Minutes of the WBF Laws Committee Meeting
Held in Lille, France on Tuesday 14th August 2012

Present:

Ton Kooijman  In the Chair
Grattan Endicott  Secretary
Max Bavin
Maurizio di Sacco
Joan Gerard
Jeff Polisner
William Schoder
John Wignall

Apologies:

Jaime Ortiz-Patiño  Chairman Emeritus
Chip Martel

Guests:
Georgia Heth, Laurie Kelso (Secretary designate), Matt Smith, Tadayoshi Nakatani, Herman de Wael, Adam Wildavsky (representing Chip Martel)

1. The Chairman welcomed members and guests. He introduced Mr Kelso to the meeting, he is assisting the Secretary and should feel free to participate as if a member of the Committee. With no special problems arising he anticipated only a short meeting.

2. The Secretary reviewed progress to date in receipt of the suggestions for revisions in the Laws. The invitation had requested submissions no later than the end of 2012.

3. The Chairman noted that there is no thought of changing the basic format of the Laws. Changes might involve some transfer of matters from one law to another and in any case co-ordination of cross-reference must be a matter of care.

4. It is noted that the ACBL has a drafting committee in place, but presently without a chairman. Mr Wildavsky undertook liaison between the ACBL and the WBF so that the progress and decisions of the bodies may be co-ordinated.
5. There was discussion of the manner in which, from January 2013 onwards, the whole committee would receive the suggestions and proposals from the Secretary. The expectation is to resolve most things by email with only a few natters needing resolution at a meeting in Bali initially. No fundamental problem is envisaged in targeting production of a revised code of laws for 2015.

6. Mr Wignall reported difficulty in liaising with the ACBL in updating the Laws of Rubber Bridge. Mr Wildavsky undertook to request appointment of someone to deal with the subject for the ACBL. Mr Hargreaves will act for the Portland Club and Mr Wignall himself acts as a facilitator.

7. There was discussion concerning the Laws for Online Bridge. With the issue of WBF Masterpoints proposed it is agreed that play must confirm to authorized laws and procedures. Mr Kooijman will join Mr Wignall in progressing the means for this.

With no other business raised the Chairman thanked all present for their attendance and closed the meeting.