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# WORLD BRIDGE FEDERATION

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## YOUTH COMMITTEE

### 1st WORLD JUNIOR BRIDGE INDIVIDUAL CHAMPIONSHIP

New York, NY, USA • 14-16 July 2004

## CONDITIONS OF CONTEST

The 1<sup>st</sup> World Junior Individual Championship will be conducted under the auspices of the World Bridge Federation ('the WBF'). The Championship will be played under the International Code (Laws of Duplicate Contract Bridge 1997, with the revisions approved thereafter by the WBF Laws Committee) and these Conditions whose special provisions for this Championship supplement the International Code as required.

### 1. Conditions of Entry

Participation in the Championship is by invitation by the WBF. Subject to the unfettered discretion of the WBF Credentials Committee, invitations will be issued to individuals who:

- a. are members of good standing of the National Bridge Organization ('NBO') nominating the player; *and*
  - (i) was nominated by the NBO of the country of his birth or the NBO of which such a nominated player first became a member, and has not, during the current or immediately preceding calendar year, represented a different NBO in any WBF competition or any zonal or intra-zonal competition; *or*
  - (ii) was nominated by the NBO of the country of his citizenship or bona fide residence and has not, during the current or immediately preceding two calendar years, represented a different NBO in any WBF competition or any zonal or intra-zonal competition.
- b. was born on or after 1 January 1979.
- c. was nominated by the NBO of a WBF member country, which is of good standing with the WBF and not in arrears in the payment of monies due to the WBF. Nominations from the NBO of an EBL member country which is not a WBF member will also be accepted, provided that the NBO is in good standing with the EBL and not in arrears in the payment of monies due to the EBL.
- d. was nominated to the Chairman of the WBF Youth Committee on or before 15 June 2004 (although later nominations will be favourably considered, if possible). Nominations must be made electronically, via Internet, through the form available at:  
<<http://www.worldbridge.org/tourn/NewYork.04/IndivReg.asp>>.

Each player must play against any other player as designated by the Tournament Director. Entry and subsequent refusal to play will result in disqualification. Other consequences are possible at the discretion of the WBF.

By entering, each player accepts that he may be photographed, filmed or video-taped for publicity purposes.

## **2. Entry Fees**

The entry fee is one hundred US dollars (\$100) per player, payable by his NBO to the WBF.

## **3. Format - Programme**

The World Junior Individual Championship is a match pointed tournament and shall consist of four sessions. 21 to 30 boards will be played in two- or three-board rounds in each session, as determined by the Tournament Director.

Starting times for the sessions are as follows:

First session	Wednesday, 14 July 2004	19.30 hrs
Second session	Thursday, 15 July 2004	13.00 hrs
Third session	Thursday, 15 July 2004	19.30 hrs
Fourth session	Friday, 16 July 2004	13.00 hrs

The above program may be altered by the Chairman of the WBF Youth Committee for organizational reasons, provided that clear notice is given to all participants.

## **4. Permitted System - Convention Card**

All players are required to play the same system at all rounds. This system is described on the Convention Card posted on Internet at the address:

<<http://www.worldbridge.org/tourn/NewYork.04/WorldIndividualSystem.pdf>>. For details, participants are encouraged to consult the booklet available at the address:  
<<http://www.worldbridge.org/tourn/NewYork.04/WorldIndividualSystem.pdf>>.

No other system is allowed to be played under any circumstances by any player.

## **5. Assignment of Starting Positions**

The assignment of starting positions shall be at the discretion of the Chief Tournament Director.

## 6. Time allowed

All participants are required to be in their proper seating positions five minutes before the announced starting time for each session of play.

Should a player not be seated in his starting position at the announced starting time, the player shall be penalized 10% of the match points available on a board. If a player is more than five minutes late, the penalty shall be 20% of the match points available on a board, and the offense shall be reported to the Tournament Appeals Committee for possible further penalty. If a player fails to arrive within thirty minutes of the announced starting time of the session, that player shall be withdrawn from the Championship. In extenuating circumstances the Tournament Appeals Committee may reduce or eliminate any of the above penalties.

Players are expected to complete each two-board round in fifteen minutes and each three-board round in twenty two minutes. The Tournament Director may remove unplayed or partly played boards from players who are persistently slow.

- a. If an unplayed board is removed:
  - (i) the offending player or players shall be awarded 40% of the match points available for the board; *and*
  - (ii) if the Tournament Director determines that one or more players did not contribute to the slow play, the non-offending player(s) shall be awarded 60% of the match points available for the board, *or* the percentage of match points earned by the innocent players on all other boards it played in that session.
  
- b. If a partly played board is removed:
  - (i) the offending player or players shall be awarded the lesser of 40% of the match points available for the board and the match point score for the result on the board which the Tournament Director adjudges to be likely in the light of the bidding and play up to the time the board is removed; *and*
  - (ii) if the Tournament Director determines that one or more players did not contribute to the slow play the non-offending player(s) shall be awarded the greater of: 60% of the match points available for the board *or* the percentage of match points earned by the innocent players on all other boards it played in that session, and the match point score for the result the Tournament Director adjudges to be likely in the light of the bidding and play up to the time the board is removed.

## 7. Fouled Boards

- a. At the start of each session of play, participants may be required to duplicate a hand or hands, in accordance with records provided by the Tournament Director. Each player is responsible for seeing that all hands are properly made and placed in the correct pocket in the duplicate board. If hands are improperly made, the responsible players at the table shall be penalized 50% of the match points available on the board during the session.
- b. If a board arrives at a table with the wrong number of cards in a pocket, the Tournament Director must be called before play commences. He will adjust the cards. Failure to notice an incorrect number of cards shall be penalized 10% of the match points available on the board during the session.
- c. When a board has been fouled, the Tournament Director shall determine where the foul occurred. Scores earned on the board are then divided into groups, each group containing all scores earned by players who played the same hands. Usually, there will be only two groups - 'fouled' and 'unfouled'; however, a subsequent foul of the same board could occur.
- d. If a group contains fewer than four scores, match points in that group shall be as follows:
  - (i) Group contains only one score: all players are awarded 60% of the match points available.
  - (ii) Group contains two scores: if identical, both scores receive 60%; if different, the better score receives 65%, the lesser 55%.
  - (iii) Group contains three scores: best receives 70%, middle 60%, lowest 50%. Ties share the match points.
  - (iv) A fouled board discovered after four or more rounds will remain unchanged for the rest of the session.
- e. For all groups containing four or more scores match points shall be awarded in accordance with the formula:

$$S = S_1 \frac{N}{n} + \frac{m}{n}$$

based on 0,2,4,... match point scoring, where:

- S = final match point score to be awarded to the player;  
 $S_1$  = match point score earned by the player considering only the scores within the group itself;  
 n = number of scores in that group;

N = total number of scores on that board;  
m = N - n

Match points will be rounded off to the nearest tenth of a match point, 0.05 being counted as 0.1.

For a board on which one or more contestants have been arbitrarily assigned match points, match points will be awarded to other players in accordance with the preceding formula when **m** is the number of averages.

## 8. Scoring

- a. Scoring shall be 'over the field', in match points.
- b. Rank positions for all purposes shall be in accordance with the match points earned, with any margin determining.
- c.
  - (i) Scores are tied only if they are identical. When it is necessary to break a tie (or ties), every board each tied contestant played is considered. On each of these boards, a tied contestant is awarded two points for every other tied contestant he beat, and one point for every other contestant whose score on that board was the same. On any boards that the tied contestants did not play in common, each contestant will receive two points for each board on which his score was greater than average and one point for each board he scored exactly average. The tied contestant with the greater number of points figured by this method, earns rank priority.
  - (ii) If a tie (or ties) still exists the remaining tie (or ties) shall be broken in favor of the player who scored the most match points against the highest ranking player or players that all the tied players played against. Should a tie still exists, the foregoing procedure shall be used with the next highest ranking player or players and so on until the tie is broken.

## 9. General Rules during the Play

- a. The **official language** of this Tournament is English. Once cards have been removed from the board no language other than English may be used at the table without the agreement of all four players. No appeals due to a misunderstanding in a language other than English will be heard.
- b. **Comparison of scores** or discussion of hands with other contestants during a session is illegal. Offending players may be subject to penalty at the discretion of the Tournament Director and/or the Tournament Appeals Committee.

- c. **Leaving the table** needlessly before the round is called is a breach of Proprieties. Players guilty of this impropriety may be liable to a penalty of up to 50% of the match points available on a board during the session.

## 10. Bidding Boxes

Bidding boxes are supplied and their use is obligatory. No screens will be used.

Calls are made by the player placing the bidding card showing his selected call in front of him. A player's first call should be to his left with subsequent calls overlapping neatly and evenly to the right. Once the auction has been completed and all four players have had an opportunity to review the auction the players replace their bidding cards in their respective bidding boxes.

## 11. Withdrawal from the Competition

After the Tournament has started no player may cease participation in the competition at any time without the permission of the Chief Tournament Director. Such permission shall only be given after consultation with the Chairman of the Tournament Appeals Committee if the player can show good cause.

## 12. Ethics and Deportment

- a. The privilege of representing one's country as a player in a World Bridge Championship is not an inalienable right; rather it is dependent upon the display of good sportsmanship, correct deportment and above all irreproachable ethics. In the absence of penalties expressed in match points, and because participants appear as public representatives rather than private individuals, observance of the highest standard becomes the more imperative. Players are therefore urged to familiarize themselves thoroughly with the Proprieties.

Players are expected to accept the decisions of the Appeals Committee in a sportsmanlike manner. Violations may result in the suspension or disqualification.

- b. Players are requested not to look at their partners during play of a hand. The object is to avoid any suggestion of unethical communication.
- c. As a matter of propriety, and in order to save time, players are enjoined during play to avoid discussion with partner or argument with opponents. In case of dispute a player's proper recourse is to refer to the Tournament Director in charge.

- d. Under the Laws of Duplicate Bridge, a player is not allowed to make a call or play based on a partnership understanding unless the opposing players may reasonably be expected to understand its meaning.

Psychic bids are permissible (except of conventional opening bids), but at all times should have the same element of surprise for partner as for the opponents.

### 13. Appeals

- a. A player may appeal against the ruling of a Tournament Director who ruled, provided that the appeal is made within one hour of the start of the next session, and in case of the final session within 30 minutes of the publication of the ranking list at the end of the final session.

Notification of intention to appeal must be given to one of the Tournament Directors. In the first instance such notification does not need to be in writing, but it should be committed to the official Appeals form as soon as is practicable with the help of the Tournament Director who made the ruling and the form, when completed, should be given to the Tournament Director who will hand it to the member of the Appeals Committee on duty.

The Appeals form must be filled out completely and correctly. The Tournament Director states the facts (board identification and bidding), what happened at the table, his ruling and who made the appeal. Each player may add its remarks to the explanation of the Tournament Director and may state whether they want to make an oral statement to the Appeals Committee. The Appeals form must be signed by the Tournament Director and all players involved. After signing, no corrections are allowed.

A deposit of \$20 must accompany each appeal. This deposit will be returned unless the appeal is judged to be without merit.

One or more of the players appealing must present himself at the hearing of the appeal. If no one from the players appealing presents himself at the hearing the Appeals Committee shall dismiss the appeal and the deposit shall be forfeited.

- b. On receipt of the duly completed Appeals form, the Tournament Director will, as soon as possible, inform any member of Appeals Committee on duty, who will advise the Tournament Director at what time the Appeals Committee will convene to hear the appeal.

The Appeals Committee will be entitled to interview and to take into account the statements or representations of any person and any documentary matter which it considers may assist the Committee to reach a decision.

The verdict of the Appeals Committee will be written on the Appeals form and handed to the Tournament Director for him to notify the players concerned.

## 14. Appeals Committee

- a. All appeals against the ruling of Tournament Directors shall be dealt with by an Appeals Committee appointed by the WBF. The Chairman of the WBF Youth Committee and the Chairman of the Tournament Appeals Committee may, before the commencement of or during the tournament, appoint additional members of the Appeals Committee who shall have full voting powers. Three members of the Appeals Committee form a quorum. Any member of the Appeals Committee whose nationals are concerned shall abstain from taking part.
- b. The Appeals Committee may at its discretion investigate any matter touching upon or arising out of the Laws or these *Conditions of Contest*, which may arise during the course of the Championship, irrespective of the way in which such a matter has been brought to its attention, either by way of an appeal against a Tournament Director's ruling or on its own initiative or otherwise howsoever.
- c. The Appeals Committee, also acting as the national authority as meant in Law 93.C, shall have the power to determine all facts and decide all questions of Law, whether under the Laws or these *Conditions of Contest*, arising from any appeal or investigation and its findings and decisions will be final.

The Appeals Committee may confirm, reverse, vary or modify the findings or decisions of a Tournament Director, and remove, increase or vary any penalty which may have been imposed, or substitute a different class of penalty or an adjusted score.

On an investigation made for reasons other than an appeal the Appeals Committee may impose such penalty on any party or direct that such an adjusted score be entered for any boards as it shall deem proper.

In any case, whether on an appeal or otherwise, where circumstances are considered by the Committee to justify or require it, the Appeals Committee may recommend to the Executive Council (represented by its present members) to disqualify a player. This rule does not in any way affect the power of suspension given to a Tournament Director under the Laws.

## 15. Appeals on Scoring

Any protest against a score, or against the total score attributed to a player, must be made within one hour of the start of play of the next session, and, in the case of the final session, within 30 minutes of the publication of the ranking list at the end of the final session. A deposit of \$10 should accompany each protest. The deposit will be forfeited:

- a. if there is no error in the published score; *or*
- b. if the error is the fault of the competitor.

## 16. Journalists and Spectators

- a. (i) All Journalists are invitees of the WBF and their presence at the Championship is subject to their behaving in a correct, ethical and sportsmanlike manner and to them observing these *Conditions of Contest*, to which they are subject.
- (ii) All Journalists present at the Championship must be jointly accredited by the Credentials Committee of the WBF and by the proper Committee Official of the *International Bridge Press Association (IBPA)*. In the event of disagreement over accreditation between the WBF and the IBPA, the view of the WBF shall prevail.
- b. (i) All Spectators are considered invitees of the WBF and their presence at the Championship is subject to their behaving in a correct, ethical and sportsmanlike manner and to them observing these *Conditions of Contest*, to which they are subject.
- (ii) Depending upon constraints of space and the judgement of the Chief Tournament Director (whose overriding duty is to protect the integrity of the Championship) it is hoped (but not guaranteed) that a limited amount of watching at table by spectators will be permitted. In which event the following shall generally apply, subject to the right reserved to the Chief Tournament Director to prescribe more restrictive regulations.
  - a. No more than eight spectators (including journalists) shall be permitted at any one table.
  - b. Spectators must remain at one table. The observance of this regulation is particularly important. Any spectator who attempts to move to a second table (for example, to follow a moving player) will be required to leave the room for the remainder of the session and at the discretion of the Appeals Committee may be subject to greater penalties.
  - c. Spectators are requested to remain quiet and to refrain from addressing the players or otherwise distracting their attention.
  - d. Looking at two hands is forbidden. If this opportunity should arise by accident, no special interest must be shown.

## 17. Non smoking

Smoking in the playing area and toilets is prohibited. No player may leave the playing area in order to smoke, unless it is announced otherwise. Any player smoking during or after the round in the playing area or toilets will result in his partnership being fined 25% of the match points available on a board during the session. Constant violation of this regulation will result in the player being prohibited from playing.

## 18. Alcohol

The consumption of alcoholic beverages of any nature in the playing area and toilets 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 toilets will result in his partnership being fined 25% of the match points available on a board during the session. Repeated violation of this regulation will result in the player being prohibited from playing.

## 19. Mobile Phones

Mobile phones may not be brought into the playing area and toilets. Any player bringing a mobile phone into the playing area or toilets will result in his partnership being fined 100% of the match points available on a board during the session. This penalty is automatic.

## 20. IOC Compliance

- a. **Dress code.** NBOs are asked to take note of the recognition of bridge as a sport by the International Olympic Committee ('IOC') and request that players should, at all times, be dressed appropriately.
- b. **Antidoping regulation.** The procedures provided by the antidoping policy of the IOC will be followed and enforced. Players are requested to submit themselves to the antidoping test on request. If any player takes substances that might result positively when tested he is required to hand in the respective prescription or doctor's certificate in a sealed envelope on registration. This envelope will be opened only if the player concerned is drawn for the antidoping test. Otherwise, at the end of the Championships the sealed envelope may be collected from the organizers or may be destroyed unopened. Refusal to subject to the test or non-appearance will attract penalties decreed by the IOC policy.

## 23. Authority and Responsibility of the WBF

- a. The WBF reserves the authority to modify or supplement these *Conditions of Contest*.
- b. The WBF has scheduled this Championship to occur at a particular time and place. However, the WBF makes no warranty to any participating NBO, player or person that this Championship will take place as scheduled and accepts no responsibility for any loss or expense arising should it not does so.