



World Bridge Federation Code of Ethics

(approved by the WBF Management Committee on 18 June 2016
and ratified by the WBF Executive Council on 6 September 2016)

1. Preamble

- 1.1 The World Bridge Federation (WBF), and each of its members and its administration, its Affiliated Federations, the Continental Conferences, the Zonal Conferences, the members of the bridge authorities, the organising committees of official WBF events and participants at WBF events are to show respect and esteem towards the national and international sports authorities and the government of their countries.
- 1.2 The WBF parties undertake to disseminate the culture of ethics and integrity within their respective areas of competence and to serve as role models.
- 1.3 Without limitation, this Code of Ethics shall apply to (i) all affiliated NBOs, (ii) any persons (including players, non-playing captains, team representatives, coaches, technical officials, technicians, accredited persons, observers and spectators) who participate in or attend any event, tournament or competition organized, granted or sanctioned by the WBF, (iii) any persons who hold any position or carry out any functions on behalf of either the WBF, a Zonal Conference or an NBO (including any organ or commission of the same) and (iv) any other persons who accept that this Code shall apply to them or are otherwise subject to it.

2. Respect and human dignity

- 2.1 The respect of human rights and dignity is a fundamental requirement during all activities of the sport of bridge on a local, national and international level.
- 2.2 Discrimination of any kind is not permitted amongst the participants, with respect to race, sex, religion, ethnicity, philosophical or political belief, or family status.
- 2.3 Any violation of the physical or intellectual integrity of participants will not be tolerated. All doping at any level is absolutely prohibited. All points contained in the anti doping code of the WBF and the Olympic Movement are to be scrupulously observed.
- 2.4 Physical, moral, professional or sexual harassment is prohibited.
- 2.5 The WBF and its designated agents or committees ensure safe and appropriate conditions and provide players with good medical care for their physical and moral well-being. Special attention is given to youth contest programs, education and training and ensuring their overall health and safety.

3. Integrity of conduct

- 3.1 WBF members or their representatives are not permitted, directly or indirectly, to demand, accept or propose any kind of remuneration, commission, advantages, any obscure/unofficial favours, while involved in the organisation and conduct of official events or activities of the WBF.
- 3.2 Only tokens of consideration of friendship of nominal value in accordance with prevailing local customs, may be given or accepted by WBF representatives (officers, officials or people in charge for WBF events). Such tokens may not lead the impartiality and integrity of the WBF parties being called into question. All other form of token, object or benefit constitutes a gift which may not be accepted but must be passed on the organisation of which the beneficiary is a member.
- 3.3 The hospitality offered to WBF parties, as well as those accompanying them, may not exceed the normal standard of the host country.
- 3.4 During the conduct of their activities, WBF members are expected to display correct deportment, to declare any conflict of interest between the organisation of which he/she is a member and all other organizations with which the WBF has relationships. If a conflict should or could appear, the president of the WBF is to be informed.
- 3.5 The WBF representatives are to handle their responsibilities with diligence and care. They shall abstain from any false declarations and shall behave in a dignified and respectful manner. They demonstrate fairness in all sport activities and decisions which might affect the reputation of the WBF.
- 3.6 Members of the WBF authorities may not be linked to enterprises or persons whose activities are incompatible with the principles or the rules of the WBF and its Code.
- 3.7 The WBF members, officers, tournament directors, staff officials and participants of WBF events are not permitted to demonstrate undue pressure or influence the vote or the direction of decisions made in the WBF and especially must avoid any cooperation sought by influencing the work and evaluation of the tournament directors.

4. Integrity of competitions

- 4.1 The WBF parties shall commit to combat all forms of cheating and shall continue to undertake all the necessary measures to ensure the integrity of bridge competitions.
- 4.2 The WBF parties must respect the provision of the World Anti-Doping, the Olympic Movement Code on the Prevention of the Manipulation of Competitions and the WBF Disciplinary Code.
- 4.3 All forms of participation in, or support for betting related to the World Bridge Championships, and all forms of promotion of betting related to the World Bridge Championships are prohibited.
- 4.4 Participants in the World Bridge Championships must not, by any manner whatsoever, manipulate the course or result of a competition, or any part thereof, in a manner contrary to sporting ethics, infringe the principle of fair play or show unsporting conduct.

5. Good Governance and Financial Resources

- 5.1 The Basic Universal Principle of Good Governance, in particular transparency, responsibility and accountability must be respected by all WBF parties.
- 5.2 The WBF resources may only be used to support bridge aims and objectives as approved by decisions at the appropriate level of the WBF. The income and expenses of the WBF authorities and their designates must be documented according to sound accounting practices and be fully transparent.
- 5.3 The WBF members recognise the important contribution and involvement of television, sponsors, partners and other supporters of bridge activities required for the development of the sport of bridge. All supporters and partners have to abide by the rules of the WBF and the current Code. They cannot interfere or obstruct the organisation of events, which are exclusively the responsibility and competence of the WBF.
- 5.4 The organisers of official WBF events and WBF members must adhere to the respective guidelines, the statutes, the rules and regulations of the WBF and the national federation, and the decisions taken by the sports authorities at the various levels of hierarchy. They have to refuse all approaches made by any third party, or third party authority, to obtain financial gain or political influence which does not conform to the rules and agreements with the WBF.

6. Relations

- 6.1 The WBF maintains harmonious relations with business and sport organizations, event organisers and government authorities, by conforming to principles of universality and political neutrality. All organising groups must ensure that their country respects the statutes, the rules of the WBF and the current Code. The WBF and the organisers are to respect the agreement to conduct the activity in all its forms and to take decisions with the respective and appropriate sport institution.
- 6.2 The members of the WBF authorities are free to participate in public life of the state of which they are part. They should not conduct themselves publicly, nor proclaim an ideology which is contrary to the rules of the WBF and the current Code.
- 6.3 The members of the WBF authorities are responsible to safeguard the environment for all events which they organize by respecting all rules and norms.
- 6.4 The members of the WBF authorities are to be respectful of confidential information in which they share. Passing on any information should not give them any personal profit or advantage, and should not be used to harm the reputation of a person or an organisation.

7. Confidentiality

- 7.1 The principle of confidentiality shall be strictly respected by the WBF Disciplinary Organs in all their activities.
- 7.2 It must also be strictly respected by any person concerned by the activities of the WBF Disciplinary Organs.

8. Enforcement

- 8.1 All WBF members are expected to comply with the rules established by the WBF and the present Code and to implement a Code of Ethics reflecting the provisions of the present one *mutatis mutandis*, which shall apply in their sphere of activities, including their jurisdiction as per the WBF Statutes.
- 8.2 The WBF members are to inform the WBF Executive Council of any violation of the present Code and the rules of the WBF.
- 8.3 The WBF Executive Council will review the application of the approved Code every year. It identifies any contravention of the rules and imposes applicable sanctions

**Adopted by the WBF Management Committee on 18th June 2016 in Budapest
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