a) A player who makes an alertable call as defined in Appendix 3 must alert his screen-mate, and partner must alert on the other side of the screen when the bidding tray arrives there. The alert must be made by placing the Alert Card over the last call of the screen-mate, in his segment of the bidding tray; the alerted player must acknowledge by returning the Alert Card to his opponent. A player may, by written question, ask for an explanation of an opponent's call; the screen-mate then provides a written answer.
- b) At any time during the Auction a player may request of his screen mate, in writing, a full explanation of an opponent's call. The reply is also in writing.
- c) At all times from the commencement of the Auction to the completion of play each player receives information only from his screenmate about the meanings of calls and explanations given. Questions during the play period should be in writing with the aperture closed. The screen is raised after the response has been made.

25.4 Modification of Rectifications when screens are in use.

- a) An irregularity passed through the screen is subject to the normal laws, with the following provisions:
 - i) an inadmissible call - see Law 35 - must be corrected
 - ii) if a player infringes the law and, inadvertently (otherwise Law 23 may apply), the irregularity is passed through the screen by his screenmate the latter has accepted the action on behalf of his side in situations where the laws permit LHO to accept it.
- b) Before an irregularity is passed through the screen the offender or his screenmate shall draw the Director's attention to it. Infringing calls shall not be accepted and shall be put right without other rectification (but see (a)(ii) above); any other irregularity shall be rectified and the Director ensures that only the legal auction is passed through the screen. No player on the other side of the screen shall be informed of the occurrence unless the application of a law requires it.
- c) The screenmate should attempt to prevent an opening lead out of turn. Any opening lead out of turn shall be withdrawn without other rectification if the screen has not been opened. Otherwise:
 - i) when the screen has been opened through no fault of the declaring side (and the other defender has not led face up) Law 54 applies.
 - ii) when the declaring side has opened the screen the lead is accepted. The presumed declarer becomes the actual declarer. Law 23 may apply.
 - iii) when two opening leads are faced by the defending side the incorrect lead is a major penalty card.
 - iv) for a card faced by the declaring side see Law 48.
- d) When an alertable call is made see 25.3 above.

- e) When a player takes more than a normal time to make his call, it is not an infraction if he draws attention to the break in tempo. His screenmate, however, shall not do so.
- f) If a player on the side of the screen receiving the tray considers there has been a break in tempo and consequently there may be unauthorised information he should, under Law 16B2, call the Director. He may do so at any time before the opening lead is made and the screen opened.
- g) Failure to do as (f) provides may persuade the Director it was the partner who drew attention to the break in tempo. If so he may well rule there was no perceived delay and thus no unauthorised information. A delay in passing the tray of up to 20 seconds is not regarded as significant.

26. Duplicated Boards

Whenever possible duplicated boards will be used throughout all World Bridge Championships.

27. Curtain Cards

When Curtain Cards are in use, at the start of each match, or session of a match, which is played with the same set of boards in both rooms, each player is required to write the name of his NBO on a Curtain Card. At the conclusion of play of the first board, in each room of a match, each player should place the Curtain Card on top of the bridge hand so that it may be read after playing cards have been returned to the duplicate board. After the boards are moved to the other table in the match, each player shall examine the Curtain Card in the pocket of the designated position. If the Curtain Card names the NBO of the opponents the play proceeds. If the Curtain Card names the player's own NBO or an NBO other than that of the opponents, the Tournament Director must be summoned forthwith, before the playing cards are removed from the duplicate board. Failure to follow this procedure will result in penalties at the discretion of the Tournament Appeals Committee.

28. Attendance in Playing Rooms

Subject to any supplementary regulations made by the Executive Council or special permission of the President, only the following are permitted to enter the playing rooms:

- a) participants assigned to play in that room;
- b) Tournament Directors;
- c) personnel needed to operate these Championships, including assigned recorders, scorers, timers, caddies and Vu-Graph personnel;
- d) the WBF President and the Chairman of the Championship Committee;
- e) Chairman of the Tournament Appeals Committee and Disciplinary Commission;
- f) members of the Tournament Appeals Committee and Disciplinary Commission who are on duty;
- g) staff personnel for provision of refreshment and room cleaning, if necessary;

- h) "Officials on duty" appointed for a specific session or sessions by the WBF President;
- i) - the members of the Daily Bulletin staff to be named by its Editor;
- j) the approved journalists who have been accredited by the President (or his designee) of the International Bridge Press Association (IBPA) and ratified by the WBF President or the Chairman of the Championship Committee,;
- k) one member of the World Championship Book staff to be named by its Editor.

The assignments of places in the playing rooms to those in categories (i), (j) and (k) shall be made by the Editor of the Daily Bulletin subject to the following rules: (The WBF President or the Chairman of the Championship Committee, before the starting of the session communicate the number of individuals who represent categories (i) (j) and (k). For purposes of the following, those individuals are considered a single group and members of it are referred to as "representatives".)

Except by permission of the President or the Chairman of the Championship Committee, not more than one "representative" shall be at any table at the same time; preference will be given to category (i).

The "representative" must enter the room before the session begins, must remain on the same side of the screen throughout the session and, should he leave before the end of the session, may not re-enter any playing rooms.

"Representatives" in categories (i) (j) and (k) may be assigned to Open and Closed Rooms.

"representatives" from all categories shall be excluded from both playing rooms of matches presented in Vu-graph and or broadcasted via internet.

Subject to conditions of play, the President or the Chairman of the Championship Committee may permit spectators to watch matches in the Open Room. In this event, a spectator should be seated at one side of the screen and no more than six spectators may watch at any one table. Spectators may watch one match only. Non-playing players from a team are not permitted to watch either own team's match.

If matches are designated as "Pit Matches", additional spectators will be permitted to enter the Open Room, and, should this be the case, notice will be given in the Daily News on site.

No spectators can be admitted in the playing rooms to watch the matches presented in wu-graph or broadcasted via internet.

An individual who observes an irregularity when a spectator is subject to Law 76B until a ruling on the board may no longer be sought. "Representatives" are spectators, as also are other non-participants observing the play.

28.2 Restrictions

The following restrictions apply to the playing areas (see definition of these areas in Section 2.17)

Spectators are not permitted to smoke or consume any alcoholic drinks these areas, nor may they bring mobile telephones, pagers or any other electronic devices into these areas. Spectators contravening any of these regulations will be required to leave the playing area immediately and will not be permitted to

return for the remainder of the Championship without specific permission from the Chairman of the Championship Committee or in his absence the Head Tournament Director.

The Head Tournament Director may, at his discretion, prohibit a spectator from bringing other equipment into the playing area.

Anyone entering the playing area may be required to comply with procedures put in place by the WBF for the detection of such electronic devices.

29. Pit Matches

The WBF may allow the Open Room segment of selected matches in the Round-Robin to be played in special areas (Pits) designed for spectators to observe the play. Such matches are referred to in these Conditions as “Designated Pit Matches” and (if they take place) may be subject to supplementary regulations issued by the WBF after the date of these Conditions of Contest. However, spectators at any Designated Pit Match shall not include non-playing team members from either of the competing teams.

30. Rulings And Appeals

The Tournament Director shall be summoned to a table as soon as attention is drawn to an irregularity. After the Director has given the ruling, any appeal against such ruling must be lodged in accordance with Section 32.

31. Tournament Appeals Committee

(see definition in Section 2.25)

31.1 General

All appeals of rulings of the Tournament Director shall, subject to Sections 34 and 35 and where applicable subject also to Section 31.2, be heard and decided by the Committee. The Chairman or his designee shall convene the Committee at the conclusion of Sessions or at any other time he deems appropriate, and shall divide the Committee into smaller committees each having neither fewer than three nor more than five members. Each such committee shall have all the powers of the Committee for the purpose of deciding the matter in question. The Chairman or his designee will nominate a member of each such smaller committee to be its chairman.

The Code of Practice for Appeals Committees will apply. Players should note the procedures which the Code calls upon them to adopt (as, for example, that they should randomize and make unpredictable the tempo of passing the tray).

The WBF Code of Practice is utilized by the WBF Tournament Directors before any rulings are given, and such rulings are made in consultation with other Directors, senior players and other personnel as appropriate.

The Code of Practice can be found on the WBF and ECatsBridge Websites – See Section 48

31.2 Authority

During the course of any World Bridge Championship the Committee may in its discretion investigate any matter touching upon or arising out of the Laws of Duplicate Bridge 2007, or these Conditions of Contest, or the Supplemental Conditions of Contest, however that matter may have come to the attention of the Committee; and the decision of the Committee in respect of any such matter shall be arrived at in the manner referred to in Section 33.1, and shall, subject only to Section 33.1 of these Conditions, be final in all cases.

31.3 Team Requirements

The WBF expects all teams and partnerships to play to win at all times and in all circumstances. While a team may rest its players and make other decisions for strategic reasons, it is not permissible for a partnership to play by design to obtain a session score inferior to that of its opponents, and the Committee shall have the authority to determine on such evidence as it considers sufficient whether a partnership has done so. Any such finding will constitute grounds for such penalties as may be imposed by the Committee, which shall also be empowered to recommend that the Executive Council disqualify or suspend the offending contestant.

32. Lodging of Appeals

A request for, or appeal of, a Tournament Director's ruling must be lodged within 30 minutes of the first posting of the official score for the Session in which the board was played that is the subject of the ruling

All appeals must be lodged by the team's Captain or his designee, or by one member of the pair in the Pairs events.

An appeal may take one of two forms:

- i) it may be an appeal of the Director's ruling as to an infraction or otherwise, and any consequent decisions. This would be heard in accordance with Section 33 following, or
- ii) it may alternatively be a Request for Review of the score adjustment where the appellant does not wish to challenge the finding of an infraction. The Tournament Appeals Committee would normally give a decision on this on the basis of the documentation alone.

32.2 Deposit for Appeals or Requests for Review

When lodging an appeal or a Request for Review the appellant must deposit US \$100 (or its equivalent) with the Tournament Director. This deposit will be refunded unless the Committee determines that the appeal was without merit, in which case the deposit will be forfeited and paid to a charity nominated by the President.

33. Hearing of Appeals

33.1 General

On receipt of the duly completed Appeals Form the Tournament Director shall, as soon as possible, inform the Chairman or his designee. The Chairman shall schedule the time and place for the hearing of the appeal and shall so advise the Tournament Director, who in turn shall advise all parties involved of such time and place.

Guidelines for the hearing of appeals and other proceedings of the Committee are set out in Appendix I. Failure to observe such guidelines shall not of itself vitiate any decision of the Committee. However, if in the opinion of the President or the Chairman there may have been non-observance of the guidelines capable of seriously prejudicing the rights of any party appearing before the Committee, then the President or the Chairman may, in his discretion, direct that the proceedings in question be reheard, in which case the decision of the Committee on the rehearing shall replace the decision on the first hearing.

On an investigation made otherwise than on appeal, the Committee may impose such penalty on any party, or direct that an adjusted score be entered for any boards, as it shall deem proper. In any case in which it considers the circumstances to justify or require it, the Committee may (in addition to any other penalty imposed) recommend to the Executive Council the suspension of any player for one or more Sessions of the event, the forfeiture of a match, or the disqualification of a pair or team.

The Appeals Committee will observe the WBF Code of Practice (see Section 45)

33.2 Failure to attend

If any party to an appeal or other proceeding of the Committee, or any other person whose attendance is required by the Chairman, having been given notice of the time and place of the hearing, fails to appear, the Chairman may:

- a) re-schedule the hearing;
- b) proceed to a decision of the Committee in the absence of the party who failed to appear;
- c) if the party who failed to appear is the appellant, dismiss the appeal without a hearing, and confirm the ruling of the Tournament Director.

A party to an appeal or other proceeding of the Committee or any other person whose attendance is required by the Chairman, who fails to appear, having been given notice of the time and place of the hearing, may be penalized by the Committee. All four players at the table shall consider themselves called to the hearing unless prior consent to the absence of a player or players is obtained through the Tournament Director

In addition to the powers conferred by these Conditions of Contest and the Supplemental Conditions of Contest, the Committee has those powers assigned to it in the Laws of Duplicate Bridge 2007.

34. Appeals to the WBF Laws Committee

An appeal of the Tournament Director's ruling on a point of Law may be taken to the WBF Laws Committee. Such appeal shall be made in writing by the Team Captain, (or designee) or players in a pairs event, and turned over to the Tournament Director, who will then file the appeal with the Chairman of the WBF Laws Committee, or the President. At least two members of the WBF Laws Committee shall constitute a quorum, and there is no further appeal on matters of Law.

35. Appeals of these Conditions of Contest

An appeal of the Tournament Director's ruling on, or an interpretation of, these Conditions of Contest or any Supplemental Conditions of Contest or any technical operation of a World Bridge Championship, shall be made in writing by Team Captain, (or designee) or players in a pairs event. Such appeal shall be turned over to the Tournament Director who will then file the appeal with the Chairman of the Tournament Rules and Regulations Committee or the President. Unless the Chairman and the President are of joint opinion (which shall be final) that the appeal has no merit, the appeal shall be heard by the members of the Executive Council and the members of the Tournament Rules and Regulations Committee present at the site of the World Bridge Championship, sitting as a single body. The President shall preside over this meeting and decisions reached shall be final.

36. Eligibility for Awards

The WBF will establish, for each World Bridge Championship, a scale of WBF Master Points Awards in accordance with the WBF Master Point Plan.

Gold, Silver and Bronze Medals will normally be awarded for WBF Championships.

In all teams events, the winning team in the final will be awarded the Gold Medal and/or Trophy. The losing finalists will be awarded the Silver Medal. For the play off regulations to determine the Bronze Medallists, see Section 37.

In all pairs events, the winning pair shall be awarded the Gold Medal and/or Trophy or prize, the second placed pair shall be awarded the Silver Medal and the third placed pair the Bronze Medal.

37. Play off Regulations for 3rd place

The detailed play off Regulations for bronze medals or 3rd place as appropriate will be contained within the Supplemental Regulations for each WBF Championship.

These will normally be as follows:

For the Bermuda Bowl, Venice Cup, D'Orsi Seniors Bowl, Rosenblum Teams, McConnell Teams, the World Bridge Games and the World Youth Championships there shall be a play off between the losing semi-finalists for the bronze medal.

For the World Transnational and similar events played using the Swiss Format, the bronze medal will be awarded to the losing semi-finalists having the highest ranking in the qualification phase.

38. Authority of the WBF Executive Council

The WBF Executive Council reserves the authority to modify or supplement these Conditions of Contest and the Supplemental Conditions of Contest, at any time.

39. Responsibility of the WBF

The WBF schedules a World Bridge Championship to occur at a particular time and place. However, the WBF makes no warranty to any participating NBO, team, pair or person, that any particular World Bridge Championship will take place as scheduled and accepts no responsibility for any loss or expense should it not do so.

40. Applicable Law

In accordance with Articles 13 and 14 of the WBF Constitution, these Conditions of Contest together with any Supplemental Conditions of Contest published by the WBF are governed by Swiss Law. Any claim may be arbitrated at the sole discretion of the WBF under the Laws of Switzerland and eventually submitted to the Court of Arbitration for Sport.

41. Appendix 1 - Guidelines for hearing appeals and other proceedings of the Committee

(See Section 33 of these General Conditions of Contest)

An appeal shall consist of the hearing of the evidence and argument; the deliberations of the Committee; and the announcement of the Committee's decision.

The Chairman may in his discretion require the attendance of specified parties at the hearing of an appeal. The parties who will normally be present during the hearing of evidence and argument shall be:

- the appellant pair;
- the respondent pair;
- the respective Captains (if a team tournament);
- an interpreter, if in the judgement of the Chairman this is necessary to ensure adequate understanding of the proceedings by any party thereto;
- the Tournament Director who gave the ruling appealed against, and the Senior Tournament Director on duty;
- any other person who in the judgement of the Chairman is able to assist the Committee in determining the facts;
- the members of the Committee hearing the appeal;
- the Scribe recording the proceedings

Once the hearing of the evidence and argument has begun, no additional member of the Committee shall join the Committee hearing the appeal.

The Chairman shall preside over the appeal, and the order of proceedings shall be:

- distribution of copies of the relevant Appeals Form (the Tournament Director shall, prior to the hearing, have whenever practicable given the respondent a copy of the Appeals Form);
- identification of the appellant and the respondent; and the introduction of all present by the Chairman;
- statement of the facts by the Tournament Director who gave the ruling appealed against;
- questions to the Tournament Director from the Committee;
- opportunity for the appellant and the respondent to register agreement or disagreement with the Tournament Director's statement of facts;
- the testimony of any special witness invited by the Chairman to assist the Committee; then as in (d) and (e) above;
- the case for the appellant;
- questions from the Committee;
- the case for the respondent;

- questions from the Committee;
- any further questions or comment elicited by the Chairman;
- after hearing the evidence and arguments, all persons other than the members of the Committee shall leave the appeal room, unless the Chairman requests the Tournament Director to remain during all or part of the Committee's deliberations;
- the Committee, having reached its decision in accordance with Section 31, shall communicate this to the parties (if still present) and the Tournament Director, together with a brief statement of the reasons by the Chairman. It shall be the responsibility of the Tournament Director to communicate the decision to any absent party.

These guidelines are intended to assist the Committee to conduct appeals fairly and courteously.

If the Committee is conducting a proceeding which is not an appeal of a ruling of the Tournament Director, the above guidelines may be modified by the Chairman as appropriate to achieve fairness.

References in these guidelines to the Chairman include the Chairman of the Tournament Appeals Committee and any designated Chairman referred to in Section 31 of these General Conditions of Contest.

Players are encouraged to refer to the Code of Practice for Appeals Committees (see Section 45)

42. Appendix 2: WBF Systems Policy

Players should ensure that they obtain the latest version of any WBF Policies, which will be available on the WBF Website (www.worldbridge.org) or from www.ecatsbridge.com or by contacting Anna Gudge, The Old Railway Station, Long Melford, Sudbury, Suffolk C010 9HN, England. Tel: +44 1787 881920; Fax: +44 870 123 1955; email anna@ecats.co.uk

43. Appendix 3: WBF Alerting Policy

Players should ensure that they obtain the latest version of any WBF Policies, which will be available on the WBF Website (www.worldbridge.org) or from www.ecatsbridge.com or by contacting Anna Gudge, The Old Railway Station, Long Melford, Sudbury, Suffolk C010 9HN, England. Tel: +44 1787 881920; Fax: +44 870 123 1955; email anna@ecats.co.uk

44. Appendix 4: WBF Psychic Bidding Policy

Players should ensure that they obtain the latest version of any WBF Policies, which will be available on the WBF Website (www.worldbridge.org) or from www.ecatsbridge.com or by contacting Anna Gudge, The Old Railway Station, Long Melford, Sudbury, Suffolk C010 9HN, England. Tel: +44 1787 881920; Fax: +44 870 123 1955; email anna@ecats.co.uk

45. Appendix 5: WBF Code of Practice

Players should ensure that they obtain the latest version of the WBF Code of Practice, which will be available on the WBF Website (www.worldbridge.org) or from www.ecatsbridge.com or by contacting Anna Gudge, The Old Railway Station, Long Melford, Sudbury, Suffolk C010 9HN, England. Tel: +44 1787 881920; Fax: +44 870 123 1955; email anna@ecats.co.uk

46. Appendix 6 – WBF IMP to VP Conversion Scale

Number of Boards												
VPs	8	10	12	14	16	20	24	28	32	36	40	48
15-15	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-2	0-2	0-2	0-3	0-3	0-3	0-3	0-3	0-4
16-14	2-5	2-6	2-6	3-7	3-7	3-8	4-9	4-10	4-10	4-11	4-11	5-12
17-13	6-8	7-9	7-9	8-10	8-11	9-12	10-14	11-15	11-16	12-17	12-18	13-20
18-12	9-11	10-12	10-12	11-14	12-15	13-16	15-19	16-20	17-22	18-23	19-25	21-28
19-11	12-14	13-15	13-16	15-18	16-19	17-21	20-24	21-25	23-28	24-29	26-32	29-36
20-10	15-17	16-18	17-20	19-22	20-23	22-26	25-29	26-31	29-34	30-36	33-39	37-44
21-9	18-20	19-21	21-24	23-26	24-27	27-31	30-34	32-37	35-40	37-43	40-46	45-52
22-8	21-23	22-25	25-28	27-30	28-31	32-36	35-39	38-43	41-46	44-50	47-53	53-60
23-7	24-26	26-29	29-32	31-34	32-36	37-41	40-45	44-49	47-52	51-57	54-60	61-68
24-6	27-29	30-33	33-36	35-38	37-41	42-47	46-51	50-55	53-58	58-64	61-68	69-76
25-5	30-33	34-37	37-40	39-43	42-46	48-53	52-57	56-61	59-65	65-71	69-76	77-84
25-4	34-37	38-41	41-45	44-48	47-52	54-59	58-64	62-68	66-73	72-79	77-84	85-93
25-3	38-41	42-45	46-50	49-54	53-58	60-65	65-71	69-76	74-82	80-88	85-93	94-102
25-2	42-45	46-50	51-55	55-60	59-64	66-72	72-79	77-85	83-91	89-97	94-102	103-112
25-1	46-50	51-55	56-61	61-66	65-71	73-79	80-87	86-94	92-100	98-106	103-112	113-123
25-00	51+	56+	62+	67+	72+	80+	88+	95+	101+	107+	113+	124+

47. Appendix 7: Participation in the Bermuda Bowl, Venice Cup & D’Orsi Senior Bowl

The exact number and zonal distribution of teams in each of the above named Championships will normally be determined by the Executive Council at its meetings held during the previous World Bridge Championships (i.e at the previous Bermuda Bowl).

The following regulations will apply in the absence of any decision to the contrary:

Zones may send the following number of teams for participation in the Bermuda Bowl, Venice Cup & D’Orsi Seniors Bowl

Zone	Teams
1	6
2	3
3	2
4	2
5	1
6	3
7	2
8	2

In addition, the host country may send a team to all three Championships ex-quota of 1 above.

Due to its registered membership in excess of 140,000, Zone 2 may send no more than 2 teams for each event from the United States (to be known as the United States Bridge Federation). No other NBO may have more than one (1) team in each event.

Only NBOs participating in the World Mind Sport Games are eligible to qualify to participate in the Bermuda Bowl and Venice Cup Championships held in either of the two subsequent odd-numbered years; in each case, an Open Team must participate in the Games in order to be eligible for the Bermuda Bowl and a Women's team must participate to be eligible for the Venice Cup. For example, if an Open Team from an NBO does not participate in the 2008 Mind Sport Games then that NBO will not be eligible to participate in the Bermuda Bowl in either 2009 or 2011.

Any NBO which did not participate in the previous World Mind Sport Games may restore its eligibility for possible participation in a subsequent Bermuda Bowl and Venice Cup by having at least one (1) team play in the Rosenblum Teams or at least two (2) pairs play in the World Open Pairs for the Bermuda Bowl and by having at least one (1) team play in the McConnell Cup Teams or at least two (2) pairs play in the World Women’s Pairs for the Venice Cup. Please note that having a team participating in the Rosenblum or pairs in the Open Pairs grants eligibility to participate in the Bermuda Bowl ONLY; for the Venice Cup eligibility to be restored, a Women's team from that NBO must participate in the McConnell Teams (or two pairs must play in the Women's Pairs).

In the event that the above allocations result in an odd number of teams for either or both the BB/VC, Zone 1 may send an additional team to create an even number of teams.

A Zone may only send teams comprised solely of members of a single NBO.

48. Appendix 8 – Contact Addresses and Websites

The WBF President

Gianarrigo Rona
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Milan 20121,
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president@worldbridgefed.com

The WBF Treasurer

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48.1 Websites:

The official WBF Website:
www.worldbridge.org

For Systems information:
www.ecatsbridge.com

For Master Point information:
www.wbfmasterpoints.com

Copies of the WBF Code of Practice, the WBF Systems Policy, WBF Alerting Policy and the WBF Policy on Psychic Bidding are available on the WBF Website, or at www.ecatsbridge.com (in the Documents section) or by contacting Anna Gudge (address above)

The official Website of the Olympic Movement:
www.olympic.org

The official Website of the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA)
www.wada-ama.org/

49. Appendix 9 – WBF Anti Doping Regulations

Players should ensure that they obtain the latest version of the WBF Anti-Doping Regulations, which are available on the WBF Website (www.worldbridge.org) or from www.ecatsbridge.com or by contacting Anna Gudge, The Old Railway Station, Long Melford, Sudbury, Suffolk CO10 9HN, England. Tel: +44 1787 881920; Fax: +44 870 123 1955; email anna@ecats.co.uk

Applications for Therapeutic Exemption should be made, using the specified form, and sent to:

Dr Jaap Stomphorst
Isala Klinieken
Sports Medicine Department
PO Box 10500
8000GM Zwolle, The Netherlands
+31 38 4245689 (office hours)
+31 61 2088836 (cell phone)

Email: j.stomphorst@isala.nl

To arrive no later than 21 days before the Championship event in which the Competitor is playing commences