



THE WORLD BRIDGE FEDERATION

**MINUTES OF THE 5th MEETING
OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL
Veldhoven, The Netherlands
Saturday, 22nd October 2011 – 10:00 pm**

In Attendance

Mr Gianarrigo Rona, President in the Chair
Mr Jaime Ortiz-Patiño, President Emeritus
Mr José Damiani, Chairman Emeritus

Mrs Sevinç Atay, Member
Mr Yves Aubry, Member
Mr Marc De Pauw, Member
Mr Ernesto d'Orsi, Member
Mr Jean-Louis Derivery, Member
Mrs Joan Gerard, Member
Mr David Harris, Proxy for Mr Jens Auken
Ms Georgia Heth, Member
Mr Mazhar Jafri, Member
Mr Radoslaw Kielbasinski, Member
Mr Al Levy, Member
Mr Bernard Pascal, Member
Mr George Retek, Member
Mr Jonathan Steinberg, Member
Mr John Wignall, Member
Mrs Sylvie Willard, Member

Also in Attendance

Mr Jeff Polisner, General Counsel
Ms Carol von Linstow, Secretary to the Executive Council

Excused

Ms Chen Zelan, Member
Mr Patrick Choy, Member
Mr Robert S. Wolff, Past President

Invited

Mr Ata Aydin, Chairman of the Youth Committee
Mr Craig Robinson, President of the ACBL
Mr Panos Gerontopoulos, Honorary Member of the WBF
Mrs Anna-Maria Torlontano
Mr Jean-Claude Beineix, Honorary Member of the WBF

The President called the meeting to order at 10:00 am. After declaring a quorum, the meeting proceeded as follows.

Mr Damiani introduced Mrs Sylvie Willard, who has filled the vacancy left by the resignation of Mrs Doris Fischer on the Executive Council and who subsequently had to leave the meeting.

1. Anti Wagering Regulation

It was moved that:

“It shall be a violation for any player, team captain or official, or any other persons associated with or related to a player, team captain or official participating in any WBF event to wager on the results of any such event or part thereof.

Any violation will be subject to charges to be presented to a hearing before the WBF Disciplinary Commission.”

This was approved unanimously by the Executive and will be posted in the Daily Bulletin.

2. Future Meetings

Officers – Memphis, USA from 15-17 March 2012

Executive Council - from 12-18 August 2012

Management Committee – Lausanne, Switzerland from 1-3 November 2012

3. Minutes of the first 3 meetings of the Executive Council in Veldhoven

After motion duly made and seconded, the minutes of the first three meetings of the Executive Council held on 16th and 17th October 2011 in Veldhoven were approved.

4. Item 26 – Tournament Directors

Mr Beineix reported that there had been a change in the TDs' Register following discussion in the TDs Committee meeting and the amended version of the TDs Register is attached as Annex 26.

5. Item 7 – Treasurer's report

Mr De Pauw asked the Executive if they would approve the appointment of Ernst & Young for a 2-year period covering 2011 and 2012, the auditors to be reappointed at next year's Executive Council meetings for 2013. This was approved.

Mr De Pauw reported that both Armenia & Georgia from Zone 1 had not paid their outstanding dues and would be suspended if they do not pay before end November. They will receive a letter from the President and there will be a 10% surcharge on the amount outstanding. The same conditions will apply to Bangladesh from Zone 4.

For the five Zone 3 countries who were in arrears, Mr d'Orsi will personally intervene. They will be given until 15 December to pay and then will be liable for suspension.

For Anguilla in Zone 5, Mr Derivery will would try to help.

In Zone 8, contact had been lost with Mauritius & Somalia. Mr Pascal was asked to try to make contact.

The Treasurer continued by presenting the 2012 Budget. The fixed expenses were covered by the fixed income but no realistic budget could be prepared for the varying items of income and expenditure. The President thanked Mr De Pauw for his report.

6. Item 30 – WBF Committee Reports

b. WBF Master Points

Mr d'Orsi reported on the Master Points committee. His report is attached as Annex 30b.

c. WBF Rules and Regulations

Mr d'Orsi also reported on the WBF Rules and Regulations Committee and his report is attached as annex 30c.

d. WBF Systems Committee

Mr Wignall presented the report of the Systems Committee meeting.

The deadline for submission of systems for the World Teams Championships to be held in 2012 was fixed as 10 June 2012.

7. Item 13 – FISU

Mr Magerman joined the meeting and read his report which is attached as Annex 13. He reported on University Bridge and Internet Competition. The President thanked Mr Magerman for an interesting report.

Mr Eric Kokish joined the meeting and the President welcomed him as a representative of the HLPC in place of Mr Nick Nickel.

Mrs Anna Gudge and Mr Mark Newton joined the meeting.

8. Item 24 – Technological Matters

Mr Gerontopoulos was invited to give a short report which is attached as Annex 24a. There was some discussion on the size of the server for the WBF website which crashes when there are too many people visiting it. The solution might be to have a larger hosting programme or server but this could be expensive.

Mr Levy reported that the Technology Committee had been working over the past year to critique the present state of affairs. Mrs Gudge and Mr Newton made a short video presentation on a possible new section for the website aimed at providing news of bridge throughout the world in a timely manner. Copy of his report is attached as 24b.

Mrs Gudge, Mr Newton and Mr Gerontopoulos then left the meeting.

Mr Levy said that the committee had received a great deal of help from outside people, who also helped in critiquing the WBF site. After a great deal of discussion, the Executive unanimously approved the proposed changes in principle which are to be started as soon as possible. It was suggested that a new contract be signed between the WBF and the EBL.

The Executive unanimously ratified the contract signed between the WBF and Mr Gerontopoulos for the period 1 January 2011 to 31 December 2012 at a cost of €70,000 a year to be shared equally between the WBF and the EBL.

9. Item 29 – WBF Publications

The President reported that World Bridge News would be printed at the end of this year, after the ACBL elections for the delegates to the WBF.

Mr Ortiz-Patiño had prepared a "History of the World Bridge Federation". He recalled that he had been present at the founding of the organization in Oslo in 1958 when the IBPA was also formed. If possible, he would like to include more photographs illustrating the history and growth of the Federation. He handed a copy to the President.

Mr Damiani thanked the President for his excellent chairing of these meetings and the organization of these Championships and said that he looked forward to seeing everyone somewhere next year.

Mr Jafri gave a vote of thanks to the President on behalf of the Executive Council.

The President thanked all the members for their support and the meeting was adjourned sine dei at 1.10 pm