



International Sport Federation (IF) recognized by the International Olympic Committee

Gianarrigo Rona
President

To:
NBO Presidents
Zonal Conference Presidents

c/c WBF Committee Members
WBF Communication Manager
WBF Secretariat

Milano, 24th June 2020

For the attention of Jeovani Ferreira Salomão
President Brazilian Bridge Federation

Dear Jeovani

I am very pleased to inform you of the decisions taken by the Management Committee at its meeting on Tuesday 23rd June 2020:

Congress

The Management Committee took the view that, since COVID-19 is still continuously developing its damaging effects, it cannot realistically be considered that the situation can return to normal and the current restrictions and the safety procedures lifted before the end of the year.

The Committee noted that no WBF championship or event requiring in-person attendance, which would thus include the WBF Meeting of Congress, is now scheduled in 2020 and further that it is essential to seek to avoid giving NBOs further burdens and costs, in addition to the sacrifices already faced during this period in our history.

Consequently, the Management Committee unanimously decided that the Congress will be held in electronic form, before the end of the year, according to the specific COVID-19 Regulations.



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A Special Committee, composed of President G.A. Rona, Treasurer M. De Pauw, Hon. Secretary J. Kamras, General Counsel D. Harris and WBF Swiss Lawyer R. Wenzel, has been appointed to draft the procedural rules to be submitted to the approval of the Management Committee at its next meeting to be held in the second part of July. Before the end of July the Convocation, the Agenda and all the procedural rules will be forwarded to the NBOs.

WBF Disciplinary Code

Until 2018 the WBF Anti-doping Hearing Panel, pursuant to art. 19.4 & 37 of the Statutes, had exclusive competence to hear any anti-doping cases that might arise. It then seemed possible to give the competence in anti-doping matters to the Disciplinary Tribunal and so accordingly it was decided to amend art. 2.4 of the Disciplinary Code. Next step would have been to submit this to the WBF Congress for formal approval of this amendment.

Now, however, the international rules have changed and the required conditions for the members of the Anti-doping Hearing Panel and the procedures governing any such hearings are so strict and specific that it is no longer possible to have just one disciplinary organ and the same procedure. This means that the WBF must revert to the previous rule and thus there is no need to submit the amendments to the Congress.

Therefore the Management Committee unanimously approved that art. 2.4 of the Disciplinary Code remains unaltered as follows: ***"This Disciplinary Code shall not apply, and be without prejudice, to anti-doping matters, which shall be governed by the WBF Anti-Doping Rules and Regulations"***

In addition, the MC formally amended some other details within the Code in accordance with the new Statutes (previously referred to as the WBF Constitution) and By-Laws. The amended Disciplinary Code came into effect on 23rd June 2020 is attached, is also on the website where it can also be [downloaded by clicking here](#)

Reiterating my best wishes to you and your loved ones and thanking you for your understanding and cooperation, I remain at your disposal.

Yours Sincerely
Gianarrigo Rona

