



World Bridge Federation

**Supplemental
Conditions of Contest
for the**

42nd World Bridge Teams Championships

The Bermuda Bowl

The Venice Cup

The d'Orsi Seniors Trophy

and

The 10th World Transnational Open Teams

Chennai, India

26th September – 10th October 2015

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1. Preamble

The Conditions of Contest herein set forth are supplemental to the General Conditions of Contest for World Bridge Championships, as issued by the World Bridge Federation and together form the set of Rules and Regulations governing the 2015 Bermuda Bowl and Venice Cup, the d'Orsi Seniors Trophy and the World Transnational Open Teams Championship to be played in Chennai, India from 26th September – 10th October 2015.

Note particularly the following sections of the General Condition of Contest:

Section 3 : Conditions of entry including eligibility regulations;

Section 5 : Ethics and Deportment;

Section 6 : Anti-Doping Regulations. Please also note that 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, then the Supplemental Conditions shall prevail.

2. Definitions

Expressions used in these Conditions of Contest and not defined shall have their ordinary meaning in the contract bridge terminology (which may include expressions defined in the International Code). In the event of any doubt or dispute as to such meaning, the decision of the Tournament Rules and Regulations Committee shall be final and conclusive. The singular shall include the plural and vice-versa and reference to one gender shall include the other gender

Unless repugnant to the context or obvious meaning, all terms defined in the General Conditions of Contest shall have the same meaning for the purpose of these Supplemental Conditions of Contest and, in addition, the following expressions where used in these Conditions of Contest shall have the following meanings:

2.1 "Bermuda Bowl, Venice Cup and d'Orsi Seniors Trophy"

means the 2015 World Bridge Championships, respectively for Open Teams, Women's Teams and Senior Teams, conducted under the auspices of the WBF from 26th September – 10th October in Chennai, India or at such other time and place as the WBF determines.

2.2 "General Conditions of Contest"

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

2.3 "Open" and "Closed" Rooms

for any match or segment or session of a match shall be those rooms so designated.

2.4 "Partnership Understandings"

for the interpretation of these Conditions of Contest any special partnership understanding is included in the terms "convention", "conventional call", "conventional play", "conventional agreement" or the like

2.5 "these Championships"

means the 2015 Bermuda Bowl, Venice Cup, d'Orsi Seniors Trophy and World Transnational Open Teams Championship and "championship event" means any of the events referred to.

2.6 "these Conditions of Contest"

means the within Supplemental Conditions of Contest for the 2015 Bermuda Bowl Venice Cup, d'Orsi Seniors Trophy and World Transnational Open Teams.

2.7 "World Transnational Open Teams Championship (WTOTC)"

means an open teams championship to be played simultaneously with the Bermuda Bowl, Venice Cup and d'Orsi Seniors Trophy starting on Sunday 4th October 2015 in Chennai, India or at such other time and place as the WBF determines.

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

See also Section 3 of the General Conditions of Contest.

3.1 Eligibility Requirements

The Credentials Committee must be satisfied that each contestant is nominated by the NBO that he will represent and that he/she completely fulfils the requirements of the WBF Eligibility Code.

Entries may be rejected if any NBO whose nominated contestants are submitted for invitation is in arrears in the payment of monies due to the WBF for annual dues or for entry fees to any WBF event (including non-championship events such as the Worldwide Bridge Contest).

No male shall be a playing member of or a substitute player 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

Each NBO, duly qualified in its Zone, shall be 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. Each Zone is requested to confirm its intention to hold a Zonal tournament in order to qualify the requisite number of teams for the Championships. As soon as such a tournament is finished the Zone is asked to inform the WBF President of the qualifying NBOs that will participate in the World Bridge Teams Championships in each of the three series. See Section 7.

3.2.2 Registration (all events)

All entries to the Championships **must be submitted by 15th June 2015**. They must be sent electronically via the WBF website (not by email). The pages will be available from 1st April 2015). It is very important that this deadline is respected.

Registration of players and NBO Delegation members **must be sent by 15th July 2015** via the WBF website (not by email). The registration pages will be available from 1st April 2015.

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 must be paid by bank transfer before on 1st July 2015 to:

Crédit Suisse SA, Rue du Lion d’Or 5-7, P.O.Box 5722, 1002 Lausanne, Switzerland
Account name World Bridge Federation
IBAN CH31 0483 5154 6496 9200 1
Account n° 0425-1546496-92-1
SWIFT CRESCHZZ80A
Clearing 4835

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 5th July 2015 are subject to an automatic arrearage penalty of US\$ 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 shall be or attain at least 60 years of age during the calendar year 2015.

3.5 Penalty for Non-Participation

In the event that a previously entered team in these Championships determines it is unable to participate, the WBF shall be notified at least 48 hours prior to the scheduled Captains’ meeting for these Championships. Failure to so notify the WBF of non-participation shall result in the imposition of a US\$ 1500 penalty, payable by the NBO and/or Zone which nominated the team; an additional disciplinary penalty may be assessed if the WBF deems appropriate.

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 Quarter-final of the Open, Women's or Senior Teams 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 one of the three main events, with players from these events added to the team, see section 26.

Registration of teams should be made before 1st September 2015 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). The registration pages will be available from 1st April 2015.

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. Players should note that 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 can be found, together with the required Exemption Form at www.worldbridge.org.

7. Participating Teams

The number of teams from each Zone invited to participate in the 2015 Bermuda Bowl, Venice Cup and d'Orsi Seniors Trophy is:

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

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

8. Types Of Contest

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

8.1.1 Round Robin

The competing teams (expected to number 22) shall play one complete round-robin, being 21 rounds of 16-board matches each played in one session. The Round Robin will start on Sunday 27th September, and finish on Saturday 3rd October. The eight teams with the highest Victory Points totals 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 shall be played on Sunday 4th and Monday 5th October as a knockout match of 96 boards, (three portions, each portion comprising two 16-board sessions), with IMP scoring. To determine the quarter-final matches, the procedure is the following: the first placed team freely chooses its quarter-final opponent from among the 5th 6th 7th and 8th placed teams; after the choice has been made, the second placed team chooses its quarter-final opponent among the remaining three teams (not chosen by the first); the same process is repeated for the third placed team and the fourth placed team will play against the team not chosen by any of the other three teams.

8.1.3 Semi Finals

The semi-finals shall be played on Tuesday 6th and Wednesday 7th October as a knockout match of 96 boards, (3 portions, each portion comprising two 16-board sessions), with IMP scoring. Subject to the requirement that two teams from the same Country (if qualified) shall meet in the semi-finals, the first placed team shall also choose among the matches involving the second, third and fourth placed teams, which one will produce the semi-final opponent of the winner of its own quarter-final match. This choice is to be made at the conclusion of the quarter final draw (before the quarter finals start). Hence the semi-final draw is decided by the first placed team prior to the quarter final stage and remains applicable even if the first place team then lose their quarter final match.

8.1.4 Final

In the Bermuda Bowl the winners of the semi-finals play the final on Thursday 8th, Friday 9th and Saturday 10th October as a knockout match of 128 boards (four portions, each portion comprising two 16-board sessions) while in the Venice Cup & d'Orsi Trophy the winners of the semi-finals play the final on Thursday 8th and Friday 9th October (three portions, each portion comprising two 16-board sessions), with IMP scoring.

8.1.5 Play Off

The losers of the semi-final in Bermuda Bowl will play a play-off of 96-board match (three 32-board portions), while the losers of the semi-final in Venice Cup & d'Orsi Trophy will play a play-off of 80-board match (five 16-board sessions) IMP scoring for the third place. This will be on Thursday 8th and Friday 9th October.

If one team resigns the right to play off for third place, it will automatically be placed in fourth place and will receive one-third of the Master Points awarded for that position and no placement points, their opponents being declared bronze medallists.

If both teams decide, by mutual agreement, not to play off for the third place, there will be no bronze medal awarded in 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 the 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 10.00 hours on Sunday 4th October.

The format will be Swiss teams, normally played as 10 board matches (5 per day) for 15 qualifying rounds (150 boards). The Quarter Final and Semi Final will be played as 48 board-matches (in 16 board segments), respectively on Wednesday 7th and Thursday 8th October. The Final will be played as an 80 board match (16 board segments) on Friday 9th and Saturday 10th October. The Play-off for 3rd place will be a 48 board match (in 16 board segments) on Friday 9th October.

If one team resigns the right to play off for third place, it will automatically be placed in fourth place and will receive one-third of the Master Points awarded for that position, their opponents being declared bronze medallists.

If both teams decide, by mutual agreement, not to play off for the third place, there will be no bronze medal 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 The Quarter Finals

If any team has clearly already won the Swiss before the end of the qualifying stage, or has clearly qualified for the KO stage and can neither improve upon nor worsen its position in the Swiss, then it will not be required to play any further matches in the Swiss.

To determine the quarter-final matches, the procedure is the following: the first placed team freely chooses its quarter-final opponent from among the 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th placed teams; after the choice has been made, the second placed team chooses its quarter-final opponent among the remaining three teams (not chosen by the first); the same process is repeated for the third placed team and the fourth placed team will play against the team not chosen by any of the other three teams.

8.2.3 The Semi Finals

The first placed team shall choose among the matches involving the second, third and fourth placed teams, which one will produce the semi-final opponent of the winner of its own quarter-final match. This choice is to be made at the conclusion of the quarter final draw (before the quarter finals start). Hence the semi-final draw is decided by the first placed team prior to the quarter final stage and remains applicable even if the first placed team then loses its quarter final match.

8.2.4 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 largest Swiss point score would win 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, 19.2 and 19.3.

In the knock-out phase, there will be an additional 4 boards – section 19.4 refers, but playing 4 additional boards instead of 8.

8.2.5 Drop-in Rules

Players from the eliminated teams in the Quarter-finals of the Open, Women and Seniors Championships may enter at round 11 of the World Open Teams Championships, in accordance with the following conditions:

- i) New teams arising from the losing teams of the quarter-finals (Open, Women, Seniors) may 'drop into' round 11 of the Transnational Open Teams Championship, provided that at least four of the registered players have played at least 1/3 of all the boards available to them in the combined 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 they will be charged for their participation in the Transnational Open Teams (see Section 26).

- iii) The 'drop in' teams will receive 120 Victory Points (10 matches x 12 VPs) and in Round 11 will be paired against the leading teams at that stage according to a random draw. Therefore, in this round only, the 'dropped in' teams cannot play against each other.
- iv) If, because of different numbers of entries or any other reason, the drop-in occurs in a round different to round 11 of the Transnational Open Teams, the number of Victory points mentioned in (3) above, will be adjusted accordingly.
- v) In case of 120 Teams or more, the pairings for the Knock Out phase of the World Transnational Open Teams Championship will be decided on site when the number of teams and the qualification criteria is known; the information will be published in the Daily Bulletins.

9. Carry Over

There will be a carry-over in all matches of the knockout phase. The carry over will be half or one-third of the IMP difference in the meeting of the teams in the qualification phase. It will be half if the highest ranked team in the qualification phase won the match against their opponents and one-third if the highest ranked team in the round lost the match to its knock out opponent.

The maximum carryover used in any event will be:

- 8 for a 32 board match
- 12 for a 48 board match
- 14 for an 80 board match
- 16 for a 96 board match
- 20 for a 128 board match

In the case of the World Transnational Open Teams, if one or more quarter-final matches does not have a carry-over then no carry-over will be applied to any quarter-final matches. Likewise, if one semi-final has a carry over, but the other does not, then no carry over will be applied to either match.

10. The Draw

The draw will be publicised to all NBOs as soon as all the teams are known and the final draw has been made. It will also be published on the websites detailed in Section 28.2.

11. The Schedule of Play

The schedule of play will be published on the WBF 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) shall be converted into VP, according to the official WBF conversion scales (see Section 0).

13. Time Schedule

The detailed time schedule will be published in the Programme on site but the provisional schedule is as follows:

The Bermuda Bowl, Venice Cup, d'Orsi Senior Bowl Matches will normally start at 11.00, 14.30 and 17.10.

For the World Transnational Open Teams the Swiss Matches will start at 10.00, 11.50, 14.00, 15.50 and 17.40. The KO Matches will have the same time-schedule of the Bermuda Bowl, Venice Cup, d'Orsi Senior Bowl Matches.

14. Regulations for Electronic Line-Ups

The Line-ups must be submitted electronically in accordance with the details below. Failure of a captain to submit his line-up in a timely fashion shall result in fines according to Section 22.2.

The line-ups during the round robin must 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 be given in accordance with the decision taken in 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, where the teams will Line-Up. However, each team will have its own dedicated page, with a password, in the wireless LAN set by the organization. Therefore, team captains with their own laptops would be able to use them, using their own password.

The time of the Line-Up will be recorded automatically by the system, and penalties for late line-ups will be mandatory accordingly. An official clock will be set in the playing area for the purpose of showing the official time.

If a partnership that has not registered a specific Convention Card is to play, they should indicate on the line-up form which of the registered Convention Cards 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 will be seeded by draw; draws will be made on a random basis with the only restriction that minor changes can be made in the designations, in order to ensure that teams of the same Country meet in the early rounds.

15.2 Responsibility for the Draw

The draw will be made under the direction of the WBF Management Committee. The team numbers and, by consequence, the sequence of the matches will be published on the WBF Website at www.worldbridge.org. The Tournament Rules and Regulations Committee has the authority to make some changes in the numbers of the teams (and as a consequence in the sequence of play) if required by occurrences after the draw has been announced.

15.3 Seating Rights

In a match divided into portions the team with the seating rights in the first session of a portion sits NS in the open room during that portion.

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:

15.3.1 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 NS 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.

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

There shall be a coin toss to determine the seating rights in all quarter-final, semi-final, final and play off matches.

The winner of the toss elects in which session (of which portion) it wants to have the seating rights; the opponents then automatically have seating rights in the other session (of that portion). The right to choose a session first within any given portion alternates for the remaining choices during any one of the 32-board (or 16 board sessions where applicable) portions of the match.

15.4 Tie-breaks

Subject to the over-riding provisions of Section 17.10, if there is a tie at the end of the quarter-finals, semi-finals, or the finals, requiring that an extra session of boards be played, there shall be a draw by the captains to determine the seating rights. If, after the first series of additional boards, a tie still exists, the seating rights pass to the opposing team for the next eight boards. Line-up changes may be made before play begins for either the first or second (if needed) group of eight tie-break boards. In each case, the captain of the team without seating rights shall submit its line-up at a time to be determined by the Tournament Director, the opposing team captain within five minutes thereafter. Each group of eight "extra" boards shall be considered as a separate session. If a tie still exists, requiring that single board "sudden death" matches be played, the line-ups and seating positions for both teams will be the same as for the second eight boards of the tie-break.

Important

In all cases, teams that include partnerships using HUM Systems are subject to the rules and regulations of the WBF System Policy (see also Section 17.10).

16. Change of Players

A change of players, pairs or partnerships can be made only at the beginning of a match or a session (but see exception in Section 19 when extra tie-break boards are played).

17. Disclosure of Systems and Conventions

17.1 WBF Systems Policy

The WBF Systems Policy forms part of these Conditions of Contest. The Bermuda Bowl and Venice Cup (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 and the World Transnational Open Teams are Category 3 events, thus no HUM or Brown Sticker systems are permitted at any stage. If a pair in the Bermuda Bowl or Venice Cup is found to have used any such convention not listed on its Convention Card, it will be given a disciplinary penalty of up to two VPs deducted from the team's score. In addition, the Tournament Director gives an adjusted score if he deems that the opponents are damaged by the use of such an unknown convention.

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

If the pair re-offends in this way they will not be allowed to play in partnership for the rest of the event. The same penalties will apply to pairs in the d'Orsi Seniors Trophy and the WTOTC and, in addition, such penalties will be applied should any pair in either of these events be found to have used a Brown Sticker Convention.

17.2 General Regulations

During the Round Robin of the Bermuda Bowl and Venice Cup HUM systems and Brown Sticker Conventions will be prohibited.

HUM Systems and Brown Sticker Conventions will be authorized for use in the Knock Out stages in both the Bermuda Bowl and Venice Cup but not for the d'Orsi Seniors Trophy and only provided additional, separate convention cards, including separate forms for each Brown Sticker Convention to be played, together with viable proposed defences are submitted in full accordance with the regulations below.

Each pair is permitted to register and play a maximum of 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 the convention cards for his team are sent, by email to the WBF Systems Administrator as soon as possible, but in any event before 15th July 2015. The Systems for every partnership that will play in these Championships must be described on the official WBF Convention Card, completed in accordance with the Guide to Completion, plus Supplementary Sheets, as necessary to describe conventional sequences in detail, together with Brown Sticker Forms as appropriate. Programs for the preparation of the Cards and Supplementary sheets are listed in Section 17.3.1.

Penalties for failure to submit Convention Cards and Supplementary in time are (in addition to Section 17.3.2) are specified in section 22.1.

17.3.1 Programs permitted for the preparation of Convention Cards

The Convention Cards may be prepared using any of the following programs:

- Microsoft Word (a blank template is available from www.worldbridge.org or www.ecatsbridge.com);
- Microsoft Excel (a blank template is available from www.worldbridge.org or www.ecatsbridge.com);
- 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. In either case the ORIGINAL files must be submitted, and not PDF or bitmaps, jpgs or scans.
- **NOTE:** Pairs submitting Brown Sticker Systems for use in the KO stages MUST use the special forms which can be obtained from www.worldbridge.org, www.ecatsbridge.com or by email from anna@worldbridgefed.com.

If using Word or Excel formats, the Convention Card may also be sent in Acrobat (PDF) Format PROVIDED the file size is small and provided the font used is properly embedded within the file. Picture formats (.jpg, .bmp etc) will not be accepted, nor will pdf files created from scanned documents.

Players are responsible for ensuring that the formatting is such that all the information lies within the printable area of the page.

On receipt of the cards, the Systems Administrator will, if necessary, convert the format to PDF files which can be read and printed using Acrobat Reader which is available as a free download from www.adobe.com. It is advised that the latest version should be obtained.

Following registration of the systems for all pairs in a team, the systems will be displayed on a web site designed for the purpose, and the URL (Internet address) will be sent by email to the captain of the team and to the individual team members providing their email address have been advised to the Systems Administrator.

Pairs are responsible for checking their own convention cards on line, to ensure that the card displayed is complete, correct and has any supplementary notes that are required.

Following the event, the WBF reserves the right to display the Convention Cards and Supplementary Sheets in a public area for interested parties to see them. If a full system is submitted, this will not be included on such pages of the site.

17.3.2 Convention Cards not received in due time

Any partnership whose duly completed original Card and Supplementary Sheets have not reached the WBF Systems Administrator by 15th July may, in addition to the penalties referred to in section 22.1, be required by the Systems Committee (unless it rules otherwise) to use the system described on the World Standard Card for not less than the first two days of play. 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 www.worldbridge.org.

17.3.3 Contact Information

Should captains have any queries concerning the systems provided by other teams, they should email the WBF Systems Administrator – anna.gudge@worldbridgefed.com – who will forward them to the appropriate person for response.

The fact that Cards and Supplementary Sheets are circulated by the WBF (see 17.3) does not mean that the WBF has considered such Cards as completely acceptable; systems although accepted as registered, may require amendments after being circulated.

17.4 Supplementary Sheets

Where a conventional sequence cannot be described adequately in the space provided on the WBF Convention Card, a reference number should be placed at the appropriate place on the Card; a Supplementary Sheet bearing that reference number, and containing the complete explanation must be submitted along with the Card.

17.5 Changes to Cards/Supplementary Sheets

- a) Any changes to the duly submitted (as per section 17.3) Card and/or Supplementary Sheets must be submitted in official form (see (e) below) as early as possible for everyone's benefit, but in any event no later than 10th August 2015. These changes may only be clarifications, amendments, minor additions, and/or cosmetic revisions in accordance with the WBF Systems Policy. NOTE THAT 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 his nominee(s).
- c) In order for a change to be implemented, it will be uploaded to the website and an email sent to all captains to inform them that the Convention Card has been altered. Any essential changes (for example caused by the necessary change to a partnership as a result of withdrawal of a player) made to Convention Cards up to 2 weeks prior to the event will be relayed to all Captains by email. If such change is made after that time, the information will be made available to the Captains at the Captains' Meeting or by email – it will be assumed that at least one member of each team will be accessing his or her emails on site.
- d) Approval for a change requested once teams have reached the venue may be given or refused in whole or part by the Chairman of the WBF Systems Committee and may be given subject to conditions. One such condition will usually be that any such change cannot be implemented in the course of a particular round robin or in the course of a particular stage of the event, with possible prejudice to unprepared opponents being a particularly important negative factor. Clarifications and improvements to presentation will not be considered as substantive changes.
- e) Official format for changes:
 - i) The new Convention Card/Supplementary Sheet that reflects the proposed change.
 - ii) A separate text document describing completely the proposed change and referring to the place(s) on the new pages where they can be found and any cross-references to Supplementary Sheet notes.

17.6 Special Responsibility for BROWN STICKER Systems and Conventions

Pairs wishing to play Brown Sticker conventions (maximum of three per pair) in the Knock Out Stages must register a separate card together with the relevant forms at the same time as they register their card for the Round Robin (i.e. by 15th July 2015).

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 Overcall forms which are available in Word Format for download from www.worldbridge.org or by email from anna@worldbridgefed.com. If these submissions are inadequate, or a defence is not proposed, the pair may be barred from using those methods for the entire tournament.

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

These penalties are quite severe, but with the duly executed distribution of these Conditions and all significant materials by the WBF, no pair will be permitted to claim ignorance of this special responsibility. 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 Stickers 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 be awarded seating rights if they are playing against a pair or pairs using two or more BS Conventions but not if both teams have a pair using 2 BS 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 shall send a full copy of any HUM System in English, together with the Convention Card and Supplementary Sheets, to the WBF Systems Administrator by 15th July 2015.

Failure to comply with this regulation or poor presentation of the System may result in such pair or pairs not being permitted to use the HUM System, as the Systems Committee shall in its discretion determine.

Furthermore, it is obligatory that a full printed copy of a HUM System, in English, also be filed at the Convention Card Desk, at the Championship site, by the time of the Captains' meeting at the start of the tournament.

17.10 Regulations for Pairs using HUM Systems

If a team includes any pair using a HUM System, it will be subject to the following regulations:

The pairs using HUM Systems should be available at least 15 minutes before the scheduled beginning of matches or sessions, to supply any information and clarification that may be requested by the opponents.

When a team that includes a pair using a HUM System (whether or not such pair will play) is opposing a team that has no such pair, the HUM System team will always be the Visiting Team. No special seating rights or line-up restrictions shall apply when two teams containing pairs using HUM Systems (regardless of line-up) oppose one another.

The team opposing a team which includes one or more pairs using a HUM System will submit three copies (clearly legible) of their defences (if any) to the HUM System in writing, at least 30 minutes before the scheduled line-up time for the match; these defences shall be filed at the Convention Card Desk and supplied by the captain to the captain of the opposing team. In preparing these defences pairs using Green, Blue or Red Systems are allowed to 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 WTOTC

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 for the convenience of other players may do so by sending them to anna.gudge@worldbridgefed.com.

Please ensure that they are clearly marked as being for the Transnational Open Teams and that email addresses for as many team members as possible are supplied to the WBF Systems Administrator in order to facilitate communication.

18. Length of Matches

Each 16-board match or session of a match is to be completed within two hours and twenty minutes; 2 hours 50 minutes for a 20 board match; 1 hour 30 minutes per 10-board match; 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 because of the use of bidding boxes, screens, discussions of systems or for other similar reasons. Vu-Graph presentation for any match or session will not start until The Tournament Director so decides.

19. Tie-Breaking Procedures

19.1 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.
- f) For the WTOT: see paragraph 8.2.4.

19.2 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:

- a) 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:
- b) 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:
- c) 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:
- d) 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.
- e) For the WTOT: see paragraph 8.2.4.

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

- a) 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:
- b) 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:
- c) 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:
- d) One-board ("sudden death") matches will determine the winner.

19.3 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:

- a) 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 19.2 if appropriate. If there are more than three teams that remain tied after use of IMP quotients, then:
- b) 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 19.2, if appropriate. If there are more than three teams that remain tied, then:
- c) 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 19.2 if appropriate. If there are more than three teams that remain tied after the application of total points quotient, then:
- d) One-board ("sudden death") matches will determine the winner.
- e) For the WTOT: see paragraph 8.2.4.

19.4 Quarter-Finals, Semi-Finals and Finals

In the quarter-finals, semi-finals, and finals, if a tie exists at the end of the match, it will be resolved by playing eight additional boards. (For line-ups see section 14). Should a tie still exist, eight more boards will be played. If a tie still exists, one-board ("sudden death") matches will determine the winner.

In the World Transnational Open Teams, four additional boards shall be played; if a tie still exists, four more boards will be played. If a tie still exists, one-board ("sudden death") matches will determine 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 11th match: all previous results of such team are cancelled;
- b) if this happens from the 12th 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 (Walk Over), the other team being declared winner. The loser will receive zero VP and the winner shall receive the average (at the end of the round robin) of its VP or the average (at the end of the round robin) of the VP 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 to the forfeited 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 shall be paid in Dollars. Monies assessed shall be turned over to the 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, shall be deducted from the score of the offending team at the conclusion of the Round-Robin. The VP penalties shall not affect individual matches for purposes of tie-breaking procedures in any manner, but may determine a team's ranking and affect carry-over.

Penalties assessed in IMPs shall be deducted from the score of the offending team at the conclusion of the match during which the penalty was imposed, before its VP score is calculated. However the score of the non-offending team shall not be 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 shall (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 unless and until 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\$ 200 to be paid prior to the commencement of the Tournament.

22.2 Failure to Submit Line-up on Time

If a Captain fails to submit line-ups in accordance with the Regulations:

- a) for the first such offence a warning shall be issued by the Tournament Director;
- b) for the second offence there shall be a fine of US\$ 75;
- c) for the third offence there shall be a fine of US\$ 150 and for each subsequent offence there shall be a fine of US\$ 250. Penalties are cumulative.

Failure in payment will result in disqualification of the team

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 shall be imposed only on the captain of the team whose duty it was to file line-up first. The captain of the other team shall have five minutes after the filing by the offending team's line-up to file his own. If, after filing of the line-up by the offending team, the captain of the non-offending team exceeds the filing deadline, or the extra five minutes allocated in the foregoing, whichever is later, this captain too is deemed guilty of late line-up filing and is subject to penalty under this Section.

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 Walk-Over. 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 Knock Out phase are considered to be separate events. Thus any late arrival warnings issued during the Round Robin are not carried over into the Knock Out phase.

22.4 Slow Play

The time allowed for each match or session shall be computed from the time play in such match or session is started by a Tournament Director. If play continues after the time allowed by Section 18 of these Conditions then either or both of the pairs shall be subject to penalty, according to the amount of delay for which such pair was judged responsible, 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 shall be truncated, reducing the number of boards played; if this happens the match will be scored only with the boards played at both tables, but the same conversion scale will be used as that used for the complete matches. At the discretion of the Head Tournament Director this may include recommendation of forfeit of 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. In any case if the Tournament Director judges that one match will be so delayed that it would disturb the starting time of the next round, he may truncate it, reducing the number of the boards played: if this happens the match will be scored only with the boards played at both tables, but the same conversion scale will be used as that used for the complete matches.

22.4.2 Excess time apportioned to a pair during the Quarter-finals, Semi-finals and Finals:

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 shall be truncated, reducing the number of boards played. 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 shall determine responsibility for slow play. A partnership which considers its opponents are playing slowly shall inform the Tournament Director who may appoint a monitor if he thinks it is necessary; the partnership is only protected from the time at which 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 can be determined that one side is clearly at fault that side shall be subject to procedural penalty.

23. Recording of Matches and Verification of Scores

Bridgemates will be used for the official recording of the bidding, play and scores throughout the Championships. This recording is the responsibility of the team sitting North/South at each table. (This does not apply to the WTOT) The N/S pair at each table will be responsible for the keying of the bidding, play and scores into the Bridgemates, whether this is undertaken by a member of the partnership or by the Captain, Coach or other designated person. The E/W pair (or their Captain, Coach or other designated person) will be responsible for agreeing the score by keying in their confirmation.

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

Players and Captains are reminded that they are responsible for the accuracy of their own scores.

The correction period in Law 79C expires at the time specified in Section 23.1; 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.

23.1 Score Corrections

Score corrections may be made as sanctioned in Law 79 and in Laws 69 and 71, 63 and 64.

An agreed-upon score that is proven to be 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 the regulations for use of this system will be published in due course.

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 go to:

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

IMPS	No. Boards		IMPS	No. Boards	
	10	16		10	16
0	10.00	10.00	30	17.84	16.73
1	10.39	10.31	31	18.00	16.88
2	10.77	10.61	32	18.15	17.03
3	11.14	10.91	33	18.30	17.17
4	11.50	11.20	34	18.44	17.31
5	11.85	11.48	35	18.58	17.45
6	12.18	11.76	36	18.71	17.59
7	12.51	12.03	37	18.84	17.72
8	12.83	12.29	38	18.97	17.85
9	13.14	12.55	39	19.10	17.97
10	13.43	12.80	40	19.22	18.09
11	13.72	13.04	41	19.33	18.21
12	14.00	13.28	42	19.44	18.33
13	14.28	13.52	43	19.55	18.44
14	14.54	13.75	44	19.66	18.55
15	14.80	13.97	45	19.76	18.66
16	15.05	14.18	46	19.86	18.77
17	15.29	14.39	47	19.96	18.87
18	15.52	14.60	48	20.00	18.97
19	15.75	14.80	49		19.07
20	15.97	15.00	50		19.16
21	16.18	15.19	51		19.25
22	16.39	15.38	52		19.34
23	16.59	15.56	53		19.43
24	16.78	15.74	54		19.52
25	16.97	15.92	55		19.61
26	17.16	16.09	56		19.69
27	17.34	16.26	57		19.77
28	17.51	16.42	58		19.85
29	17.68	16.58	59		19.93
			60		20.00

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 *WBF Secretary:*

Mr Simon Fellus
Email: simon.fellus@worldbridgefed.com

28.4 *Assistant to the President:*

Mrs Marina Madia
Email: marina.madia@worldbridgefed.com

28.5 *Treasurer:*

Mr Marc de Pauw
Email: demanco@pandora.be

28.6 *Systems:*

Mrs Anna Gudge
Email: anna.gudge@worldbridgefed.com

28.7 *Official Websites:*

The WBF Website:
www.worldbridge.org

The Website of the Olympic Movement:
www.olympic.org

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