



WORLD BRIDGE FEDERATION

Gianarrigo Rona
President

To
WBF NBOs Presidents

c/c WBF Executive Council Members
WBF Championships Committee Members
WBF Zonal Presidents
WBF Secretariat

Lausanne, 22 November 2015

Information Letter n.1

Dear President and Friend,

<p style="text-align: center;">15th World Bridge Games World National Open, Women's, Seniors, Mixed Teams World National Open, Women's, Seniors, Mixed Pairs</p>

We are very pleased to confirm that the 15th World Bridge Games will be held at

Centennial Hall
Wroclaw, Poland
3rd – 17th September 2016

World National Open, Women's, Seniors, Mixed Teams

Format of the Championship

The championship consists of 4 categories: in addition to the Open, Women's and Seniors, the Mixed has been introduced for the first time in this event.

In each of the four categories the teams will be divided into groups which will then play a single complete round-robin with all the teams within the group playing each other. At the end of the round-robin the highest ranked teams from each group will be admitted to the knock-out stages: Round of 16, Quarter-final, Semi-final and Final & Play-off KO matches will be played.



Timetable

- Teams Registration Saturday 3rd September 10.00 - 18.30 hrs.
- Captains meeting Saturday 3rd September at 17.30
- Opening Ceremony Saturday 3rd September at 19.30
- Round Robin 1st Match Sunday 4th September at 10.15
- Round Robin Last Match Friday 9th September
- Round of 16 Saturday 10th – Sunday 11th
- Quarter-final Monday 12th – Tuesday 13th
- Semi-final Wednesday 14th – Thursday 15th
- Final & Play-Off Friday 16th – Saturday 17th
- Closing Ceremony - Prize-giving Saturday 17th at 20.00 hrs.

World National Open, Women's, Seniors, Mixed Pairs

The Pairs Championship for all four categories will take place during the second week (starting on the morning of Sunday 11th September and ending on Friday 16th September) and will consist of Qualification, Semi-final and Final.

Players eliminated from the Teams Championship both in the Round of 16 and the Quarter-finals may drop-in into the Pairs Championship, in the appropriate categories, in accordance with the Rules and Regulations to be published for the competition.

Right to enter

Each affiliated NBO in good standing with the WBF may be represented by its National team (one team per Country) and by an unlimited number of its National Pairs in each of the four categories, Open, Women's, Seniors and Mixed.

To be eligible for participation in the 2016 World Bridge Games each player, non-playing captain, coach, trainer and other team official must comply with the WBF Laws of Duplicate Bridge, the Rules & Regulations pertaining to the Championships and furthermore must abide by the Competitors Commitment which they will be required to sign before the event. In addition the players and non-playing captains must comply with the conditions of eligibility set forth in the WBF Eligibility Code.

All entries are subject to approval by the Credentials Committee.

Participation in World Bridge Games as a condition for participation in the 2017 & 2019 Bermuda Bowl and Venice Cup

Only NBOs participating in the World Mind Sport Games are eligible to qualify to participate in the Bermuda Bowl and Venice Cup Championships held in either of the two subsequent odd-numbered years; in each case, an Open Team or at least one Open Pair must participate in the Games in order to be eligible for the Bermuda Bowl and a Women's



Team or at least one Women's Pair must participate to be eligible for the Venice Cup. There is no such criteria for the d'Orsi Seniors Bowl.

Each affiliated NBO in good standing with the WBF may be represented by an unlimited number of their national pairs in each of the four categories, Open, Women's, Seniors and Mixed.

General Information

Registration of Teams for the World National Open, Women's, Seniors and Mixed Teams Championship

All entries to the Championships **must be submitted electronically** (the pages will be available from 1st April 2016), **via the WBF website (not by email)** at

www.worldbridge.org

by 15th July 2016. It is very important that this deadline is respected.

Registration of Players' Names

Registration of players and NBO Delegation members must be sent **by 31st July 2016** via the WBF website (not by email) at

www.worldbridge.org

Registration of Pairs for the National Open, Women's, Seniors and Mixed Pairs Championship

Registration of Pairs should be made before 31st July 2016 wherever possible. Entries will be accepted later provided there is sufficient space at the venue. Entries from pairs composed by players eliminated from the Teams Championship events may be made on site.

Entries to all events (teams and pairs) are subject to approval by the Credentials Committee.

Entry Fees & Payment

- Open, Women's, Seniors, Mixed Teams € 4,000 before or on 15th July
- Open, Women's, Seniors, Mixed Pairs € 500 before or on 31st July

Players eliminated from the Round-Robin, Round of 16 and Quarter-final of the Open, Women's, Seniors and Mixed Teams may form pairs and may enter the Pairs Championship, in the appropriate categories, receiving free entry.



The entry-fees may be paid **by bank transfer to**

Crédit Suisse SA, Rue du Lion d'Or 5-7
P.O. Box 5722, 1002 Lausanne, Switzerland
€ account
IBAN CH58 0483 5154 6496 9200 0
Account n° 0425-1546496-92
SWIFT CRESCHZZ80A
Clearing 4835
(To be indicated)

Rules & Regulations - Players Commitment – Systems Policy

The Rules & Regulations, including, the Anti-doping Regulation, the Disciplinary Code and the Dress Code will be published, together with the Systems Policy, on the WBF website. Each player is required to sign the Players Commitment which will be available on the website at the time of registration, scan and email it to

anna.gudge@worldbridgefed.com

by 31st July 2016 in the case of players in the teams event and at the time of registration for players in the pairs event

Systems Registration

Systems for the Teams Championships (all series) at the World Bridge Games **must be registered with the World Bridge Federation Systems Administrator by 31st July 2016** to:

anna.gudge@worldbridgefed.com

The conditions of contest will give full details of systems regulations and registration. No HUM, or Brown Sticker conventions will be permitted at any stage.

Dress Code

The WBF Dress Code will be applied.

Anti-doping

From the day of the Opening Ceremony up to and including the day of the Closing Ceremony, individual competitors from the Open, Women's and Mixed Teams will, in accordance with the WBF Anti-Doping Regulations, be randomly selected for anti-doping testing. It is obligatory for selected competitors to undergo such testing. The analyses will be done by WADA accredited laboratories.

The NBOs are invited to pay attention to the Anti-doping Regulations and to ensure that their players are fully aware both of the regulations and of the penalties for not following them.



If a Competitor is undergoing medical treatment for a condition which requires medication on the World Anti-Doping Authority Prohibited list, the Competitor must get a dispensation (TUE) from the WBF Medical Commission.

Any players requiring exemption certificates should ensure that they complete the TUE form and return it as soon as possible and no later than 30 days before the commencement of the competition in which they are participating to

Dr. Jaap Stomphorst
Isala Klinieken - Sports medicine department
PO Box 10500
8000GM Zwolle, The Netherlands
Tph.: +31 38 4245689 (office time)
+31 61 2088836 (cellphonen)
E.mail: j.stomphorst@isala.nl

The list of prohibited substances can be found at

<http://www.wada-ama.org/>

and the TUE form is available from the WBF website at

www.worldbridge.org or by email from anna.gudge@worldbridgefed.com

Hotel Accommodation & Booking

A selection of hotel rooms at different price categories has been reserved in Wroclaw by the Local Organising Committee (LOC) for the World Bridge Games 2016. Hotels rated from 2 to 5 stars are available.

Participants are advised to make their reservation as early as possible in order to have the best choice of available rooms. Hotel accommodation is subject to availability and will be allocated on a first come, first served basis. The LOC guarantees that current pricing will remain in effect until the end of January 2016.

The LOC designated official accommodation partner for World Bridge Games 2016 is **ZAPA Event Planners**. LOC would like to alert you to be aware of possible scams and strongly advises you only to use the official World Bridge Games partner for reserving accommodation

For more information regarding (individual and group) booking, including room pricing and availability, please visit the official LOC Wold Bridge Games 2016 website at

www.worldbridgegames2016.com



In any case for any further information regarding hotels & accommodation, please contact

booking@worldbridgegames2016.com

Further Information

For further information contact

WBF President's Secretariat
secretariat@worldbridgefed.com

Being sure of your support and cooperation, we are confident we will enjoy once again all together another great bridge event.

Yours sincerely,
Gianarrigo Rona