



"Bridge for Peace"

International Sport Federation (IF) recognized by the International Olympic Committee

**Supplemental
Conditions of Contest
for the
44th World Bridge Teams Championships
Bermuda Bowl
Venice Cup
d'Orsi Seniors Trophy
Mixed Teams Championship
and
11th World Transnational Open Teams

Wuhan, China
14th – 28th September 2019**

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Issued by the World Bridge Federation
Maison du Sport International
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1007 Lausanne – Switzerland

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1. Preamble

These conditions of contest are supplemental to the General Conditions of Contest issued by the World Bridge Federation, and together form the rules and regulations to govern the 2019 Bermuda Bowl, Venice Cup, d'Orsi Seniors Trophy, Mixed Teams and the World Transnational Open Teams Championship that will be played in Wuhan, China from 14th until the 28th September 2019.

Note the following sections of the General Conditions of Contest:

Section 3: Conditions of entry including eligibility regulations and the information regarding the commitment form

Section 5: Ethics and Deportment

Section 6: Anti-Doping Regulations The application form for therapeutic exemption together with examples of the medical certificate that will be issued if the exemption is approved by the WBF Medical Commission, can be found on the WBF website (www.worldbridge.org). Details of prohibited substances can be found on the World Anti-Doping website at www.wada-ama.org

Section 7: Dress Code

Section 8: Restrictions and Security

Sections 10 & 11: Vu-Graph, Broadcasting and Media Presentation

A list of contact names and addresses, together with the URLs of websites holding information about the championships can be found in Section 28.

In the event of a conflict between the General Conditions of Contest and these supplemental conditions, the Supplemental Conditions of Contest have precedence.

2. Definitions

Expressions used in this document without definition have their usual meaning in contract bridge terminology (which may include expressions defined in the International Code). In the event of doubt or dispute as to the meaning, the decision of the Tournament Rules and Regulations Committee will be final. The singular includes the plural and vice-versa.

Unless there is a conflict with context or obvious meaning, all terms defined in the General Conditions of Contest have the same meaning for the purpose of this document. In addition, the following expressions have these meanings:

2.1 "Bermuda Bowl, Venice Cup, d'Orsi Seniors Trophy & Mixed Teams"

2019 World Bridge Championships, Open Teams, Women's Teams, Senior Teams and Mixed Teams respectively, conducted under the auspices of the WBF from 14th – 28th September in Wuhan, China or at such other time and place as the WBF determines.

2.2 "General Conditions of Contest"

2019 General Conditions of Contest issued by the World Bridge Federation for the World Bridge Championships.

2.3 "Open" and "Closed" Rooms

Rooms will be designated as Open or Closed for every stanza, segment, or session of a match.

2.4 "Partnership Understandings"

Any special partnership understanding is included in the terms "convention", "conventional call", "conventional play", "conventional agreement" or the like

2.5 "these Championships"

The 2019 Bermuda Bowl, Venice Cup, d'Orsi Seniors Trophy, Mixed Teams and World Transnational Open Teams Championship and "championship event" means any/all of these events.

2.6 "these Conditions of Contest"

Supplemental Conditions of Contest for the 2019 Bermuda Bowl Venice Cup, d'Orsi Seniors Trophy, Mixed Teams and World Transnational Open Teams.

2.7 "World Transnational Open Teams Championship (WTOTC)"

An Open teams championship to be played simultaneously with the Bermuda Bowl, Venice Cup, d'Orsi Seniors Trophy and Mixed Teams starting on Monday 23rd September in Wuhan, China or at such other time and place as the WBF determines.

3. Conditions of Entry (Bermuda Bowl, Venice Cup, d'Orsi Seniors Trophy, Mixed Teams)

See also Section 3 of the General Conditions of Contest.

3.1 Eligibility Requirements

The Credentials Committee must be satisfied that each contestant has been nominated to represent by the NBO, and satisfies the WBF Eligibility Code requirements.

If an NBO is in arrears for any payment due to the WBF, nominated contestants who have been submitted for invitation may be refused until such dues and entry fees have been settled satisfactorily. This includes non-championship events such as the Worldwide Bridge Contest.

No male may play or substitute in a team or pair competing in a women's event.

3.2 Submission of Entries

3.2.1 Bermuda Bowl, Venice Cup, d'Orsi Seniors Trophy & Mixed Teams

An NBO, once qualified from a zone, is entitled to nominate at least one team for the Bermuda Bowl and/or at least one team for the Venice Cup and/or at least one team for the d'Orsi Seniors Trophy and/or at least one team for the Mixed Teams. Each zone is requested to confirm its intention to hold a zonal tournament in order to qualify the requisite number of teams for the 2019 Championships. As soon as such a tournament has finished the zone is asked to inform the WBF President which of their NBOs will participate in the 2019 World Bridge Championships in each of the four categories. See Section 7.

3.2.2 Registration (all events)

All entries to the Championships **must be submitted by 10th June 2019**, unless an NBO has specific dispensation from the WBF President because zonal trials have not yet taken place. Entries must be sent electronically via the WBF website (not by email).

Registration of players and NBO delegation members **must be sent by 1st July 2019** via the WBF website (not by email).

3.3 Entrance Fee

The prescribed entrance fees, as described in Section 26, for the Bermuda Bowl and Venice Cup and d'Orsi Seniors Trophy and Mixed Teams must be paid by bank transfer before on 1st July 2019 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)

Should the bank require the address of the payee, it is:

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

Payments received after 1st July 2019 are subject to an automatic surcharge of €250 per team unless the NBO has made a separate arrangement with the WBF.

3.4 Team Members

In addition to a non-playing captain, each team may have four, five or six members. If an NBO wishes to replace a team member, or members, or if fewer than six players were submitted for invitation, such replacement or increase (each must be from the NBO submitting the team) may be added prior to the start of the first session of play with permission of the Credentials Committee. However, the Executive Council reserves the right, following such approval by the Credentials Committee to place any restrictions on that team it deems proper.

3.4.1 Age Limitation for participants in the d'Orsi Seniors Trophy:

Each player must be at least, or turn 61 years of age during the 2019 calendar year.

3.4.2 Composition of Mixed Teams:

The team must be made up of at least two men and two women, and each playing pair must compose one man and one woman.

3.5 Penalty for Non-Participation

In the event that a team entered for these Championships determines it is unable to participate, the WBF must be notified at least 48 hours prior to the scheduled Captains' meeting for these Championships. Failure to notify the WBF of non-participation will result in a €1,350 penalty, payable by the NBO and/or Zone that nominated the team; an additional disciplinary penalty may be added by the WBF.

4. Conditions of Entry (World Transnational Open Teams)

Teams will consist of 4, 5 or 6 players, belonging to the same or different NBOs, but each player must be approved by its NBO of origin and submitted to the WBF Credentials Committee.

Players eliminated from the Round-Robin and the KO stage, including the Quarter-final of the Open, Women's, Senior and Mixed Teams may form new Open teams. Such teams will have free entry provided there are no players added who have not participated in these Championships.

In the event that a team is made up from players who have not participated in one of the four main events, along with players from these Championship events added to the team, see section 26.

Registration of teams should be made before 1st August 2019 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.

All registrations must be made via the WBF website (not by email).

4.1 Late Entries

The WBF may accept additional entries from teams on site if there is sufficient space at the venue; in this case, the registration and payment in cash can be made on site. The deadline for such additional entries will be announced in the daily bulletin.

5. Eligibility for Awards

WBF Medals will be awarded to the leading three teams in all the Championship Events. Master Points will also be awarded, in accordance with the WBF Master Points Plan details of which are on the Master Points Website (see Section 25.2).

6. Anti Doping Regulations

The procedures provided by the WADA Anti-doping Policy will be followed and enforced. Any breach will result in a player being banned from participation in every bridge activity for the period as provided by the WADA Anti-doping Code.

The WBF Anti-Doping Rules are published as an appendix to the WBF General Regulations and are available, along with the required Exemption Form at www.worldbridge.org.

7. Participating Teams

The number of teams from each Zone invited to participate in the 2017 Bermuda Bowl, Venice Cup, d'Orsi Seniors Trophy and Mixed Teams is:

Zone 1 Europe	8 Teams
Zone 2 North America	3 Teams
Zone 3 South America	2 Teams
Zone 4 BFAME	2 Teams
Zone 5 CACBF	1 Team
Zone 6 APBF	3 Teams + the host team
Zone 7 South Pacific	2 teams
Zone 8 Africa	2 teams

Details of the qualifying teams will be published at www.worldbridge.org.

If any Zone does not fill its quota the first berth will be offered to Zone 1, the second to Zone 6.

8. Types of Contest

8.1 Bermuda Bowl, Venice Cup, d'Orsi Seniors Trophy and Mixed Teams

8.1.1 Round Robin

The competing teams (expected to number 24) play a complete round-robin of 16-boards, with each match played in a single session. The round-robin will start on Sunday 15th September and finish on Sunday 22nd September. The eight teams with the most Victory Points after the round-robin will qualify for the quarter-finals (See Section 19 for tie-breaking procedures).

8.1.2 Quarter Finals

The quarter-finals will be played on Monday 23rd and Tuesday 24th September as a knockout match of 96 boards (played over three sessions, in 2 x 16-board stanzas), with IMP scoring.

Quarter-final match opponents are determined as follows:

1st from the round-robin chooses 5th 6th 7th or 8th qualifier; then

2nd chooses from the remaining of 5th 6th 7th or 8th; then

3rd chooses from the remaining of 5th 6th 7th or 8th; then

4th placed team will play the team not yet chosen.

8.1.3 Semi Finals

The semi-finals will be played on Wednesday 25th and Thursday 26th September as a knockout match of 96 boards, (played over three sessions, in 2 x 16-board stanzas), with IMP scoring. Subject to the requirement that if two teams from the same country qualify, they must meet in the semi-finals, the highest finishing team from the round-robin will choose their prospective semi-final opponent from any of the other quarter-matches. The remaining winners will become opponents for the other semi-final match. This choice must be made at the completion of the quarter final draw and before play in the quarter final begins. Hence the semi-final draw is decided prior to the quarter final stage and remains applicable whatever the outcome of quarter-final matches.

8.1.4 Final

The winners of the semi-finals play the final on Friday 27th and Saturday 28th September as a knockout match of 96 boards (played over three sessions, in 2 x 16-board stanzas), with IMP scoring.

8.1.5 Play Off

The losing semi-finalists will play-off on Friday 27th and Saturday 28th as a knockout match of 80 boards (played over five 16-board sessions) with IMP scoring.

If one team declines the right to play off for third place, they will automatically be assigned fourth place and receive one-third of the available Master Points for that position, and no placement points. Their opponent will be declared bronze medallist.

If both teams mutually agree not to play off for the third place, no bronze medal will be awarded for the competition, and each team will receive one third of the Master Points awarded to fourth place, and no placement points. The defeated quarter-finalists will be ranked 5th to 8th according to their VP total in the round-robin; if a tie exists, it will be broken using the normal tie-break criteria.

8.2 World Transnational Open Teams Championships (WTOTC)

8.2.1 Type of Contest

This event will take place during the second week, starting at 10.00am on Monday 23rd September.

The format will be Swiss teams, normally played as 10 board matches (5 per day) for 15 qualifying rounds (150 boards). The 32 teams with the highest Victory Point total after the round-robin will qualify for the KO Round of 32 (See Section 19 for tie-breaking procedures).

The teams placed 1–10 in the Swiss are seeded nos 1-10. They, in that order, get to choose their “round of 32” opponents from the teams placed 17th-32th in the Swiss. Those chosen teams are assigned seed nos. 32-23 respectively. The remaining seed nos. 11-22 are assigned in ascending order on the basis of the final ranking of the Swiss qualification.

After the semi-finals, should a team decline to play-off for third place, they will automatically be placed in fourth place and receive one-third of the Master Points awarded for that position. Their opponent will be declared bronze medallist.

If both teams mutually agree not to play off for the third place, no bronze medal will be awarded in the competition, and each team will receive one third of the Master Points awarded to fourth place and no placement points.

8.2.2 Tie Breaking

A tie in the Swiss teams at any given time will be resolved by ‘Swiss points’, these being the sum of the Victory Point scores obtained by each and every direct opponent of any given team [Example: Team A has played against teams X, Y and Z. Team X has a VP score of 50, Team Y has 40 and Team Z has 30 – this gives team A a swiss point score of 120. The team with the greatest swiss point score wins the tie-break].

If Swiss points are inconclusive, then the same procedures as for the Bermuda Bowl/Venice Cup will apply, save that criteria (a) and (b) are reversed [(b) becoming (a) and vice-versa – sections 19.1, 19.1.2 and 19.1.3.

No extra boards will be played in the knock-out phase. If any match ends in a tie, the winning team from the swiss qualifying match will be declared the winner.

If there was no head to head match, or the match ended in a tie, the higher ranked team at the end of the qualification will be declared the winner.

8.2.3 Drop-in Rules

Players from teams eliminated in the quarter-finals of the Open, Women, Seniors and Mixed Teams Championship may join the World Transnational Open Teams Championship at round 11, with the following conditions:

- i) New teams made from the losing quarter-finalists (Open, Women, Seniors) may 'drop in' provided that four of the registered players have played at least 1/3 of the boards available in the round-robin/QF phase; the NPC may be one of the four registered players.
- ii) Other players in the new teams (maximum of two) who do not comply with such conditions may also be included. If these are bona-fide NPCs /players from the round-robin/QF stage, then there is no additional charge. Otherwise there will be a charge for participation (see Section 26).
- iii) The 'drop in' teams will start with 120 Victory Points (10 matches x 12 VPs) and be paired against the leading teams after round 10 by random draw. Therefore, for round 11 only, the 'dropped in' teams will not meet.
- iv) Should, for bona fide reason, the drop-in occur in a round other than round 11, the Victory Point total mentioned in (3) above, will be adjusted accordingly.

9. Carry Over

There will be no carry over to any knockout phase (but see section 19.2 below).

10. The Draw

The draw for all the four categories will be made by three members of the WBF Championship Committee appointed by the WBF President on Thursday 20th June, in Istanbul. Each draw will be random, with the restriction that teams representing the same Zone should meet in the early rounds.

Team numbers and the order of play will then be published on the website at www.worldbridge.org. The Championship Rules and Regulations Committee has authority to make alterations to team numbers (and as a consequence in the sequence of play) if required by circumstance after the draw has been announced.

11. The Schedule of Play

The schedule of play will be published on the website.

12. Conversion Scales

The difference in IMPs earned by the two opposing teams at the end of each of the matches scored in Victory Points (VP) will be converted into VP, according to the official WBF conversion scales (see Section 27).

13. Time Schedule

In the Bermuda Bowl, Venice Cup, d'Orsi Senior Trophy and Mixed Teams matches will normally start at 11.00am, 14.30pm and 17.30pm.

In the World Transnational Open Teams swiss matches will start at 10.00am, 11.50am, 14.00pm, 15.50pm and 17.40pm. Knock-out matches for the round of 32 and quarter-final will start at 10.00am, for the Round of 16 and Semifinal at 15,20, for the Final & Play-off at 10.00. The Championship Rules and Regulations Committee has the authority to make changes to the starting time of the matches if necessary.

The detailed time schedule will be published in the onsite programme.

14. Regulations for Electronic Line-Ups

Line-ups must be submitted electronically in accordance with the details below. Failure by a captain to submit a line-up in a timely fashion will result in fines (see Section 22.2).

In round robin matches line-ups for both teams be submitted no later than 15 minutes after the end of the previous round; teams will not know the line-up of their opponents. The line-up for the first round must comply with the decision made at the Captains Meeting.

In the knock-out phase the team to line-up first must submit its line-up no later than 15 minutes after the end of the previous session. The second team must then submit its line-up no later than 20 minutes after the end of the previous session or no later than 5 minutes after the submission of the first line-up, whichever is latest.

Line-ups are to be submitted at the place designated by the Operations Director. This will be a dedicated area, with computers available. Each team will also have its own dedicated page, with a password, in the wireless LAN set by the organization so captains may access via their own laptops.

The system automatically records the time a line-up is made, so penalties for late line-ups will be automatic. An clock in the playing area will display the official time.

If a partnership without a registered convention card is to play, the captain should indicate on the line-up form which registered convention card will be used.

15. Designation of Matches and Seeding

15.1 Seeding

The teams competing in the Bermuda Bowl, the Venice Cup, the d'Orsi Seniors Trophy and the Mixed Teams will be seeded by draw (see Section 10 above).

15.2 Seating Rights

In a match divided into stanzas, the team with the seating rights in the first half of a stanza sits NS in the open room during that stanza.

In a match divided into an odd number of several sessions the team with the seating rights in a session sits NS in the open room in that session.

Subject always to the over-riding provisions of Section 17.10 the procedures for determining the NS team in each match or session of play shall be as follows:

15.2.1 Round-robin

In each match of the round-robin, in order to determine the players' position at the table, the first mentioned team in the published draw sits North and South in the Open Room. Both teams will submit their line-ups in accordance with the time limits determined in these regulations without having seating rights.

15.2.2 Quarter-finals, Semi-finals, Final and Play off

The seating rights for each stanza will be automatically assigned by the scoring system, using random draw. The following restrictions will apply:

1.1.1 Two stanzas

Each team will have seating rights in one of the two.

1.1.2 Three stanzas

- a) One team will have seating rights in two stanzas and the other in one.
- b) If a team gets seating rights in stanza one, the other will get seating rights in stanza three.
- c) If a team gets seating rights in stanza three, the other will get seating rights in stanza two.

1.1.3 Four stanzas

- a) Each team will have seating rights in two stanzas.
- b) The four stanzas are divided in portions of two each: 1-2, 3-4; when a team is assigned seating rights in one stanza of the portion, the other automatically gets the other.
- c) If a team gets seating rights in stanza four, the other will get seating rights in stanza one.
- d) If a team gets seating rights in stanza one, the other will get seating rights in stanza four.

1.1.4 Six stanzas

- a) Each team will have seating rights in three of the stanzas.
- b) The six stanzas are divided in portions of two each: 1-2, 3-4, 5-6; when a team is assigned seating rights in one stanza of the portion, the other automatically gets the remaining stanza of that portion.
- c) If a team gets seating rights in stanza six, the other will get seating rights in stanza one.
- d) If a team gets seating rights in stanza one, the other will get seating rights in stanza six.

16. Change of Players

A change of players, pairs or partnerships can be made only at the beginning of a match or a stanza or according to art.19 below when extra tie-break board is played.

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, according to art. 17 of the General Conditions of Contest, the Head Tournament Director, in consultation with the captain of the team, may designate a substitute to complete the team.

Art. 17 of the General Conditions provides the rules and procedures for the substitution.

17. Disclosure of Systems and Conventions

17.1 WBF Systems Policy

The WBF Systems Policy forms part of these supplemental conditions of contest. The Bermuda Bowl, Venice Cup and Mixed Teams (including the respective play-offs) are Category 1 events. In Category 1 events all systems are allowed but see Section 17.2 below for restrictions during the round robin phase.

The d'Orsi Seniors Trophy, the Mixed Teams and the World Transnational Open Teams are Category 3 events, so no HUM or Brown Sticker systems are permitted at any stage. If a pair in the Bermuda Bowl or Venice Cup use a convention not listed on their Convention Card, a disciplinary penalty of up to two VPs will be deducted from the team's score. In addition, the Tournament Director may award an adjusted score if an opponent is damaged.

The pair will not play again until the conventions card has been corrected to the satisfaction of the Head Tournament Director.

If a pair re-offends, they may not play as a partnership for the remainder of the event.

17.2 General Regulations

HUM systems and Brown Sticker conventions are prohibited in the round robin of the Bermuda Bowl and Venice Cup. But may be played in the knockout stages of both events, provided additional, separate convention cards are submitted in accordance with the regulations below. Separate forms for each Brown Sticker convention, along with viable proposed defences must be supplied. A pair may register at most three Brown Sticker conventions.

17.3 Submission of Systems for the Bermuda Bowl, Venice Cup & d'Orsi Seniors Trophy

Each team captain is responsible for ensuring that convention cards are sent by email to the WBF Systems Administrator as soon as possible, and before the 1st July 2019. The systems that each partnership will play in the Championship must be detailed on a WBF Convention Card, and be accompanied by supplementary sheets describing conventional sequences and Brown Sticker forms (see 17.3.1 for programmes and completion guide).

Penalties for failure to submit convention cards and supplementary sheets (in addition to Section 17.3.2) are specified in section 22.1.

17.3.1 Programs permitted for the preparation of Convention Cards

Convention cards may be prepared using any of the following programs:

- Microsoft Word (a blank template is available from <http://www.worldbridge.org/convention-card-editors.aspx>);
- Microsoft Excel (a blank template is available from <http://www.worldbridge.org/convention-card-editors.aspx>);
- Convention Cards prepared using the WBF Convention Card Editor and the Lee Edwards Convention Card Editor may also be submitted, but the use of these programs is discouraged by the WBF. If used, the ORIGINAL files must be submitted, NOT a pdf, bitmap, jpg or scan.
- **NOTE:** Pairs submitting Brown Sticker systems for use in the knockout stages MUST use the special forms available from <http://www.worldbridge.org/brown-sticker-forms.aspx>, or by email request to anna.gudge@worldbridgefed.com.

If created from Word or Excel, a convention card may be sent as a .pdf provided the file size is small and the font has been properly embedded into the file. Image formats eg .jpg, .bmp will NOT be accepted, nor will .pdf files created from scanned documents.

Players are responsible for ensuring that all the information is in the printable area of the page.

The Systems Administrator will, if necessary, convert files to .pdf format after a card has been submitted. These can be read or printed using Acrobat Reader **www.adobe.com**.

When all the systems for a team have been registered, the convention cards will be displayed online and the url access link advised to the team.

Pairs are then responsible for checking online, to ensure that their convention card is displayed in entirety - complete, accurate and with any supplementary sheets included.

Following the event, the WBF reserves the right to continue to display convention cards and supplementary sheets for interested parties to view. If a full system was originally submitted, this will not be included.

17.3.2 Convention Cards not received on time

The Systems Committee may require any partnership whose convention card and supplementary sheets have not reached the WBF Systems Administrator by 1st July 2019, to use the system described on the WBF World Standard Card for the first two days of play. This is in addition to the penalties referred to in section 22.1. The partnership will not be permitted to use HUM or Brown Sticker Conventions for the duration of the Championship.

A copy of the World Standard Card can be obtained from **<http://www.worldbridge.org/wbf-standard-card.aspx>**.

Captains with any queries concerning the systems provided by other teams, are asked to email the WBF Systems Administrator – **anna.gudge@worldbridgefed.com** - who will direct the enquiry.

Cards and supplementary sheets circulated by the WBF (see 17.3) are only accepted as registered, and may require amendments after being circulated.

17.4 *Supplementary Sheets*

A single sheet(s) used to expand conventional sequences inadequately described on the WBF Convention Card. A reference number should be placed at the appropriate place on the convention card, and all such references should be clearly marked on the Supplementary Sheet along with the complete explanation. Supplementary sheets must be submitted with a convention card.

17.5 *Changes to Cards/Supplementary Sheets*

- a) Any changes to already submitted (as per section 17.3) cards and/or sheets must be submitted as per (e) below as early as possible and no later than 20th July 2019. Changes may only be clarifications, amendments, minor additions, and/or cosmetic revisions in accordance with the WBF Systems Policy. NO CHANGES may be made to Brown Sticker or HUM Systems. If these are not correctly submitted in the first instance, they may not be played.

- b) On site changes to systems will be approved or required by the Chairman of the WBF Systems Committee or a nominee(s).
- c) In order for a change to be implemented, it will be uploaded to the website noted as a revision. All files will be date stamped and captains and players must check the website for new or updated systems. Any essential changes made to convention cards will be advised at the Captains' Meeting or by email.
- d) Only the Chairman of the WBF Systems Committee will consider requests for a change once a team has arrived at the venue. Any such request may be approved, refused in whole or in part, and/or subject to conditions. Clarifications and improvements to presentation will not be considered as substantive changes.
- e) Official format for changes: The new Convention Card/Supplementary Sheet that reflects the proposed change, with any changes highlighted to make what has been altered readily identifiable.

17.6 Special Responsibility for BROWN STICKER Systems and Conventions

Pairs wishing to play Brown Sticker conventions (maximum of three per pair) in the knockout stages must register a separate card together with the relevant forms at the same time as they register their card for the round robin.

With regard to BROWN STICKER systems/conventions, there is a special responsibility for users to explain their methods in sufficient detail (as per the Guide to Completion and the CCE), the first time that cards are submitted.

Explanations and continuations for Brown Sticker Conventions, together with a viable defence, must be presented using the Brown Sticker Convention Announcement form or the Brown Sticker Convention Overall form which are available in Word Format for download from

<http://www.worldbridge.org/brown-sticker-forms.aspx> or by email from anna.gudge@worldbridgefed.com. If these submissions are inadequate, or a defence is not proposed, the pair may be barred from using those methods for the duration of the Championship.

Failure to comply with the above requirements will result in the pair or pairs not being permitted to play these conventions/systems.

These penalties are designed so that no pair will be able to claim ignorance of their special responsibility if they wish to play Brown Sticker methods. The NBO, the captains and the players are jointly responsible for contacting the WBF should there be any problems in obtaining the necessary tournament information in timely fashion.

17.7 Defences to Brown Sticker Conventions

A pair may prepare written defences against the Brown Sticker elements of any system (see the WBF System Policy). These defences are deemed to be part of the opponents' systems.

17.8 Seating Rights for Pairs using Brown Sticker Conventions

Teams will have seating rights if they are playing against a pair or pairs using two or more Brown Sticker conventions but not if both teams have a pair using two or more such conventions.

17.9 Special Regulations for Teams Using HUM Systems

17.9.1 Highly Unusual Methods

Highly Unusual Methods are defined in the WBF Systems Policy.

17.9.2 Submission of HUM Systems

Any pair intending to use a HUM System, must send a complete copy of any HUM system in English and their convention card and supplementary sheets, to the WBF Systems Administrator by 1st July 2019.

Furthermore, a complete copy of a HUM System must be printed in English and filed at the Convention Card desk on site at the start of the tournament, before the Captains' meeting.

The Systems Committee may decide that pairs who fail to comply with these special regulations, or present their system poorly, will not be permitted to play the HUM System.

17.10 Regulations for Pairs using HUM Systems

Any team with a pair using a HUM System (whether or not the pair will play):

- Should be available at least 15 minutes before the scheduled start time for a stanza to supply information and clarification as requested by their opponents.
- Due to oppose a team that has no such pair, will always be the AWAY Team. No special seating rights or line-up restrictions apply when two teams containing pairs using HUM Systems (regardless of line-up) oppose one another.

A team opposing a team with a pair using a HUM System will submit three legible copies of any defence methods to the HUM System, at least 30 minutes before the scheduled line-up time for the match to the Convention Card Desk and given by the captain to the captain of the HUM system team. In preparing these defences pairs using Green, Blue or Red Systems may change their systems including opening calls. Pairs using HUM Systems are not allowed to change their opening calls.

The pair using a HUM System must inform the opponents in writing (hand-written, 2 clearly legible copies) about their counter-defence at the table, prior to the start of the session. In preparing their counter-defence, the pair using the HUM System is not permitted to change any of the highly artificial aspects of its system.

17.11 Written Defences

Written defences against HUM Systems and on defence against the defences as well as written defences against Brown Sticker conventions may be used as permitted against unusual methods in Law 40 (footnote).

17.12 Submission of Systems for the World Transnational Open Teams

Pre-registration of convention cards and supplementary sheets is not mandatory for any pairs in the World Transnational Open Teams. But pairs wishing to register their systems in advance should send to anna.gudge@worldbridgefed.com.

Please ensure that conventions cards are clearly marked for the WTOT and that email addresses for as many team members as possible are supplied to the WBF Systems Administrator to facilitate efficient communication.

18. Length of Matches

A 16-board match or stanza is to be completed within 2 hours 20 minutes

A 20-board match or stanza is to be completed within 2 hours 50 minutes

A 10-board match or stanza is to be completed within 1 hour 30 minutes

After that, teams judged guilty of slow play will be subject to penalty (see section 22.4).

Additional time will not be allowed for teams playing on Vu-Graph; neither will extra time be granted for the use of bidding boxes, screens, discussions of systems or for other similar reasons. Vu-Graph presentation for any match or session will start when the Tournament Director announces it.

19. Tie-Breaking Procedures

19.1 Round Robin

19.1.1 Two Teams

If two teams are tied with the same number of Victory Points at the end of the round-robin, the tie shall be broken as follows (in the sequence shown):

- a) IMP quotient (total IMPs won divided by total IMPs lost) in all matches played by the tied teams in that particular event. If the tie remains, then:
- b) IMPs earned by the tied teams in the match they played against each other. If the tie remains, then:
- c) Total points earned by the tied teams in the match they played against each other. If the tie remains then:
- d) Total point quotient in all matches played by the tied team in that particular event. If the tie remains then:
- e) One board ("sudden death") matches will determine the winner.

19.1.2. Three Teams

If three teams are tied with the same number of Victory Points at the end of the round-robin, the tie shall be broken according to the following:

- f) IMP quotient in all matches played by the tied teams in that particular event. If one tie still remains it shall be broken in accordance with Sub-section 19.1. If the three teams remain tied, then:
- g) If one of the teams earned more VPs against each of the other two in the matches it played against them in that particular event, it shall be declared winner and, if necessary, the tie between the remaining two teams shall be broken in accordance with sub-section 19.1. If the three teams remain tied, then:
- h) If one of the teams earned more VPs against one of the remaining teams and tied with the other in the matches it played between them in that particular event, it shall be declared winner and the tie between the remaining teams shall be broken, if necessary, in accordance with Sub-section 19.1. If the three teams remain tied, then:
- i) If one team has been beaten by the other two teams in matches it played against them in that particular event, it shall be ranked third in the tied positions and the tie between the remaining teams shall be broken in accordance with Sub-section 19.1.

In all other cases, ties shall be broken in accordance with the following:

- j) Highest net total IMPs earned by the tied teams in the matches they played against each other. If one tie still remains it may be broken in accordance with Sub-section 19.1. If the three teams remain tied, then:
- k) Highest net total points earned by the tied teams in matches they played against each other. If one tie still remains it may be broken in accordance with Sub-section 19.1. If the three team remain tied, then:
- l) Total points quotient earned in all matches played by the tied teams. If one tie still remains it may be broken in accordance with Sub-section 19.1. If the three teams remain tied, then:
- m) One-board ("sudden death") matches will determine the winner.

19.1.3. Four Teams or more

If four or more teams are tied with the same number of Victory Points at the end of the round-robin, the tie shall be broken according to the following:

- n) IMP quotient in all matches played by the tied teams in that particular event, shall govern. Any ties remaining will be broken in accordance with Sub-sections 19.1 and 19.1.2 if appropriate. If there are more than three teams that remain tied after use of IMP quotients, then:
- o) If one of the teams earned more VPs against each of the remaining tied teams in that particular event or if it has, uniquely, tied one and defeated the other tied teams, it shall be declared winner and the ties for the remaining teams will be broken in accordance with Sub-section 19.1.2, if appropriate. If there are more than three teams that remain tied, then:
- p) Total points quotient in all matches played by the tied teams in that particular event, shall govern. Any ties remaining will be broken in accordance with Sub-sections 19.1 or 19.1.2 if appropriate. If there are more than three teams that remain tied after the application of total points quotient, then:
- q) One-board ("sudden death") matches will determine the winner.
- r) In case of "sudden death" match, the appeal (protest period) is over when the "sudden death" match begins.

19.2 Knockout Stage

If there is a tie at the end of any knockout stage including the finals and play-off no extra session of boards will be played and the team that won the round robin match will be declared the winner.

In the event of the head-to-head match being a tie the higher ranked team at the end of the round robin will be declared the winner.

20. Disqualification - Withdrawal

In the case of a team being disqualified or withdrawing the following rules apply:

- a) if this happens up to and including the 12th match: all previous results of such team are cancelled;
- b) if this happens from the 13th match on, the results achieved by the opponents will be retained and for the successive matches the teams will receive either the number of VP equal to their own average (at the end of the round-robin) or the VP average of their opponents in the matches against the disqualified team or 12 VP, whichever is greater.

21. Forfeits

If a team is unable to play or to complete a match, the Championship Committee may find that team in default and declare the match forfeit (walkover), the other team being declared the winner. The loser will receive zero VP and the winner receives the average (at the end of the round robin) of its VP or the average (at the end of the round robin) of the VPs won by the opponents of the forfeited team in the matches against that team, whichever is the greatest. Two walk overs by the same team means a compulsory withdraw of that team from the competition. The Championship Committee or the Disciplinary Committee may impose additional penalties on the forfeiting team.

22. Penalties

The schedule of penalties which follows is supplemental to the International Code. All infringements of the International Code will be dealt with in accordance with the International Code. Monetary fines are to be paid in dollars to the Head Tournament Director for transmittal to the WBF Treasurer. Upon publication of these Conditions of Contest no further warning is required (whether from the Director or otherwise) prior to the application of any penalty under the provision of the International Code or of these Conditions of Contest.

Victory Point penalties, where applicable, will be deducted from the score of the offending team at the end of the round robin stage. VP penalties do not affect individual matches for purposes of tie-breaking procedures in any manner, but may determine a team's ranking.

Penalties assessed in IMPs will be deducted from the score of the offending team at the conclusion of the match during which the penalty was imposed, before the match VP score is calculated. However the score of the non-offending team is not affected, except in the knockout phase.

See also section 22.3 of the General Conditions of Contest.

22.1 Failure to File Systems in a Timely Fashion

Any team containing a partnership that, for any reason, has failed to comply with the time requirements of Section 17.3 will (in addition to the requirements of Section 17.3.2):

- a) not be sent the information regarding the website containing the systems of opposing teams the whole team has submitted its Convention Cards in accordance with these regulations; and
- b) be subject to a decision of the Systems Committee who may forbid the team to use specific conventional understandings not submitted in accordance with these Conditions of Contest. If a disallowed convention is used, the Systems Committee may impose penalties at its discretion; and
- c) be fined US\$500 to be paid before the start of the Championship.

22.2 Failure to Submit Line-up on Time

If a captain fails to submit line-ups in accordance with regulations:

In the round robin

- a) for the first such offence a warning will be issued by the TD;
- b) for the second offence there will be a penalty of 1 IMP
- c) for the third offence there will be a penalty of 2 IMPs and for each subsequent offence there will be a penalty of 4 IMPs. Penalties are cumulative.

In the knockout matches

- d) for the first such offence a warning will be issued by the TD;

e) for the second offence there will be a penalty of 1 IMP.

f) for the third offence there will be a penalty of 2 IMPs and for each subsequent offence there will be a penalty of 4 IMPs. Penalties are cumulative.

When failure to provide the line-up in a timely fashion is due to late filing by the captain of the opposing team, penalties under this section apply only to the captain of the team whose duty it was to file line-up first. The captain of the other team then has five minutes extra to file a lineup. If, after filing of the line-up by the offending team, the captain of the non-offending team exceeds the filing deadline, or the five minute grace period, this captain is subject to penalty too.

22.3 Lateness

Any team not seated and ready to play at the announced starting time of a match or a session of a match will be assessed a penalty according to the following scale:

During the Round-Robin

0+ – 5 minutes late -	warning to captain(s) (after the second warning the provision for 5+ minutes late shall apply).
5+ – 10 minutes late -	1 VP
10+ – 15 minutes late -	2 VPs
15+ – 20 minutes late -	3 VPs
20+ – 25 minutes late -	4 VPs
Over 25 minutes late -	minimum 5 VP plus 1 VP every 5 minutes but after 40 minutes the match is cancelled and considered a walkover. At the discretion of the Head Tournament Director; may include recommendation of more severe action by the Championship Committee.

During the Knock-out Phase

0+ – 5 minutes late -	warning to captain(s) (after the second warning the provision for 5+ minutes late shall apply).
5+ – 25 minutes late -	1 IMP plus an additional 1 IMP for each full minute or part thereof beyond 5 minutes.
Over 25 minutes late -	minimum 30 IMPs plus 2 IMPs for each minute thereafter, but after 40 minutes the round is cancelled. At the discretion of the Head Tournament Director may include recommendation of forfeit of the match or more severe action by the Championship Committee.

For the above purposes, the round robin phase and the knockout phase are considered to be separate events. Thus any late arrival warnings issued during the round robin are not carried over into the knockout phase.

22.4 Slow Play

The time allowed for each match or session is computed from the time play is started by a Tournament Director. If play continues after the time allowed by Section 18 of these Conditions, then one or both pairs are subject to penalty as follows:

22.4.1 Excess time apportioned to a pair during the Round-Robin

0+ – 5 minutes late -	1 VP
5+ – 10 minutes late -	1½ VPs
10+ – 15 minutes late -	2 VPs

15+ – 20 minutes late -	2½ VPs
20+ – 25 minutes late -	3 VPs
Over 25 minutes late -	5 VPs plus 1VP for each additional 5 minutes and the Head Tournament Director will impose disciplinary penalties on the pair and/or on the team. After 40 minutes the match will be truncated by removing unplayed boards; if this happens the match will be scored only with the boards played at both tables, with the same conversion scale as for completed matches. At the discretion of the Head Tournament Director this may include recommendation of forfeit of a match or more severe action by the Championship Committee.

Example:

If a 16-board match or session took 2 hours and 35 minutes (excess of 15 minutes) and pair A is held responsible for 9 extra minutes and pair B for 6 extra minutes, the total penalty will be 2 VPs; pair A receiving 1.2 VPs penalty and pair B 0.8 VP penalty. A Tournament Director who judges that a match will be so late that it disturbs the start of the next round, may truncate the match by removing boards: if this happens the match will be scored only with the boards played at both tables, with the same conversion scale as for completed matches.

22.4.2 Excess time apportioned to a pair during the knockout stage

0+ – 25 minutes late -	1 IMP for each minute or part thereof.
Over 25 minutes late -	minimum 30 IMPs plus 2 IMPs for each minute thereafter and the Head Tournament Director will impose disciplinary penalties on the pair and/or on the team. After 40 minutes, the match will be truncated by removing unplayed boards. At the discretion of the Head Tournament Director this may include recommendation of forfeit of match or more severe action by the Executive Council.

A Tournament Director or an official appointed by the President will determine responsibility for slow play. A partnership that considers the opponents are playing slowly must inform the Tournament Director and a monitor may be appointed to the table; the partnership is only protected from the time the Tournament Director is informed. A Director may install a monitor without request of the players.

22.5 Fouled Boards

If a board is fouled and it is determined that one side is clearly at fault, that side will be subject to procedural penalty.

22.6 Bidding Cards and Playing Cards

According to art.23.1 of the WBF General Conditions of Contest, 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; cards must be placed in a straight line, at an equal distance from each other. Violations of correct placing procedure is subject to penalties.

According to art. 26.1 of the General Conditions, led cards must always be placed on the table in the same way, vertically or horizontally. Violation of correct placing procedures is subject to penalties.

Quitted tricks must always be placed by players on the table in front of them, from the left, in the same way, vertically or horizontally and at an equal distance from the previous trick. Violation of correct placing procedures is subject to penalties.

Penalties will be imposed according to the following scale:

- a) First offence a warning issued by the Tournament Director;
- b) Second offence a penalty of 2 VPs (4 IMPs in a KO match)
- c) Third offence a penalty of 5 VPs (10 IMPs in a KO match)

Penalties are cumulative and carry over from previous matches

For any further offences the offending team will be considered to lose the match. The Head TD will report to the Championship Committee, who may give additional penalties including the suspension for or time or disqualifying the player/s from the Championship. The Championship Committee will report to the WBF Disciplinary.

23. Recording of Matches and Verification of Scores

The official score will be that keyed in by N/S and agreed by E/W.

Players and captains are responsible for the accuracy of their own scores.

Entering or approving an incorrect score violates procedure and is subject to automatic penalty as follows: First offence - a warning, second offence - 0.25 VP and subsequent offences will be penalised 0.50 VP each, as determined by the Director. Penalties are cumulative.

The correction period in Law 79C expires at the time specified in art. 23.1 below (see also art. 24.1 of the General Conditions); and thereafter, the results will be final, with the following exceptions:

- i) Awaiting a decision of the Reviewer on a requested review;
- ii) Completion of play or replay boards where such replay has been directed by the Championship Committee or the Operations Director;
- iii) The Head Tournament Director may post modified Correction Periods prior to any event. These modifications will be based upon what is practical for that event, and will be decided by concurrence of the Head Tournament Director and Operations Director. Such modifications will supersede any other conditions of contest.

23.1 Score Corrections

Score corrections will be permitted under Laws 69 and 71, 63, 64 and Law 79.

An agreed score that is proven erroneous to the complete satisfaction of the Head Tournament Director, may be corrected up to thirty minutes after the posting of scores at the end of play on each day. Only the results of boards played that day are subject to correction.

23.2 New Technology

The WBF may decide to introduce and adopt a new electronic system of reading and registering the bidding and play during the Championships, in which case new regulations for use will be published.

24. Duplicated Boards

Duplicated boards will be used throughout these Championships whenever possible.

25. Eligibility for Awards

25.1 Titles and Medals

The title of World Champion will be awarded to the winning team in all Championship Events. Medals (Gold, Silver and Bronze) will be awarded to the leading three teams in each event for first, second and third place respectively. See section 8.1.5 for conditions regarding the play off for the Bermuda Bowl, Venice Cup, d'Orsi Seniors Trophy and Section 8.2.1 for the World Transnational Open Teams.

25.2 Master Point Awards

Master Points will be awarded in accordance with the WBF Master Points plan, details of which can be found at www.wbfmasterpoints.com.

See also Section 36 of the General Conditions of Contest.

26. Entry Fees

Bermuda Bowl, Venice Cup & d'Orsi Seniors Trophy € 4,000

Transnational Teams: € 1,350

NPCs and Coaches registered as team members within 10th July 2019 and players eliminated from the Bermuda Bowl, Venice Cup, d'Orsi Seniors Trophy or Mixed Teams may form new Open teams and 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. Players, NPCs and Coaches eliminated from the WTOTC can play the Wuhan Grand Prix free of charge.

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

A team with 4 new players & 1 or 2 eliminated players: € 1,350

A team with 3 new players & up to 3 eliminated players: € 1,050

A team with 2 new players & up to 4 eliminated players € 700

A team with 1 new player & up to 5 eliminated players: € 350

27. IMP to VP Scales

Scales for 10 and 16 board matches are given below. To see the VP tables for other numbers of boards, or the algorithm for the creation of the VP Scales, please visit:

<http://www.worldbridge.org/victory-point-scales.aspx>

10 Boards

IMPS	-	+	IMPS	-	+
0	10.00	10.00	25	3.03	16.97
1	9.61	10.39	26	2.84	17.16
2	9.23	10.77	27	2.66	17.34
3	8.86	11.14	28	2.49	17.51
4	8.50	11.5	29	2.32	17.68
5	8.15	11.85	30	2.16	17.84
6	7.82	12.18	31	2.00	18
7	7.49	12.51	32	1.85	18.15
8	7.17	12.83	33	1.70	18.3
9	6.86	13.14	34	1.56	18.44
10	6.57	13.43	35	1.42	18.58
11	6.28	13.72	36	1.29	18.71
12	6.00	14.00	37	1.16	18.84
13	5.72	14.28	38	1.03	18.97
14	5.46	14.54	39	0.90	19.1
15	5.20	14.8	40	0.78	19.22
16	4.95	15.05	41	0.67	19.33
17	4.71	15.29	42	0.56	19.44
18	4.48	15.52	43	0.45	19.55
19	4.25	15.75	44	0.34	19.66
20	4.03	15.97	45	0.24	19.76
21	3.82	16.18	46	0.14	19.86
22	3.61	16.39	47	0.04	19.96
23	3.41	16.59	48+	0	20
24	3.22	16.78			

16 Boards

IMPS	-	+	IMPS	-	+
0	10.00	10.00	31	3.12	16.88
1	9.69	10.31	32	2.97	17.03
2	9.39	10.61	33	2.83	17.17
3	9.09	10.91	34	2.69	17.31
4	8.80	11.20	35	2.55	17.45
5	8.52	11.48	36	2.41	17.59
6	8.24	11.76	37	2.28	17.72
7	7.97	12.03	38	2.15	17.85
8	7.71	12.29	39	2.03	17.97
9	7.45	12.55	40	1.91	18.09
10	7.20	12.80	41	1.79	18.21
11	6.96	13.04	42	1.67	18.33
12	6.72	13.28	43	1.56	18.44
13	6.48	13.52	44	1.45	18.55
14	6.25	13.75	45	1.34	18.66
15	6.03	13.97	46	1.23	18.77
16	5.82	14.18	47	1.13	18.87
17	5.61	14.39	48	1.03	18.97
18	5.4	14.6	49	0.93	19.07
19	5.2	14.80	50	0.84	19.16
20	5.00	15.00	51	0.75	19.25
21	4.81	15.19	52	0.66	19.34
22	4.62	15.38	53	0.57	19.43
23	4.44	15.56	54	0.48	19.52
24	4.26	15.74	55	0.39	19.61
25	4.08	15.92	56	0.31	19.69
26	3.91	16.09	57	0.23	19.77
27	3.74	16.26	58	0.15	19.85
28	3.58	16.42	59	0.07	19.93
29	3.42	16.58	60+	0	20
30	3.27	16.73			

28. Contact Addresses

28.1 The World Bridge Federation:
Maison du Sport International
54 av. de Rhodanie

1007 Lausanne
Switzerland

- 28.2** **President:**
Mr Gianarrigo Rona
Email: president@worldbridgefed.com
- 28.3** **Treasurer:**
Mr Marc de Pauw
Email: marc.depauw@pandora.be
- 28.4** **WBF Secretary:**
Mr Simon Fellus
Email: simon.fellus@worldbridgefed.com
- 28.5** **Assistant to the President:**
Mrs Marina Madia
Email: marina.madia@worldbridgefed.com
secretariat@worldbridgefed.com
- 28.6** **Systems & Communication:**
Mrs Anna Gudge
Email: anna.gudge@worldbridgefed.com
- 28.7** **Official Websites:**
The WBF Website:
www.worldbridge.org

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