

Election to the Executive Council of the World Bridge Federation

Katowice – August 2026

Candidate : Marc De Pauw (Belgium)

Mail : marc.depauw@demanco.be

Mobile: +32 495 510700

Personal/Professional brief:

Born on: June 4th, 1953

Education: Master in Economics

University of Ghent



Professional occupations: I have stopped most of my professional occupations, keeping a limited number of board positions. My professional life has focused on accompanying private companies in achieving their business plans in economic sectors such as real estate promotion, media, industrial production and services.

Bridge Administration:

During past years I have had the honour of serving on the board of the European Bridge League and of the World Bridge Federation. In particular taking care of finances, for both organizations I have been able to build a strong financial position, assuring them of a solid and durable position for future years. For 10 years I have chaired the Belgian Bridge Federation. Main focus in the latter position was on participation of Belgian teams and pairs in International bridge competitions and the organisation of such events in Belgium, in the city of Ostend to be precise.

If elected by the Congress, my intention is to continue working along the following lines and pursuing as objectives:

1. As an International Sports Federation we need to keep in mind the interests and needs of our Members, the National Bridge Federations. The WBF is there to serve and sustain the development of bridge throughout the world.
2. Though we are an organization of volunteers, a professional approach is needed in our structures. Constantly looking for technological improvements and the adaption of best practices is a need to be.
3. The same approach is needed in the management of our finances. Further diversifying our sources of income, avoiding the need for increased contributions by our members is an important goal. Through well run online competitions and the creation of a motivating system of master points, this can be realized.
4. Maintaining a high level of ethical behaviour in our sport is of the greatest importance. WBF must show the way to a clean sport. Full respect of our own rules is an absolute necessity to preserve the reputation of our organization.
5. Any organization aiming at being respected by its' members need to be transparent. Open policies in which all interested parties can participate are called for.
6. One of the basic tasks of the WBF is organizing quality championships. This mission needs to be further pursued, with many more NBOs being able to hosting these events.

If elected you may count on my full and entire devotion to realize these goals.

Alongside other matters requiring attention, I am , with the Belgian bridge Federation and a local organizing committee, submitting our candidature to the WBF , for the 2028 World Bridge Games (former Olympiads) in Ostend , well known host city for past successful championships

I hope that I may count on your support for my candidature.