



THE WORLD BRIDGE FEDERATION

**MINUTES OF THE 5<sup>th</sup> MEETING  
OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL  
Nusa Dua, Bali, Indonesia  
Sunday, 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2013 – 10:00**

**In Attendance**

Mr Gianarrigo Rona, President in the Chair  
Mr José Damiani, President Emeritus

Mrs Sevinç Atay, Member  
Mr Yves Aubry, Member  
Mr Bruce Blakely, Member  
Mr Patrick Choy, Member  
Mr Bill Cook, Member  
Mr Marc De Pauw, Member  
Mr Ernesto d'Orsi, Member  
Mr Jean-Louis Derivery, Member  
Mr David Harris, Member  
Ms Georgia Heth, Member  
Mr Mazhar Jafri, Member  
Mr Paul Janicki, Member  
Mr Radoslaw Kielbasinski, Member  
Mr Al Levy, Member  
Mr Bernard Pascal, Member  
Mr John Wignall, Member

**Also in Attendance**

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

**Excused**

Ms Chen Zelan, Member  
Mr Nick Nickell, Member  
Ms Sylvie Willard, Member

**Invited**

Mr Jean-Claude Beineix, Committee of Honour  
Mr Panos Gerontopoulos, Committee of Honour  
Mr George Retek, Committee of Honour  
Mrs Anna Maria Torlontano, Chair of the Women's Committee

The President called the meeting to order at 10:00. He declared that there was a quorum, and the meeting proceeded as follows.

## **1. Any Other Business – agenda item 28**

- a) The President welcomed Mr Micke Melander to the meeting to make a presentation on a new programme to teach bridge to children using an app for phones, tablets and computers. This is aimed at encouraging them, eventually, to play bridge at the table and in clubs. Mr Melander was congratulated for an excellent programme and idea. The President thanked him and Mr Melander left the meeting.

After some discussion, it was decided to put the proposal before the Teaching Committee.

- b) It has been suggested that the WBF might create a Foundation for the Youth and the Swiss lawyers have been asked to look into this. Mr Retek presented a short report on the various advantages that could be obtained from creating a Charitable Foundation.

Mr Polisner suggested that it would be better to call it an Educational Foundation rather than Charitable. He noted that a WBF Educational Foundation had been set up in the US in 1993, but that this was finally shut down as little or no donations had been received.

## **2. Role and function of the Appeals Committee and proposal of new policy – agenda item 12**

Mr Harris presented a report on the recent European Championships and in particular the result of the experiment not to appoint Appeals Committees. All decisions were made by the Tournament Directors, after discussion if necessary with a panel of leading players and were subject only to a review to ensure due process had been followed.

The Panel of leading players and the Reviewer have to be appointed by the President before the start of the championship.

He recommended the WBF also ceased to appoint Appeals Committees and that the General Conditions of Contest be amended to leave all decisions to the Directing Staff.

This was put to the vote and was approved with two abstentions.

## **3. WBF Systems Committee – agenda item 23.2**

Mr Wignall read the report of the WBF Systems Committee meeting, which is attached.

*He made the following recommendation: "For the avoidance of doubt, the Committee notes that an opening of one club, which may be made on a doubleton or singleton club, which is ostensibly natural and non-forcing should be regarded as natural. This means that Brown Sticker defence methods (which are permitted against artificial forcing openings) are not allowed against these "natural" bids."*

This was approved unanimously.

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The President thanked the members for their attendance, assistance and support during these meetings and for coming to Bali. He also thanked the Executive Council for re-electing him as President.

Mr Jafri thanked the President, on behalf of the members of the Executive Council, for chairing the meetings and congratulated him.

The meeting was adjourned, sine die, at 12:10.