



THE WORLD BRIDGE FEDERATION

**MINUTES OF THE 2nd MEETING
OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL**

Sanya, China

Monday, 13th October 2014 at 14:30

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 Marc De Pauw, Member
Mr Ernesto d'Orsi, 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
Mrs Sheena Rayner, Member
Mr Merlin Vilhauer, Member
Mr John Wignall, Member

Also in Attendance

Mr Jean-Claude Beineix, Honour & Advisory Committee Member
Mr Panos Gerontopoulos, Honour & Advisory Committee Member
Mrs Anna Maria Torlontano, Honour & Advisory Committee Member
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

Mrs Lilian Sun, Interpreter

The President called the meeting to order at 14:30. He declared that there was a quorum, and the meeting proceeded as follows.

1. German Disciplinary Case

The General Counsel reported in detail about the serious cheating by the German Pair Michael Elinescu and Entscho Wladow, during the d'Orsi Seniors Trophy in Bali, September 2013 and the following Disciplinary proceedings, ended with the Decision

16th July 2014 of the WBF Appeal Tribunal. He reminded that according to the Disciplinary Code the Decision is binding both for the defendants and the WBF. He submitted to the E.C. the Official request from the USBF, as consequence of the Tribunal decision's, to revoke the Medals and the Title to the German Seniors Team and to award them to the USA Senior Team.

After an in-depth discussion among all the members attending the meeting, with the examination of all the documents bearing on the subject,

The Executive Council

noted

the decision 16th July 2014 of the WBF Appeal Tribunal, confirming the decision 21st March 2014 of the Disciplinary Commission;

examined

the request of the United State Bridge Federation;

heard

the report of the General Counsel;

noted

that art.9 of the WBF Constitution assigns to the Executive Council the general power to administer the affairs of the federation and refers to administering the affairs of WBF in a manner consistent with its Constitution and By-laws;

noted

that the purposes of art. 2 of the WBF Constitution include the pursuit of Olympic goals, the promotion of sports ethics and ensuring that bridge contests take place in the spirit of fair play;

considered

that the evidence established that, during the final of the 2013 d'Orsi Seniors Trophy between Germany and USA, there were numerous boards in which bids, leads and plays were clearly influenced by the illegal unauthorized information transmitted by the German pair Elinescu-Wladow which influenced the result of the match in Germany's favor;

everything above held, unanimously

states

1. Germany results to be disqualified from the 2013 d'Orsi Seniors Trophy;
2. Germany is stripped from any placement in the 2013 d'Orsi Seniors Trophy;
3. The Gold Medals are revoked from Germany and all the members of the German Seniors Team and have to be returned to the WBF together with the d'Orsi Trophy and its Replicas;

4. The title of World Champion is revoked from Germany and all the members of the German Seniors Team;
5. The WBF Master Points awarded to any member of the German Seniors Team are removed,

And by majority of votes (12 in favor, 1 against and 4 abstentions),

states

6. The final ranking of the 2013 d'Orsi Seniors Trophy is modified, elevating the teams which finished second (USA), third (Poland) and fourth (France) to respectively first, second and third, awarding them the relevant Medals, Titles, Trophies, Replicas and WBF Master Points;.

delegates

7. the WBF Secretariat to provide all the necessary executions, including the information to all the interested parties and the publications of the decision on the WBF Web Site and on the Daily Bulletin of the 2014 Red Bull World Bridge Series,

delegates

8. the Treasurer to send the invoice of the hearings expenses, stated by the Appeal Tribunal, to the German Federation asking them to provide the payment.

2. Oberlandesgericht Dusseldorf

The President reported about the action promoted by Michael Elinescu and Entscho Wladow at the Oberlandesgericht Düsseldorf against the German Bridge Federation and the World Bridge Federation, delivering copy of the Brief deposited by the Lawyer of Elinescu/Wladow and communicated by ordinary mail. The Executive Council approved the appointment of Maitre Nicolas Gillard and Maitre Ross Wenzel to assist the WBF in this procedure.

3. Players and Staff Officers Commitments

The President and the General Counsel presented the text of the Commitments both for the Players and the Championships Staff Officers, attached as Exhibit 2a and 2b, which were approved unanimously and will be enforced since 1st January 2015 and have to be signed to be allowed to participate the WBF Championships.

4. International Bodies

Mr De Pauw gave a report on the situation with IMSA and his report is attached as Exhibit 2.1-2.

Mr Damiani said that he still thought that the original idea to create IMSA was a sound one but, in fact, the problems with FIDE have remained even though he has stepped down as President.

FIDE have their own Olympiad every two years and Mr Damiani had suggested joining them in 2016. However, he is pleased that the WBF decided to go its own way and organize this in Brazil in 2016.

The President informed that the SportAccord World Mind Games will be held from 10-17 December 2014 in Beijing. For Bridge in the Open the teams will be Monaco, Israel, USA and China and in the Women's China, England, The Netherlands and USA..

The President reported about the relations with the IOC, SportAccord, ARISF and FISU and in particular underlined the very nice message sent by the IOC President Thomas Bach for the programme here in Sanya. He informed that the grant from IOC for 2015 will be of \$25,000 which has to be divided equally between the Youth and the Anti-doping activities.

The meeting was adjourned at 17:55 to be resumed at 14:30 on Tuesday, 14th October.