



WORLD BRIDGE FEDERATION

Gianarrigo Rona
President

Presidents of the WBF Zonal Conferences

c/c Member of the WBF Executive Council
WBF Championships Committee Members
FFB President
On Site Organiser
WBF Operation Director
WBF Communication & General Liaison Manager
WBF Director of Sponsorship
WBF Secretariat
FFB President's Assistant

Lausanne, 15th January 2017

Information Letter n.1

Dear President and Friend,

43rd WORLD BRIDGE TEAMS CHAMPIONSHIPS
Bermuda Bowl, Venice Cup, d'Orsi Senior Trophy
11th WORLD TRANSNATIONAL OPEN TEAMS CHAMPIONSHIP

Organised by the World Bridge Federation
In cooperation with the Federation Française de Bridge

I am very pleased to confirm that the 43rd World Bridge Teams Championships and the 11th World Transnational Open Teams Championship will be held and every competition will be played at

CITÉ CENTRE DE CONGRÈS
Lyon, France
12th – 26th August 2017

43rd World Bridge Teams Championship
11th World Transnational Open Teams Championship
Information Letter n.1
January 2017



Bermuda Bowl, Venice Cup, d'Orsi Trophy

Format of the Championships

All three Championships will be played as a single complete round-robin with all teams playing each other. At the end of the round-robin the first best ranked teams will be admitted to the knock-out stages. Quarter-final, Semifinal and Final KO matches will be played.

Timetable

- Teams Registration Saturday 12th August (starting 10.00 hrs.)
- Captains meeting Saturday 12th August at 16.00
- Opening Ceremony Saturday 12th August at 19.00
- Round Robin 1st Match Sunday 13th August at 11.00
- Round Robin Last Match Saturday 19th August at 17.10
- Captains Meeting (Qualified Teams) Saturday 19th August at 19.45
- Quarter-final Sunday 20th – Monday 21st August
- Semi-final Tuesday 22nd – Wednesday 23rd August
- Final & Playoff Bermuda Bowl Thurs. 24th – Fri.25th (end PO.) – Sat.26th August
- Final & Playoff Venice Cup & d'Orsi Thursday 24th – Friday 25th August
- Prize-giving & Closing Ceremony Saturday 26th August at 19.30 hrs.

The complete schedule will be published on the WBF Website.

Right to enter

Zonal Qualified teams for all three championships (in addition to the Host Teams):

- Zone 1 – 6 teams
- Zone 2 – 3 teams
- Zone 3 – 2 teams
- Zone 4 – 2 teams
- Zone 5 – 1 teams
- Zone 6 – 3 teams
- Zone 7 – 2 teams
- Zone 8 – 2 teams

If any Zone does not fill its quota the first berth will be offered to Zone 1, the second to Zone 6. Each participating member NBO must play against all other participating member NBOs. Entry and subsequent refusal to play will result in disqualification.



If the trials held by Zones 3, 4 and 8 **are not attended by at least 50% of their affiliated NBOs then the Zone will lose one berth.** That extra berths will go first to Europe (up to two) and then to Zone 6.

To be eligible for participation in the 2017 World Teams Championships each player, non-playing captain, coach, trainer and other team official **must comply with the Competitors Commitment & the WBF Laws and Rules & Regulations.** In addition the players and non-playing captains **must comply with the conditions of eligibility** set forth in the WBF Eligibility Code.

In particular only the NBOs participating in the World Bridge Games in Wroclaw 2016 in the Open Teams or Pairs and/or in the Women Teams or Pairs, with their National Representatives, **are eligible to qualify to participate respectively in the Bermuda Bowl and/or Venice Cup 2017.**

11th World Transnational Open Teams Championship

The 11th World Transnational Open Teams will take place during the second week, starting at 10.00 in the morning on Monday 21st August. The format will be Swiss Teams. It is normally played as 10-board matches (5 per day) for 15 qualifying rounds (150 boards). The Quarter Final will be played on Thursday 24th August, the Semi Final on Friday 25th August and the Final & Play-off on Saturday 26th August. **If 120 teams or more enter the Championship, the KO stage (phase) will commence with a round of 16 and the schedule will be published on the Daily Bulletin.**

The World Transnational Open Teams Championship is a prestigious and most enjoyable event. Being Transnational, it is open to teams composed of players coming from different countries, nominated by their National Bridge Organisation and approved by the WBF Credentials Committee.

It is a great opportunity for players to participate in a wonderful bridge tournament while at the same time having a unique opportunity to experience all the atmosphere and excitement of the final stages of the Bermuda Bowl and Venice Cup and watch some of the greatest players in the world on the first class vu-graph presentation. Players wishing to compete in this Championship should contact their NBO and request nomination by the end of June 2017. There is no quota, and NBOs may nominate as many teams as they wish to compete in this great tournament.

Players, NPCs and Coaches, **registered as team members by 10 July 2017**, eliminated from the Round Robin of the Bermuda Bowl, Venice Cup & d'Orsi Seniors Bowl will be able to enter the World Transnational Open Teams Championship free of charge provided they enter as a complete team. Players eliminated from the Quarter-final can drop in the WTOTC free of charge provided they enter as a complete team.



General Information

Communication of the qualified NBOs

The Zonal Presidents are kindly invited to communicate **as soon as known** the NBOs qualified from their own Zones to participate the Bermuda Bowl, the Venice Cup and the d'Orsi Senior Trophy to

Gianarrigo Rona
president@worldbridgefed.com

Registration of Teams for the Bermuda Bowl, Venice Cup and d'Orsi Senior's Trophy

All entries to the Championships **must be submitted electronically** (the pages will be available from 1st April 2017), **via the WBF website (not by email) by 10th June 2017**. It is very important that this deadline is respected.

Registration of Players' Names

Registration of players and NBO Delegation members must be sent **via the WBF website (not by email) by 1st July 2017**

Registration of Teams for the Transnational Open Teams Championship

Registration of teams should be made **before 1st August 2017 wherever possible**. Entries will be accepted later provided there is sufficient space at the venue. Entries from teams eliminated from the main Championship events may be made on site. All entries are subject to approval by the Credentials Committee.

Registrations must be made **via the WBF website (not by email)**.

Entry Fees & Payment

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|-----------------------|--|
| - Bermuda Bowl | € 4,000 per team before/on 10th June |
| - Venice Cup | € 4,000 per team before/on 10th June |
| - d'Orsi Seniors Bowl | € 4,000 per team before/on 10th June |

Payments received after 10 June 2017 are subject to an automatic arrearage penalty of € 250 per team unless the NBO has made a separate arrangement with the WBF.

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| - World Transnational Open Teams | € 1,350 per team before/on 1st August |
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The entry fees **must be paid by bank transfer to**

Crédit Suisse SA, Rue du Lion d'Or 5-7
P.O. Box 5722, 1002 Lausanne, Switzerland
€ account
IBAN CH58 0483 5154 6496 9200 0
Account n° 0425-1546496-92
SWIFT CRESCHZZ80A
Clearing 4835
(To be indicated)

If the bank requires the name and address of the recipient this is:

World Bridge Federation
Maison du Sport International
54 av. de Rhodanie
1007 Lausanne
Switzerland

Players, NPCs and Coaches, **registered as team members by 10 July**, eliminated from the Round-Robin and Quarter-final of the Bermuda Bowl, Venice Cup and d'Orsi Trophy may form new Open teams and will receive free entry provided no players who have not participated in these events are added.

In the event that a team is made up from players who have not participated in the three main events, with players from these events added to the team, the charges will be as follows:

A team with four new players & one or two eliminated players:	€ 1.350
A team with three new players & up to three eliminated players :	€ 1.100
A team with 2 new players & up to four eliminated players :	€ 750
A team with 1 new player & up to five eliminated players :	€ 350

Rules & Regulations – Systems Policy

The Rules & Regulations, including the Eligibility Code, Anti-doping Regulation, Disciplinary Code, and the Dress Code **will be published, together with the Systems Policy, on the WBF website.**

Competitor's Commitment

Players, Captains, Coaches and other Team Officials in Teams Championships are required **to have signed the WBF Competitor's Commitment before the start of the event.** The Competitor's Commitment is binding and the absence of a valid signature **renders the competitor ineligible to participate the championship.** The NBOs are directly responsible for the fulfilment of the above mentioned mandatory requirement.



Blank copies of the Commitment form may be obtained from Anna Gudge (anna.gudge@worldbridgefed.com). The signed copies must be scanned, not photographed and returned by email.

Antidoping & TUE

Players competing in the Bermuda Bowl and Venice Cup **will be liable for anti-doping testing under WBF's authority**: All Players should be aware that failure to attend or refusal of a test if selected is deemed a positive test and may lead to a suspension. In addition, in some countries it is also deemed a criminal offence.

The players requiring a Therapeutic Use Exemption Certificate **must complete the Therapeutic Use Exemptions (TUE) Application Form and return it to the address given on the document as soon as possible and no later than 30 days before the commencement of the competition** in which they are participating. TUE forms can be downloaded by the WBF Website, where other essential information about the Antidoping Rules can be found.

Systems Registration

Systems for the Bermuda Bowl, Venice Cup & D'Orsi Senior Bowl **have to be registered with the World Bridge Federation Systems Administrator by 1st July 2015** to:

anna.gudge@worldbridgefed.com

The conditions of contest will give full details of systems regulations and registration. **No HUM, or Brown Sticker conventions will be permitted at any stage of the Round Robin in either the Bermuda Bowl or Venice Cup nor will they be permitted at any stage of the Senior Bowl.**

Pairs wishing to register Brown Sticker conventions or HUM systems for use in the KO phase must register these, together with the relevant BS forms, by 1st July 2017.

No extension to this deadline will be accepted. Players playing HUM systems will lose their seating rights.

Hotel Accommodation

The Local Organising Committee (LOC) agreed special preferential rates for several recommended hotels and the list is published on the WBF website and on the FFB dedicated website at <http://www.mondialbridgelyon2017.fr/les-hotels/#section-Lyon> .



To avoid last minute problems, due to the number of rooms available, the participants are encouraged to make their reservations as soon as possible.

Further Information

For further information contact:

Marina Madia
Assistant to the President
marina.madia@worldbridgefed.com

I will be grateful to the Zonal Presidents if they forward this first info letter to all the interested NBOs, thanking them in advance for their support and cooperation.

I am confident that in Lyon we will enjoy once again all together another great bridge event.

Yours sincerely,
Gianarrigo Rona