



"Bridge for Peace"

**Gilad Ofir**

Youth Bridge Development Coordinator

To the  
WBF Zonal Presidents  
NBOs Presidents

c/c WBF President  
Executive Council Members  
WBF Youth Committee Chairman & Members  
WBF Kids Committee Chairman & Members  
WBF Communications Manager  
WBF Secretariat

Their e-mail addresses

Lausanne, 14<sup>th</sup> December 2019

Dear President and Friends,

We are very pleased to invite you to participate in this new exciting, fun and challenging WBF competition for Youth which will be held on BBO site (Bridge Base Online).

**3<sup>rd</sup> WBF Online YOUTH TEAMS League (February – July, 2020)**

Update

**A. Format of the Championship**

1. The Championship consists of **three** Series: Juniors (U26), Kids (U16), **NEW** - Girls (U26)
2. U26: All series will be played as a League & Draw tournament, each with a 7-round qualification stage.
3. At the end of the qualification stage, the leading 8 teams (Or 4 if there are 2 groups) in each series will qualify for the knock-out stages.
4. It is possible for a player to play in **more than one** category. For example, every girl who register for the Girls category can register also to the U16/U26.

**B. Timetable**

**End of registration**

**Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> January 2020**

- ✓ Start of the first round – Sunday, 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2020.
- ✓ Detailed match schedule - Appendix B.
- ✓ End of the tournament – Tuesday, 14<sup>th</sup> June 2020.



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### C. Format – Short Guidelines U26

#### a. **Premier League – 2 Groups** of 8 teams **based on YOL 2019 final ranking (Appendix A)**

##### For each Group

- i. League - Full round robin (7 rounds).
- ii. Rank 1-2 → **Semi Final**: 1<sup>st</sup> (A) Vs. 2<sup>nd</sup> (B), 1<sup>st</sup> (B) Vs. 2<sup>nd</sup> (A)
- iii. Rank 3-4 → Stay in the Premier League for YOL 2021.
- iv. Rank 5-6 (A) → **Playout**: Every match winner stays in the Premier league.
  1. 5<sup>th</sup> (A) Vs. 4<sup>th</sup> (A, 1<sup>st</sup> Division)
  2. 6<sup>th</sup> (A) Vs. 3<sup>rd</sup> (A, 1<sup>st</sup> Division)
- v. Rank 5-6 (B) → **Playout**: Every match winner stays in the Premier league.
  3. 5<sup>th</sup> (B, Premier League) Vs. 4<sup>th</sup> (B, 1<sup>st</sup> Division)
  4. 6<sup>th</sup> (B, Premier League) Vs. 3<sup>rd</sup> (B, 1<sup>st</sup> Division)
- vi. Rank 7-8 → **Drop** to 1<sup>st</sup> Division.

#### b. **First Division – 2 Groups** of Equal teams (as much as possible)

##### For each Group

- i. League - Full round robin if possible (7 rounds).
- ii. Rank 1-2 → **Qualify** to the Premier League.
- iii. Rank 3-4 (A/B) → **Playout** Vs. Premier league teams: As written above.
- iv. Rest → Stay in 1<sup>st</sup> Division.
- v. Last 2 teams → **Drop** if there will be no place for 2021.

### D. Format – Short Guidelines U16

#### a. **Premier League – 1 Group** of 8 teams **based on YOL 2019 final ranking (Appendix A)**

##### For each Group

- i. League - Full round robin (7 rounds).
- ii. Rank 1-4 → **Semi Final**: 1<sup>st</sup> Vs. 4<sup>th</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vs. 3<sup>rd</sup>.
- iii. Rank 5-6 → **Playout**: Every match winner stays in the Premier league.
  1. 5<sup>th</sup> Vs. 4<sup>th</sup> (1<sup>st</sup> Division)
  2. 6<sup>th</sup> Vs. 3<sup>rd</sup> (1<sup>st</sup> Division)
- iv. Rank 7-8 → **Drop** to the 1<sup>st</sup> Division.

**Section F defines the number of boards for each stage.**

Update

**b. First Division – 1 Group**

- i. League - Full round robin (7 rounds).
- ii. Rank 1-2 → Qualify to the Premier League.
- iii. Rank 3-4 → Playoff Vs. Premier league teams: As written above.
- iv. Rest → Stay in 1<sup>st</sup> Division.
- v. Last 2 teams → Drop if there will be no place for 2021.

Update

**E. Format – Short Guidelines Girls U26 (New = First year)**

**a. Premier League – 1 Group** of up to 13 teams.

- i. League - Full round robin if possible (7 rounds).
- ii. Rank 1-4 → Semi Final: 1<sup>st</sup> Vs. 4<sup>th</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vs. 3<sup>rd</sup>.
- iii. Rank 4+ → Stay in the league.

**F. Number of boards**

- **League Stage:** One segment of 14 Boards.
  - Must be played in a row.
  - **Can split** to 7 boards and the pairs can be changed (15 minutes break between segments).
- **Semi-final:** 2 segments of 14 boards.
  - Each segment can be played on a different day.
  - Can't split to 7 boards segment.
  - Can't replace pairs in the middle of each segment.
- **Final:** 3 Segments of 14 boards.
  - Each segment can be played on a different day.
  - Can't split to 7 boards segment.
  - Can't replace pairs in the middle of each segment.

**G. Right to enter**

1. Every NBO in good standing can register one team for each Series.
2. Each team **must** include **between 4-10** players and a Non-playing captain.
3. Registered Coach is optional.
4. **New players Can be added after the tournament has started until the beginning of the last round of the Qualification stage. You should inform the organizer.**

**Important:** Each participating member NBO must play against all other participating member NBOs. Entry and subsequent refusal to play will result in disqualification.



Each player in the **Junior/Girls (U26)** Series must have been born **on or after 1<sup>st</sup> January 1995** and those in the **Kids (U16)** Series must have been born **on or after 1<sup>st</sup> January 2005.**

#### H. Entry Fees

There are **NO Entry fees** for either Series.

#### I. Registration of Teams

Entries to the Championships must be submitted **by email no later than 20<sup>th</sup> January, 2020** By Filling the attached registration Form. The email **MUST** include:

1. Registration Form.
2. Disclaimer.
3. Photos.
4. CC's.

**Please Fill all the details inside the Excel File and send it to [Gilad.Ofir@worldbridgefed.com](mailto:Gilad.Ofir@worldbridgefed.com)**

#### J. Players' Details

Registration of players, non-playing captains and coaches **must be done using the entry Form.**

**Changes to those details may be made no later than 20<sup>th</sup> January 2020** (via Filling another Form).

##### Details required:

Each NBO must supply the following details for each team member Including captain and coach:

- Given (first) Name and Family Name (surname) & Nationality
- BBO Nickname
- **WBF Code** – If you don't have it please mention that and I'll send you a WBF separate form to register.
- Email address (**Optional For players**)
- A photograph of each participants (Hand and shoulders in good resolution please)
- **Disclaimer for Age limitation** – The NBO can provide an official disclaimer that all the players eligible to play according to the age limitation mentions in Section D.

Update

#### K. CC'S

1. The CC's will be sent and uploaded to the site before the tournament starts. The file should be in PDF Format with the filename being the Last names of both players (e.g hamman\_wolff.pdf).
2. Any unusual agreement should be alerted during the match.
3. Please pre-alert before the match started if needed.
4. You are kindly asked to send me your pairs' CC in WBF Format (The file name should be the pairs' name).
5. **Format of CC:** <http://www.worldbridge.org/rules-regulations/competitions/wbf-convention-card-editors/>

#### L. Format – General Conditions

1. **The exact format of the contest will be determined after the registration ends** depending on the number of entered teams.
2. No Carry Over for knockout stages.
3. **Kibitzers are allowed through all stages.**

#### M. Qualifications Stage Format

##### 1. 1<sup>st</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> rounds of the League

- The draw of **all rounds** will be published in advanced in order to help you arrange your match in good time.
- You can't play against team that you have already played against except for the last round.
- This will be a "Blind Draw" using "Num Generator" Application. If there this draws a match between teams that have played already, the draw will continue till the end, then new draw will be set for these "problematic" matches.

##### 2. Sit-Out

- The sit-out team will get a result of 12 V.P and could get their V.P's Average (if better) which will be calculate only after the qualification stage has ended.
- Team can't be Sit-out twice.

3. If there is a failure to set or play a match in the Qualification stage, both teams will get 10:10 (AVG) and a 2 V.P's fine.



## **N. Match Arrangements**

### **1. Arranging the individual Matches:**

- After the next round is published, both NPC's should contact each other and try to agree on a date and time **(in GMT Time Zone)**. Then both should register it using the Schedule Form.
- In each match there **MUST** be a Registered Captain / Coach in each table. The captain will kibitz the table with his team pair sitting N-S.
- All matches will be played using computers, not mobile Phones.
- It is forbidden for a pair to play from only one location. Each player should play from a different location.
- The results during the playing time will be hidden, using the relevant BBO feature.
- Every round must be played during the specified period as detailed in Appendix A.
- Both captains will report the final result together with the BBO link using the Results Form after the end of the match and no later than 10 a.m. on the last Thursday of the relevant period for that round.
- **Knock-out** stages' segments should be played one after another. The pairs playing may be changed between each segment.

### **2. Playing Platform: BBO.**

### **3. Skype, Messenger or similar and communication**

- Cameras (Laptop or external) will be used to increase the "secure environment", **starting from the 1<sup>st</sup> round of the league.**
- N-E and S-W will share a skype video screen through the match.
- Using phones OR any other communication measures during playing is strictly prohibited.
- During the game the players shouldn't use any communicating software. They might use their phones only in case of disconnect and only for contacting their NPC/Coach.
- The NPC's and the Coaches can and should use their phones for dealing with any connectivity issues.
- NPC and COACHES must ensure the right and correct running of the matches.

### **4. Results will be published at <http://youth.worldbridge.org/>**



## O. **BBO**

### 1. Setting up the match in BBO

- **The NPC of the home team** is in charge to set-up the match with all parameters which are needed. The other NPC should help and support.
- The information about which players who are going to play should be exchanged between the Captains before the match Including their CC (If not at the Site).

### 2. BBO Parameters:

- Use - random deals.
- Uncheck - Barometer Scoring
- Uncheck - Allow undo requests, (No Undo's).
- Check - Allow Kibitzers.

### 3. TD's and Ruling:

- If there is a "Ruling situation" the NPCs will try to solve it between them.
- If not possible, the next step will be to send me an email after the game over with all the details.
- The decision taken by the organizers will be final.
- Using TD's in the KO stages matches will be examined.

### 4. Disconnections

- If a player is disconnected for any reason and is unable to re-join the match within 15 minutes, the match is terminated unless the NPC's of both teams agree to wait longer.
- The NPC of the player who were disconnected should contact him directly and make all the efforts to continue the match.
- If 7 or more boards have been compared then the result of the match is official, otherwise the complete match has to be rescheduled, playing ALL boards from the beginning.
- If the match can't be rescheduled, there will be artificial score of 12:8 V.P in favour of the teams which was not guilty.

## P. **Rules & Regulations – Systems Policy**

The Rules & Regulations, including the Disciplinary Code, will be published, together with the Systems Policy, on the WBF youth website at <http://youth.worldbridge.org/>



**Q. Fair Play Policy**

1. Every team must finish the tournament even if they no chance of winning.
2. Zero Tolerance – We may using the BBO "checking results probability" system.
3. Every contravention of the rules will be handled under the WBF Regulations.

**R. Medals**

Medals will be awarded for the winning and second-placed team in the premier leagues of each series.

**S. Further Information**

1. Updates and results will be also posted through our official Facebook Group, please advise your players to join:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/262145427646602/>

2. Further detailed information will be sent with a successive Information Letter to the Federations of the qualified teams as soon as their entries have been sent in accordance with the details above.

I'm available for any questions through the following email address:

[Gilad.Ofir@worldbridgefed.com](mailto:Gilad.Ofir@worldbridgefed.com)

I am sure I can rely on your support and cooperation and thanking you in advance,

Yours sincerely,

Gilad Ofir

Youth bridge development coordinator

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gilad Ofir". The signature is written in a cursive style and is underlined with a single horizontal stroke.



## Premier Leagues Groups for YOL 2020 – Appendix A



**Change:** In order to make the match organization clearer, the full draw except the last round will be published at the beginning of the event, the last round will be played in Swiss system.

- ✓ The Teams below has the rights to play at the premier league in each category
- ✓ U26 - First 16 teams of YOL 2019 will play Group A&B. **Other teams** will play at the 1<sup>st</sup> division.
- ✓ U16 - First 8 teams of YOL 2019 will play the Premier league. **Other teams** will play at the 1<sup>st</sup> division.
- ✓ If Team from 2019 won't register for the Premier League, the next ranked team of 2019 will take her place.
- ✓ Girls – Open registration.

Rank	U26 (Group A + B)	U16
1	USA	Poland
2	France	France
3	China	Norway
4	Israel	Turkey
5	Bulgaria	England
6	Portugal	China
7	New Zealand	USA
8	Italy	Israel
9	Slovakia	
10	Turkey	
11	England	
12	Denmark	
13	Canada	
14	Indonesia	
15	Norway	
16	Croatia	



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## Championship Schedule – Appendix B

Update

**Change:** In order to make the match organization clearer, the full draw except the last round will be published at the beginning of the event, the last round will be played in Swiss system.

1<sup>st</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> rounds Schedule will be published on: **26/1/20**

Latest time for Captains to inform the organiser of their **1<sup>st</sup>** match date and time: up to 30/1/20

**Round 1 playing time frame:** 2/2/20 – 13/2/20

Latest time for Captains to inform the organiser of their **2<sup>nd</sup>** match date and time: 13/2/20

**Round 2 playing time frame:** 16/2/20 – 27/2/20

Latest time for Captains to inform the organiser of their **3<sup>rd</sup>** match date and time: 27/2/20

**Round 3 playing time frame:** 1/3/20 – 12/3/20

Latest time for Captains to inform the organiser of their **4<sup>th</sup>** match date and time: 12/3/20

**Round 4 playing time frame:** 15/3/20 – 26/3/20

Latest time for Captains to inform the organiser of their **5<sup>th</sup>** match date and time: 26/3/20

**Round 5 playing time frame:** 29/3/20 – 9/4/20

Latest time for Captains to inform the organiser of their **6<sup>th</sup>** match date and time: 9/4/20

**Round 6 playing time frame:** 12/4/20 – 23/4/20

Latest time for Captains to inform the organiser of their **7<sup>th</sup>** match date and time: 23/4/20

**Round 7 playing time frame:** 26/4/20 – 7/5/20

**Semi-Final and Payout** are known and its according to the team final position.

Latest time for Captains to inform the organiser of their **Semi-Final / Payout** match date and time: 12/5/20

**Semi-final & Payout playing time frame:** 13/5/20 – 23/5/20

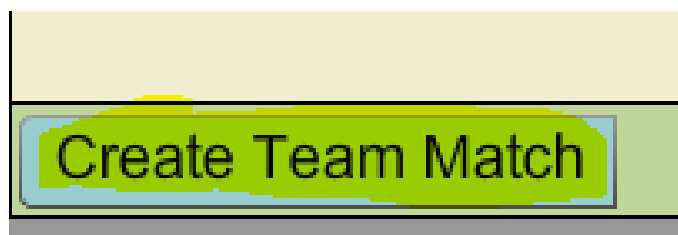
Latest time for Captains to inform the organiser of their **Final** match date and time: 28/5/20

**Final playing time frame:** 31/5/20 – 14/6/20



## BBO Settings – Appendix C

Here you can find screenshots which will help you to set up a match. You are free to arrange it in a different way if it follows the regulations that were mentioned before.





Please pay attention to fill the following fields in the following screenshot. If all the players are currently online – you would be able to **Reserve Seats**, if not you'll need to create the match then let the players join you. In the next screenshot (after you create the match) you'll be able to define the NPC/Coach of the other team as director so they could join the table.

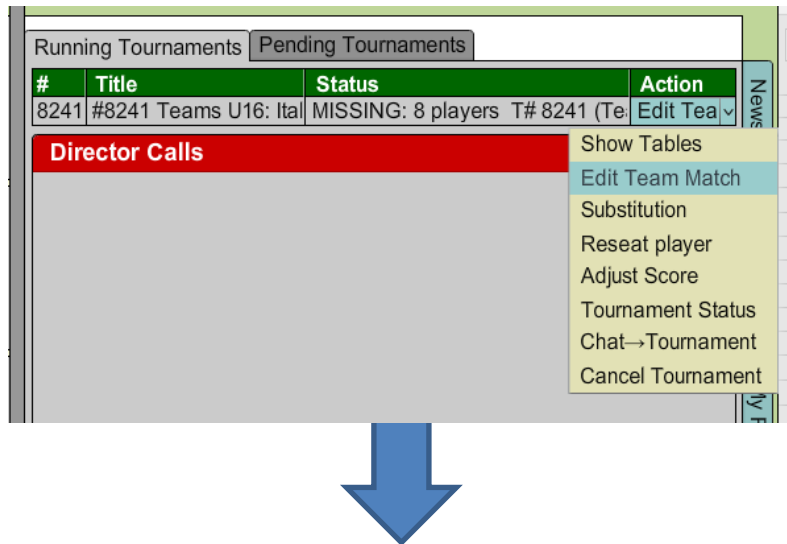
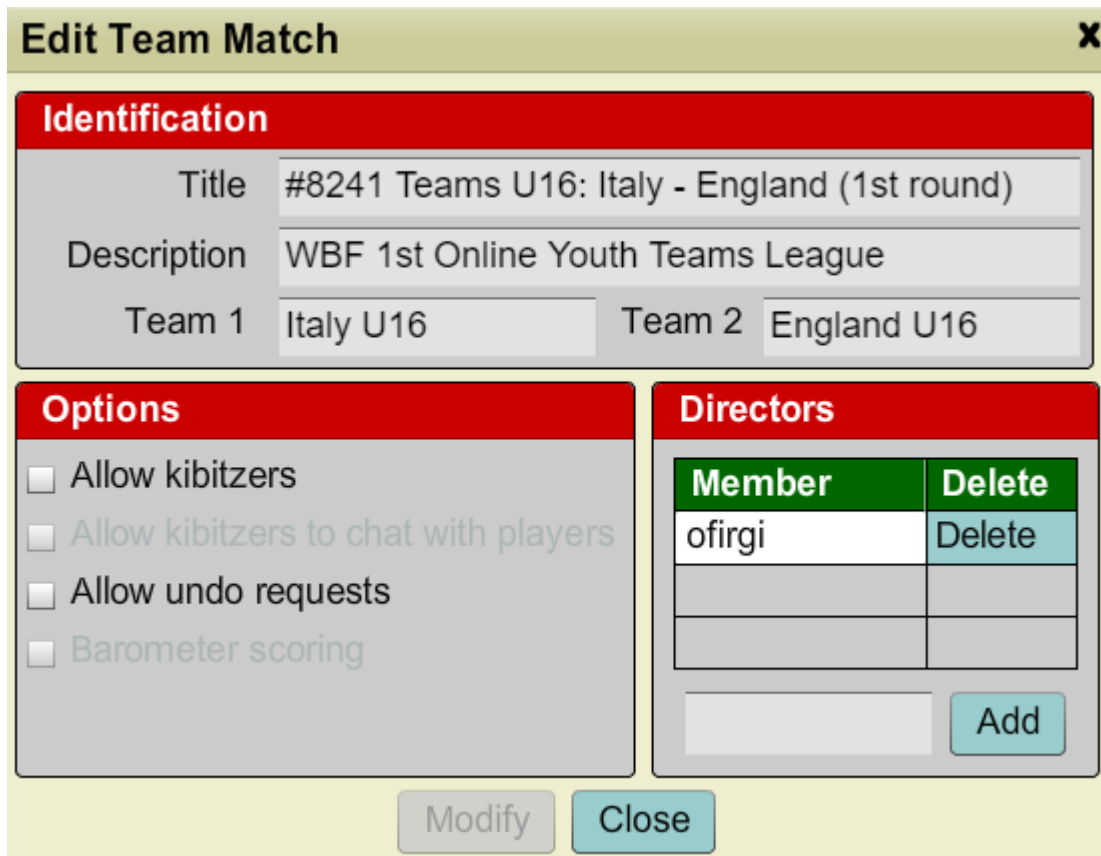
The screenshot shows a dialog box titled "Start New Team Match" with a close button (X) in the top right corner. The dialog is divided into several sections:

- Identification:** A table with fields for Title, Description, Team 1, and Team 2.

Title	U16: Italy - England (1st round)		
Description	WBF 1st Online Youth Teams League		
Team 1	Italy U16	Team 2	England U16
- Form of scoring:** Radio buttons for IMPs (selected), Board-A-Match, and Total points. A "Number of Boards" field is set to 14 with a spinner control.
- Options:** Checkboxes for "Allow kibitzers", "Allow kibitzers to chat with players", "Allow undo requests", and "Barometer scoring".
- Deal source:** Radio buttons for "Use random deals" (selected) and "Use saved deals" with a "Select folder" button.
- Reserve seats (optional):** Two columns for Team 1 and Team 2. Each column has four seats labeled N, S, W, and E. Team 1 seats are: N Italy1, S Italy2, W England3, E England4. Team 2 seats are: N England1, S England2, W Italy3, E Italy4.

At the bottom of the dialog are two buttons: "Create Team Match" and "Close".

After you opened the match you can click on the right side of the screen (The arrow) and edit the definitions of the match including add other NPC/Coach as a director.

The "Edit Team Match" dialog box is shown with the following fields and sections:

**Identification**

- Title: #8241 Teams U16: Italy - England (1st round)
- Description: WBF 1st Online Youth Teams League
- Team 1: Italy U16
- Team 2: England U16

**Options**

- Allow kibitzers
- Allow kibitzers to chat with players
- Allow undo requests
- Barometer scoring

**Directors**

Member	Delete
ofirgi	Delete

Buttons: Modify, Close, Add