



World Bridge Federation

2005

**Supplemental
Conditions of Contest**

for the

2005 World Championships

The Bermuda Bowl

The Venice Cup

The World Seniors Bowl

and

The World Transnational Open Teams

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1. Preamble

The Conditions of Contest herein set forth are supplemental to the General Conditions of Contest for World Bridge Championships, as issued by the World Bridge Federation and are specific for the Bermuda Bowl and Venice Cup, the Seniors Bowl and the World Transnational Open Teams Championship to be played in Estoril, Portugal from 22 October – 05 November 2005

These Supplemental Conditions of Contest and the General Conditions of Contest together form the set of Rules and Regulations governing the 2005 Bermuda Bowl and Venice Cup, the Seniors Bowl and the World Transnational Open Teams Championship.

A list of contact names and addresses, together with the URLs of websites holding additional information about the Championships can be found in Section 26.

2. Definitions

Expressions used in these Conditions of Contest and not defined shall have their ordinary meaning in the contract bridge terminology (which may include expressions defined in the International Code). In the event of any doubt or dispute as to such meaning, the decision of the Tournament Rules and Regulations Committee shall be final and conclusive. The singular shall include the plural and vice-versa and reference to one gender shall include the other gender

Unless repugnant to the context or obvious meaning, all terms defined in the General Conditions of Contest shall have the same meaning for the purpose of these Supplemental Conditions of Contest and, in addition, the following expressions where used in these Conditions of Contest shall have the following meanings:

2.1 “Bermuda Bowl and Venice Cup”

means the 2005 World Bridge Championships, respectively for Open Teams and Women's Teams, conducted under the auspices of the WBF from 22 October – 05 November in Estoril, Portugal or at such other time and place as the WBF determines.

2.2 “Bermuda Bowl”

means the 2005 World Bridge Championship for the Open Teams

2.3 “General Conditions of Contest”

Mean the General Conditions of Contest issued by the World Bridge Federation for the World Bridge Championships.

2.4 “Open” and “Closed” Rooms

for any match or segment or session of a match shall be those rooms so designated.

2.5 “Partnership Understandings”

For the interpretation of these Conditions of Contest any special partnership understanding is included in the terms “convention”, “conventional call”, “conventional play”, “conventional agreement” or the like

2.6 “these Championships”

means the 2005 Bermuda Bowl and Venice Cup and “championship event” means any of the events referred to in Section 2.1.

2.7 “these Conditions of Contest”

mean the within Supplemental Conditions of Contest for the 2005 Bermuda Bowl and Venice Cup.

2.8 “Table Result Card”

means the card referred to in Section 22.1

2.9 “Venice Cup”

means the 2005 World Bridge Championship for Women's Teams.

2.10 “World Seniors Bowl”

Means the 2005 Seniors World Championship for Zonal teams, conducted under the auspices of the WBF from 22 October – 05 November 2005 in Estoril, Portugal or at such other time and place as the WBF determines.

2.11 “World Transnational Open Teams Championship (WTOTC)”

means an open teams championship to be played simultaneously with the Bermuda Bowl and Venice Cup starting on Monday 31 October 2005 in Estoril, Portugal or at such other time and place as the WBF determines

3. Conditions of Entry (Bermuda Bowl, Venice Cup, World Seniors Bowl)

See also Sections 3 & 4 of the General Conditions of Contest

3.1 Eligibility Requirements

The Credentials Committee must be satisfied that each nominated contestant satisfies the birth and residency requirements of the Zone to which the NBO nominating him belongs and was either:

- i) nominated by the NBO (or the Zonal Conference of the Zone to which that NBO belongs) of the country of his birth, or by the NBO of which such nominated contestant first became a member; and that such nominated contestant has not, during the current or immediately preceding two calendar years (having regard to the year in which the relevant World Bridge Championship is to be held) represented a different NBO (or different Zone, while representing a different NBO) in a World Bridge Championship or Zonal Championship; or
- ii) was nominated by the NBO (or the Zonal Conference of the Zone to which that NBO belongs) of the country of his citizenship or bona fide residence (see section 3.1.1 below) ; and that such nominated contestant has not, during the current or immediately preceding two calendar years (having regard to the year in which the relevant World Bridge Championship is to be held) represented a different NBO (or different Zone, while representing a different NBO) in a World Bridge Championship or Zonal Championship:

PROVIDED THAT those contestants nominated for participation in any World Junior Championship shall not be subject to the conditions of this Section.

All players should be aware of Section 4 of the General Conditions of Contest, with particular reference to Section 4.4 since competing for a country other than that of which they are a national (i.e. a passport holder) may jeopardize their right to compete in a subsequent Olympic Event or Olympic Qualifier.

Entries may be rejected if any NBO whose nominated contestants are submitted for invitation is in arrears in the payment of monies due to the WBF for annual dues or for entry fees to any WBF event (including non-championship events such as the Worldwide Bridge Contest).

No male shall be a playing member of or a substitute player in a team or pair competing in a women's event.

3.1.1 *Residency qualification*

To be considered a bona-fide resident of an NBO, the following list of criteria must be satisfied, in whole or in substantial part.

The player must:

- a) reside in the country for at least one-half of the year prior to the event, or not have lived in any other country for a longer period than in the resident country during the previous two years
- b) Be a registered member of the NBOs organization
- c) Be a registered voter of no country other than the country for which he/she is seeking to play
- d) Maintain a valid driver's license or identity card issued by a political subdivision of the country, such as a city or state
- e) Either own real estate or rent a residence in the country.

The WBF reserves the right to require documentary evidence that it considers to be satisfactory proof of any of the above if there are any concerns about the credentials of a player.

3.2 *Submission of Entries*

3.2.1 *Bermuda Bowl, Venice Cup & Seniors Bowl*

Each NBO, duly qualified in its Zone, shall be entitled to nominate at least one team for the Bermuda Bowl and/or at least one team for the Venice Cup and/or at least one team for the Seniors Bowl. Confirmation of such nomination must be made by 01 July 2005. See Section 7.

3.2.2 *Registration (all events)*

The name and address, telephone number(s) and, wherever possible, email addresses of the non-playing captain, the coach, any other team officials and the names & (if applicable) the email addresses of the players in each team, submitted in accordance with the conditions of entry established in the Section 4 of the General Conditions of Contest, should be sent, before 15 July 2005 to the WBF President (see Section 26)

3.3 *Entrance Fee*

The prescribed entrance fees, as described in Section 25, for the Bermuda Bowl and Venice Cup and World Seniors Bowl should be paid by cheque or bank transfer to the order of the WBF in the appropriate amount, for each of the Open, Women's and Seniors series Teams and sent to the WBF's Financial Director: (see Section 26)

The cheque should be mailed in ample time to insure its receipt before 15 July 2005. Payments received after 15 August 2005 are subject to an automatic arrearage penalty of US\$ 250 (€200) per team.

Teams wishing to pay by direct bank transfer should contact the WBF Financial Director to obtain the relevant details.

3.4 Team Members

In addition to a non-playing captain, each team may have four, five or six members. If an NBO wishes to replace a team member, or members, or if fewer than six players were submitted for invitation, such replacement or increase (each must be from the NBO submitting the team) may be added prior to the start of the first session of play with permission of the Credentials Committee. However, the Executive Council reserves the right, following such approval by the Credentials Committee to place any restrictions on that team it deems proper.

3.4.1 Age Limitation for participants in the Seniors Bowl:

Each player shall attain at least 56 years of age during the calendar year 2005 i.e. shall have been born in or before 1949.

3.5 Penalty for Non-Participation

In the event that a previously entered team in these Championships determines it is unable to participate, the WBF shall be notified at least 48 hours prior to the scheduled Captains' meeting for these Championships. Failure to so notify the WBF of non-participation shall result in the imposition of a US\$ 1500 (€1200) penalty, payable by the NBO and/or Zone which nominated the team; an additional disciplinary penalty may be assessed if the WBF deems appropriate.

4. Conditions of Entry (World Transnational Open Teams)

4.1.1 Conditions of Entry

Teams will consist of 4, 5 or 6 players, belonging to the same or different NBOs, but each player must be approved by its NBO of origin and submitted to the WBF Credentials Committee. Players that participated in the Bermuda Bowl or Venice Cup or Seniors Bowl are exempt of payment (teams consisting of participants and non participants in the Bermuda Bowl or Venice Cup will have the entry fee reduced proportionally to the number of such participants in the team).

The teams must be registered by 15 September 2005 and the players names must be submitted to the WBF before 30 September 2005. All details should be sent to the WBF President (see Section 26 for contact details)

4.1.2 Payment of Entry Fees

The designated entry fees (see Section 25) must be paid to the WBF Financial Director before 15 September 2005 in the case of teams registered in advance of the Championship

Cheques should made payable to the World Bridge Federation and be sent to the WBF Financial Director (see Section 26)

Alternatively, teams or NBOs may contact the WBF Financial Director who will supply details of the WBF account so that payment may be made by bank transfer.

4.1.3 *Late Entries*

The WBF may accept additional entries from teams on site if there is sufficient space at the venue; in this case, the registration and payment in cash can be made on site. The deadline for such additional entries will be announced in the Daily Bulletin.

5. **Eligibility For Awards**

WBF Master Points will be awarded for the Bermuda Bowl, the Venice Cup, the World Seniors Bowl and the WTOTC, in accordance with the WBF Master Points Plan, particulars of which are set out in Eligibility for Master Point Awards

6. **Anti Doping Regulations**

The procedures provided by the Antidoping Policy of the International Olympic Committee will be followed and enforced.

The WBF Anti-Doping Regulations are published as an appendix to the WBF General Regulations and can be found, together with the required Exemption Form at www.worldbridge.org and www.ecatsbridge.com.

7. **Participating Teams**

The number of teams from each Zone invited to participate in the 2005 Bermuda Bowl, Venice Cup and Seniors Bowl will be published on the WBF Website at www.worldbridge.org and at www.ecatsbridge.com.

8. **Types Of Contest**

8.1 *Bermuda Bowl*

8.1.1 *Round Robin*

The competing teams (expected to number 22) shall play one complete round-robin, being 21 rounds of 20-board matches each played in one session. The Round Robin will start on Sunday 23 October, and finish on Saturday 29 October. The eight teams with the highest Victory Points totals after the round-robin will qualify for the quarter-finals.

8.1.2 *Quarter Finals*

The quarter-finals shall be played as knockout matches of 96 boards, (three portions, each portion comprising two 16-board sessions), with IMP scoring. To determine the quarter-final matches, the procedure is the following: the first placed team freely chooses its quarter-final opponent from among the 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th placed teams; after the choice has been made, the second placed team chooses its quarter-final opponent among the remaining three teams (not chosen by the first); the same process is repeated for the third placed team and the fourth placed team will play against the team not chosen by any of the other three teams.

8.1.3 *Semi Finals*

The semi-finals shall be played as knockout matches of 96 boards, (3 portions, each portion comprising two 16-board sessions), with IMP scoring. Subject to the requirement that two teams from the same Country (if qualified) shall meet in the semi-finals, the first placed team shall also choose among the matches involving the second, third and fourth placed teams, which one will produce the semi-final opponent of the winner of its own quarter-final match. This choice is to be made at the conclusion of the quarter final draw (before the quarter finals start). Hence the semi-final draw is decided by the first placed team prior to the quarter final stage and remains applicable even if the first place team then lose their quarter final match.

8.1.4 *Final*

The winners of the semi-finals play the final in a 128-board match (4 portions, each portion comprising two 16-board sessions), with IMP scoring.

8.1.5 *Play Off*

The losers of the semi-final will play a play-off of 48-board match (three 16-board sessions) IMP scoring for the third place.

If one team resigns the right to play off for third place, it will automatically be placed in fourth place, their opponents being declared bronze medallists.

If both teams decide, by mutual agreement, not to play off for the third place, there will be no bronze medal awarded in the competition, and each team will receive half the Master Points awarded to fourth place. The defeated quarter-finalists will be ranked 5th to 8th according to the VP total in the round-robin; if a tie exists, it will be broken using the normal tie-break criteria.

8.2 *Venice Cup*

8.2.1 *Round Robin*

The competing teams (expected to number 22) shall play one complete round-robin, being 21 rounds of 16-board matches each played in one session. The Round Robin will start on Sunday 23 October, and finish on Saturday 29 October. The eight teams with the highest Victory Point totals after the round-robin will qualify for the quarter-finals.

8.2.2 *Quarter Final, Semi Final, Final and Play Off*

The rest of the Championship will be the same as for the Bermuda Bowl, except that the final shall be played over 96 boards, (3 portions, each portion comprising two 16-board sessions), with IMP scoring.

8.3 World Seniors Bowl

8.3.1 Round Robin

The competing teams (expected to number 22) shall play one complete round-robin, being 21 rounds of 16-board matches each played in one session. The Round Robin will start on Sunday 23 October, and finish on Saturday 29 October. The eight teams with the highest Victory Point totals after the round-robin will qualify for the quarter-finals.

8.3.2 Quarter Final, Semi Final, Final and Play Off

The rest of the Championship will be the same as for the Bermuda Bowl, except that the final shall be played over 96 boards, (3 portions, each portion comprising two 16-board sessions), with IMP scoring.

8.4 World Transnational Open Teams Championships (WTOTC)

8.4.1 Type of Contest

The Tournament will be Swiss type, but with 32 board quarter-finals and semi-finals and a 48 board final being played in 16 board segments in order to determine the Gold, Silver and Bronze Medallists. The Bronze Medal will be awarded to the losing semi-finalist which finishes with a higher placing in the Swiss.

8.4.2 The Quarter Finals

If any team has clearly won the Swiss before the end of the qualifying stage, that team will not be required to play any further matches in the Swiss, and that team, for the purpose of determining the KO matches, will keep the position held at the time it stopped playing in the Swiss. To determine the quarter-final matches, the procedure is the following: the first placed team freely chooses its quarter-final opponent from among the 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th placed teams; after the choice has been made, the second placed team chooses its quarter-final opponent among the remaining three teams (not chosen by the first); the same process is repeated for the third placed team and the fourth placed team will play against the team not chosen by any of the other three teams.

8.4.3 The Semi Finals

The first placed team shall choose among the matches involving the second, third and fourth placed teams, which one will produce the semi-final opponent of the winner of its own quarter-final match. This choice is to be made at the conclusion of the quarter final draw (before the quarter finals start). Hence the semi-final draw is decided by the first placed team prior to the quarter final stage and remains applicable even if the first place team then lose their quarter final match.

8.4.4 Tie Breaking

In case of ties, the tie-breaking procedures for the Bermuda Bowl/Venice Cup will apply with the following differences. In the Swiss, in order to determine a position at any time the first two criteria (a) and (b) are reversed, (b) becoming (a) and vice-versa (see points 19.1, 19.2 and 19.3 for the tie-breaking procedures). In the semi-finals and final, there will be 4 additional boards instead of 8 and only one series of 4 boards will be played (see 19.4).

8.4.5 *Drop-in Rules*

All Teams are expected to play from the very first match of the Swiss.

Should a problem arise that prevents the defeated quarter-finalists from joining the Swiss at Match 1, the Tournament Rules and Regulations Committee will decide the drop-in method.

9. Carry Over

There will be a carry over in all matches of the knockout phase. The carry over will be half or one-third of the IMP difference in the meeting of the teams in the round robin. It will be half if the highest ranked team in the round robin won the match against their opponents and one-third if the highest ranked team in the round lost the match to its knock out opponent.

The maximum carryover used in any event will be:

8 for a 32 board match

12 for a 48 board match

16 for a 96 board match

20 for a 128 board match

In the case of the World Transnational Open Teams, if one or more quarter-final matches does not have a carry over then no carry over will be applied to any quarter-final matches. Likewise, if one semi-final has a carry over, but the other does not, then no carry over will be applied to either match.

10. The Draw

The draw will be publicised to all NBOs as soon as all the teams are known and the final draw has been made. It will also be published on the websites detailed in Section 26

11. The Schedule of Play

The schedule of play will be published on the Websites (Section 26)

12. Conversion Scales

The difference in IMPs earned by the two opposing teams at the end of each of the matches scored in Victory Points (VP) shall be converted into VP, according to the official WBF conversion scales (See General Conditions of Contest).

13. Time Schedule

The final version of the Time Schedule will be published on the websites at www.worldbridge.org and www.ecatsbridge.com as soon as it is available.

The provisional schedule is as follows:

The Opening Ceremony will be on Saturday 22 October 2005

Play will start daily at 10.00/10.30 am and finish at 7.30/8.30 pm except on Monday 31 October & Thursday 3 November when play will extend to 11.00/11.30 pm (Transnational Open Teams)

Sunday 23 October – Saturday 29 October

Round Robin Stages, Bermuda Bowl, Venice Cup & Seniors Bowl

Sunday 30 October

Quarter Final Bermuda Bowl, Venice Cup & Seniors Bowl

Monday 31 October

Quarter Final Bermuda Bowl, Venice Cup & Seniors Bowl

Start of the World Transnational Open Teams (late afternoon)

Tuesday 1 November

Semi Final Bermuda Bowl, Venice Cup & Seniors Bowl

World Transnational Open Teams

Wednesday 2 November

Semi Final Bermuda Bowl, Venice Cup & Seniors Bowl

World Transnational Open Teams

Thursday 3 November

Final & Play off Bermuda Bowl, Venice Cup & Seniors Bowl

World Transnational Open Teams – Qualifying and Quarter Final

Friday 4 November

Final Bermuda Bowl, Venice Cup & Seniors Bowl

Transnational Teams Semi Final and start of Final

Saturday 5 November

Final Bermuda Bowl

Final Transnational Teams

Evening – Prize Giving, Victory Banquet & Musical Show

14. Line-Ups

The Line-ups must be given to the Tournament Director in accordance with the following time schedule. Failure of a captain to submit his line-up in a timely fashion shall result in fines according to Section 21.2

The line-ups for Visiting Teams must be submitted 15 minutes before the beginning of all matches or sessions; the line-ups for Home Teams must be submitted 10 minutes before the beginning of all matches or sessions. Teams lining-up HUM pairs or pairs playing two or more BS conventions must submit their line-ups 25 minutes before the scheduled starting time for the session or match. When both captains submit the line-ups of their teams without having seating rights (as for the Round Robin, see Section 15.3.1) this must be done at least 15 minutes before the scheduled time for the start of the match.

The line-ups during the round robin must for both teams be submitted no later than 15 minutes after the end of the previous round; teams will not know the line-up of their opponents. The line-up for the first round must be given in accordance with the decision taken in the Captains Meeting.

In the K.O. phase the team to line-up first must submit its line-up no later than 15 minutes after the end of the previous session. The second team must then submit its line-up no later than 20 minutes after the end of the previous session or no later than 5 minutes after the submission of the first line-up, whichever is latest.

Line-ups are to be submitted at the place designated by the Operations Director.

If a partnership that has not registered a specific Convention Card is to play, they should indicate on the line-up form which of the registered Convention Cards will be used.

15. Designation Of Matches And Seeding

15.1 Seeding

The teams competing in the Bermuda Bowl, the Venice Cup & the Seniors Bowl will be seeded by draw; draws will be made on a random basis with the only restriction that minor changes can be made in the designations, in order to ensure that teams of the same Country meet in the early rounds.

15.2 Responsibility for the Draw

The draw will be made under the direction of the WBF Management Committee. The team numbers and, by consequence, the sequence of the matches will be published on the WBF Website at www.worldbridge.org and at www.ecatsbridge.com. The Tournament Rules and Regulations Committee has the authority to make some changes in the numbers of the teams (and as a consequence in the sequence of play) if required by occurrences after the draw has been announced.

15.3 Seating Rights

In a match divided in portions the team with the seating rights in the first session of a portion sits NS in the open room during that portion.

In a match divided in an odd number of several sessions the team with the seating rights in a session sits NS in the open room in that session.

Subject always to the over-riding provisions of Section 17.11 the procedures for determining the NS team in each match or session of play shall be as follows:

15.3.1 *Round-robin*

In each match of the round-robin, in order to determine the players' position at the table, the first mentioned team in the published draw sits NS in the Open Room. Both teams will submit their line-ups without having seating rights in accordance with the time limits determined in Section 14

15.3.2 *Quarter-finals, Semi-finals, Final and Play off*

There shall be a coin toss to determine the seating rights in all quarter-final, semi-final, final and play off matches.

The winner of the toss elects in which session (of which portion) it wants to have the seating rights or it may pass this right to the opposing team. This right alternates for the remaining choices during any one of the 32-board (or 16 board sessions where applicable) portions of the match, or it may pass it to the opposing team. Playing portions both teams have seating rights in one of the two sessions

15.4 *Tie-breaks*

Subject to the over-riding provisions of Section 17.11, if there is a tie at the end of the quarter-finals, semi-finals, or the finals, requiring that an extra session of boards be played, there shall be a draw by the captains to determine the seating rights. If, after the first series of additional boards, a tie still exists, the seating rights pass to the opposing team for the next eight boards. Line-up changes may be made before play begins for either the first or second (if needed) group of eight tie-break boards. In each case, the captain of the team with seating rights shall submit its line-up at a time to be determined by the Tournament Director, the opposing team captain within five minutes thereafter. Each group of eight "extra" boards shall be considered as a separate session. If a tie still exists, requiring that single board "sudden death" matches be played, the line-ups and seating positions for both teams will be the same as for the second eight boards of the tie-break.

Important

In all cases, teams that include partnerships using HUM Systems are subject to the rules and regulations of the WBF System Policy as contained in the General Conditions of Contest, Appendix 2 (see also Section 17.11).

16. Change of Players

A change of players, pairs or partnerships can be made only at the beginning of a match or a session (but see exception in Section 19 when extra tie-break boards are played.)

17. Disclosure Of Systems And Conventions

17.1 *WBF Systems Policy*

The WBF Systems Policy forms part of these Conditions of Contest. The Bermuda Bowl and Venice Cup (including the respective Play-offs) are Category 1 events. In Category 1 events all Systems are allowed but see Section 17.2 below for restrictions during the Round Robin Phase.

The World Seniors Bowl and the World Transnational Open Teams are Category 3 events, thus no HUM or Brown Sticker systems are permitted. Any pairs competing in the WTOTC and intending to play Red Sticker systems must

register these in advance (see Section 17.13) and they will require the approval of the Chairman of the Systems Committee.

If a pair is found to have used a convention not listed on its Convention Card, it will be given a disciplinary penalty of up to two VPs deducted from the team's score. In addition, the Tournament Director gives an adjusted score if he deems that the opponents are damaged by the use of such an unknown convention.

The pair will not play again until it has corrected its card to the satisfaction of the Chief Tournament Director.

If the pair re-offends in this way they will not be allowed to play in partnership for the rest of the event. The same penalties will apply to pairs in the Seniors Bowl and the WTOTC and, in addition, such penalties will be applied should any pair in either of these events be found to have used a Brown Sticker Convention.

17.2 General Regulations

During the Round Robin of the Bermuda Bowl and Venice Cup:

If the matches are 16 boards or less, HUM systems and Brown Sticker Conventions will be prohibited

If the matches are longer (17 + boards)

- HUM Systems are still prohibited
- Brown Sticker Conventions will be permitted, with a maximum of 3 per pair

See Section 17.10 for seating rights for pairs using Brown Sticker Conventions and Section 17.11 for special regulations for pairs using HUM systems.

HUM and Brown Sticker Conventions will be authorized for use in the Knock Out stages in both the Bermuda Bowl and Venice Cup but not for the Seniors Bowl and only provided additional, separate convention cards, including viable proposed defences are submitted in full accordance with the regulations below.

17.3 Submission of Systems for the Bermuda Bowl, Venice Cup & Seniors Bowl

Each team captain is responsible for ensuring that the convention cards for his team are sent, by email to the WBF Systems Administrator (See Section 26) as soon as possible, but in any event before 15 August 2005. The Systems for every partnership that will play in these Championships must be described on the official WBF Convention Card, completed in accordance with the Guide to Completion, plus Supplementary Sheets, as necessary to describe conventional sequences in detail. Programs for the preparation of the Cards and Supplementary sheets are listed in Section 17.3.1. Penalties for failure to submit Convention Cards and Supplementary in time are (in addition to Section 17.3.2) specified in Section 21.1.

17.3.1 Programs permitted for the preparation of Convention Cards

The Convention Cards may be prepared using any of the following programs:

- the WBF Convention Card Editor (Windows Version), which is available for free download from www.worldbridge.org or www.ecatsbridge.com
- the Convention Card Editor written by Lee Edwards, available for free download from www.acbl.org or www.ecatsbridge.com
- the DOS Convention Card Editor
- Microsoft Word (a blank template is available from www.ecatsbridge.com)
- Microsoft Excel

- PageMaker or InDesign for the PC

NOTE : Pairs submitting Brown Sticker Systems MUST use the special forms provided which can be obtained from the Websites listed in section 26.4 or by email from anna@ecats.co.uk

When sending cards generated by the WBF CCE, pairs should ensure that if they have supplementary notes, the notes file, which is generated separately by the program, is also included.

The Convention Card may also be sent in Acrobat (PDF) Format PROVIDED Acrobat ver 6 is used and the file size is small. Picture formats (.jpg, .bmp etc) will not be accepted.

If programs other than the approved WBF Convention Card Editor are used, players are responsible for ensuring that the formatting is such that all the information lies within the printable area of the page.

On receipt of the cards, the Systems Administrator will convert the format to PDF files which can be read and printed using Acrobat Reader which is available as a free download from www.adobe.com. It is advised that the latest version should be obtained.

Following registration of the systems for all pairs in a team, the systems will be displayed on a web site designed for the purpose, and the URL (Internet address) will be sent by email to the captain of the team making the registration as well as to the individual team members.

Pairs are responsible for checking their own convention cards on line, to ensure that the card displayed is complete, correct and has any supplementary notes that are required.

Following the event, the WBF reserves the right to display the Convention Cards and Supplementary Sheets in a public area for interested parties to see them. If a full system is submitted, this will not be included on such pages of the site.

17.3.2 *Convention Cards not received in due time*

Any partnership whose duly completed original Card and Supplementary Sheets have not reached the WBF Systems Administrator by 15 August may, in addition to the penalties referred to in Section 21.1, be required by the Tournament Appeals Committee (unless it rules otherwise) to use the system described on the World Standard Card for not less than the first two days of play. Furthermore, no HUM or Brown Sticker Conventions will be permitted for the duration of the Championship

17.3.3 *Contact Information*

Should captains have any queries concerning the systems provided by other teams, they should email the WBF Systems Administrator (anna@ecats.co.uk) who will forward them to the appropriate person for response.

The fact that Cards and Supplementary Sheets are circulated by the WBF (see 17.3) does not mean that the WBF has considered such Cards as completely acceptable; systems although accepted as registered, may require amendments after being circulated.

17.4 *Supplementary Sheets*

Where a conventional sequence cannot be described adequately in the space provided on the WBF Convention Card, a reference number should be placed at

the appropriate place on the Card; a Supplementary Sheet bearing that reference number, and containing the complete explanation must be submitted along with the Card.

17.5 Changes to Cards/Supplementary Sheets

- a) Any changes to the duly submitted (as per section 17.3) Card and/or Supplementary Sheets must be submitted in official form (see (e) below) as early as possible for everyone's benefit, but in any event no later than 01 September 2005. These changes may only be clarifications, amendments, minor additions, and/or cosmetic revisions in accordance with the WBF Systems Policy. NOTE THAT NO CHANGES may be made to Brown Sticker or HUM Systems. If these are not correctly submitted in the first instance, they may not be played.
- b) On site, changes to systems will be approved or required by the Chairman of the WBF Systems Committee or his nominee(s).
- c) In order for a change to be implemented, it will be uploaded to the website and an email sent to all captains to inform them that the Convention Card has been altered. Any essential changes (for example caused by the necessary change to a partnership as a result of withdrawal of a player) made to Convention Cards after 01 September will be relayed to all Captains by email. If such change is made after 15 October, the information will be made available to the Captains at the Captains' Meeting or through Captains' Mailboxes on site.
- d) Approval for a change requested once teams have reached the venue may be given or refused in whole or part by the Chairman of the WBF Systems Committee and may be given subject to conditions. One such condition will usually be that any such change cannot be implemented in the course of a particular round robin or in the course of a particular stage of the event, with possible prejudice to unprepared opponents being a particularly important negative factor. Clarifications and improvements to presentation will not be considered as substantives changes.
- e) Official format for changes:
 - i) A new page of the Convention Card/Supplementary Sheet that reflects the proposed change
 - ii) A separate text document describing completely the proposed change and referring to the place(s) on the new pages where they can be found and any cross-references to Supplementary Sheet notes.

17.6 Special Responsibility for BROWN STICKER Systems and Conventions

With regard to BROWN STICKER systems/conventions, there is a special responsibility for users to explain their methods in sufficient detail (as per the Guide to Completion and the CCE), the **first time that Cards are submitted**.

Explanations and continuations for Brown Sticker Conventions, together with a viable defence, must be presented using the Brown Sticker Convention Announcement forms, which form part of the WBF Systems Policy, and is available in Word Format for download from www.ecatsbridge.com or by email from anna@ecats.co.uk . If these submissions are inadequate, or a defence is not proposed, the pair may be barred from using those badly or inadequately described methods for the entire tournament.

All cards that include BS Conventions for use in the KO Stages must be submitted using the designated form, with full disclosure being made at the time of the first submission. They must be accompanied by a viable and thorough suggested defence, including advances over initial actions and thorough development of actions over multi-meaning continuations by the BSC user's side.

Failure to comply with the above requirements concerning BS Conventions and HUM systems will result in the pair or pairs not being permitted to play these conventions/systems.

These penalties are quite severe, but with the duly executed distribution of these Conditions and all significant materials by the WBF, no pair will be permitted to claim ignorance of this special responsibility. The NBO, the Captains and the players are jointly responsible for contacting the WBF should there be any problems in obtaining the necessary tournament information in timely fashion.

If these materials are received prejudicially late, it is the responsibility of the jointly responsible parties to so inform the WBF as soon as possible.

17.7 Defences to Brown Sticker Conventions

A pair may prepare written defences against the Brown Stickers elements of any system (see the WBF System Policy, attached). These defences are deemed to be part of the opponents' Systems

17.8 Special Regulations For Teams Using HUM Systems

17.8.1 Highly Unusual Methods

Highly Unusual Methods are defined in the WBF Systems Policy which is published as an Appendix to the WBF General Conditions of Contest.

17.9 Submission of HUM Systems

The team captain of any team containing one or more pairs intending to use a HUM System shall send a full copy of any HUM System in English, together with the Convention Card and Supplementary Sheets, to the WBF Systems Administrator by 15 August 2005.

Failure to comply with this regulation or poor presentation of the System may result in such pair or pairs not being permitted to use HUM System, as the Tournament Appeals Committee shall in its discretion determine. In making any such determination, the Tournament Appeals Committee may apply Section 17.9.

Furthermore, it is obligatory that a full printed copy of a HUM System, **in English**, also be filed at the Convention Card Desk, at the Championship site, by the time of the Captains' meeting at the start of the tournament..

17.10 Seating Rights for Pairs using Brown Sticker Conventions

Teams will be awarded seating rights if they are playing against a pair or pairs using two or more BS Conventions

17.11 Regulations for Pairs using HUM Systems

If a team includes any pair using a HUM System, it will be subject to the following regulations:

The pairs using HUM Systems should be available at least 15 minutes before the scheduled beginning of matches or sessions, to supply any information and clarification that may be requested by the opponents.

When a team that includes a pair using a HUM System (whether or not such pair will play) is opposing a team that has no such pair, the HUM System team will always be the Visiting Team. No special seating rights or line-up restrictions shall apply when two teams containing pairs using HUM Systems (regardless of line-up) oppose one another.

The team opposing a team which includes one or more pairs using a HUM System will submit three copies (clearly legible) of their defences (if any) to the HUM System in writing, at least 30 minutes before the scheduled line-up time for the match; these defences shall be filed at the Convention Card Desk and supplied by the captain to the captain of the opposing team. In preparing these defences pairs using Green, Blue or Red Systems are allowed to change their systems including opening calls. Pairs using HUM Systems are not allowed to change their opening calls.

The pair using a HUM System must inform the opponents in writing (hand-written, 2 clearly legible copies) about their counter-defence at the table, prior to the start of the session. In preparing their counter-defence, the pair using the HUM System is not permitted to change any of the highly artificial aspects of its system.

17.12 Written Defences

Written defences against HUM Systems and on defence against the defences as well as written defences against Brown Sticker conventions may be used as permitted against unusual methods in Law 40 (footnote)

17.13 Submission of Systems for the World Seniors Bowl and the WTOTC

Pre-registration of Convention Cards and Supplementary Sheets is mandatory for all pairs in the World Seniors Bowl and for any pairs in the World Transnational Open Teams who are playing Red Sticker Systems.

17.13.1 Registration of Red Sticker Systems

Convention Cards and Supplementary Sheets for these pairs must be registered with the WBF Systems Administrator by 15 August 2005 in accordance with the instructions contained in Sections 17.3, 17.4 and 17.5 and a web site will be set up for such registered systems with the URL (web address) being emailed to any players or captains participating in the World Seniors Bowl for whom such addresses are available or in the case of the WTOTC to those who request it.

17.13.2 Approval of Red Sticker Systems

Even though Red Sticker Systems have been registered and displayed on the Web-site they may still be restricted on site at the discretion of the Chairman of the Systems Committee (or his designee).

If Red Sticker Systems are not registered in advance, then pairs will not be permitted to play these systems for the duration of the relevant championship.

17.13.3 *Registration of other systems*

While it is not mandatory to register systems other than Red Sticker for the WTOTC, pairs are encouraged to do so, and any registered systems will be displayed on the site for other teams to download. Please ensure that email addresses for as many team members as possible are supplied to the WBF Systems Administrator in order to facilitate communication.

18. **Length Of Matches**

Each 16-board match or session of a match is to be completed within two hours and twenty minutes; 2 hours 50 minutes for a 20 board match; 1 hour 30 minutes per 10-board match); after that, teams judged guilty of slow play will be subject to penalty (see section 21.4). Additional time will not be allowed for teams playing on Vu-Graph; neither will extra time be granted because of the use of bidding boxes, screens, discussions of systems or for other similar reasons. Vu-Graph presentation for any match or session will not start until The Tournament Director so decides.

19. **Tie-Breaking Procedures**

19.1 *Two Teams*

If two teams are tied with the same number of Victory Points at the end of the round-robin, the tie shall be broken as follows (in the sequence shown):

- a) IMP quotient (total IMPs won divided by total IMPs lost) in all matches played by the tied teams in that particular event. If the tie remains, then:
- b) IMPs earned by the tied teams in the match they played against each other. If the tie remains, then:
- c) Total points earned by the tied teams in the match they played against each other. If the tie remains then:
- d) Total point quotient in all matches played by the tied team in that particular event. If the tie remains then:
- e) One board ("sudden death") matches will determine the winner.

19.2 *Three Teams*

If three teams are tied with the same number of Victory Points at the end of the round-robin, the tie shall be broken according to the following:

- a) IMP quotient in all matches played by the tied teams in that particular event. If one tie still remains it shall be broken in accordance with Sub-section 19.1. If the three teams remain tied, then:
- b) If one of the teams earned more VPs against each of the other two in the matches it played against them in that particular event, it shall be declared winner and, if necessary, the tie between the remaining two teams shall be broken in accordance with Sub-section 19.1. If the three teams remain tied, then:
- c) If one of the teams earned more VPs against one of the remaining teams and tied with the other in the matches it played between them in that particular event, it shall be declared winner and the tie between the remaining teams shall be broken, if necessary, in accordance with Sub-section 19.1. If the three teams remain tied, then:
- d) If one team has been beaten by the other two teams in matches it played against them in that particular event, it shall be ranked third in the tied positions and the tie between the remaining teams shall be broken in accordance with Sub-section 19.1;

In all other cases, ties shall be broken in accordance with the following:

- a) Highest net total IMPs earned by the tied teams in the matches they played against each other. If one tie still remains it may be broken in accordance with Sub-section 19.1. If the three teams remain tied, then:
- b) Highest net total points earned by the tied teams in matches they played against each other. If one tie still remains it may be broken in accordance with Sub-section 19.1. If the three team remain tied, then:
- c) Total points quotient earned in all matches played by the tied teams. If one tie still remains it may be broken in accordance with Sub-section 19.1. If the three teams remain tied, then:
- d) One-board ("sudden death") matches will determine the winner.

19.3 Four Teams or more

If four or more teams are tied with the same number of Victory Points at the end of the round-robin, the tie shall be broken according to the following:

- a) IMP quotient in all matches played by the tied teams in that particular event, shall govern. Any ties remaining will be broken in accordance with Sub-sections 19.1. and 19.2 if appropriate. If there are more than three teams that remain tied after use of IMP quotients, then:
- b) If one of the teams earned more VPs against each of the remaining tied teams in that particular event or if it has, uniquely, tied one and defeated the other tied teams, it shall be declared winner and the ties for the remaining teams will be broken in accordance with Sub-section 19.2, if appropriate. If there are more than three teams that remain tied, then:
- c) Total points quotient in all matches played by the tied teams in that particular event, shall govern. Any ties remaining will be broken in accordance with Sub-sections 19.1 or 19.2 if appropriate. If there are more than three teams that remain tied after the application of total points quotient, then:
- d) One-board ("sudden death") matches will determine the winner.

19.4 Quarter-Finals, Semi-Finals and Finals

In the quarter-finals, semi-finals, and finals, if a tie exists at the end of the match, it will be resolved by playing eight additional boards. (For line-ups see section 14). Should a tie still exist, eight more boards will be played. If a tie still exists, one-board ("sudden death") matches will determine the winner.

In the case of the World Transnational Open Teams, four additional boards shall be played; if a tie still exists, four more boards will be played. If a tie still exists, one-board ("sudden death") matches will determine the winner.

20. Disqualification

In the case of a team being disqualified, all matches it played prior to its disqualification may in the discretion of the Executive Council be declared void and the scores earned by its opponents in those matches may be cancelled or varied.

21. Penalties

The schedule of penalties which follows is supplemental to the International Code. All infringements of the International Code will be dealt with in accordance with the International Code. Monetary fines shall be paid in US Dollars, or the equivalent in local currency. Monies assessed shall be turned over to the Tournament Director for transmittal to the Chairman of the Tournament Appeals Committee. Upon publication of these Conditions of Contest no further warning is required (whether from the Director or otherwise) prior to the application of any penalty under the provision of the International Code or of these Conditions of Contest.

Victory Point penalties, where applicable, shall be deducted from the score of the offending team at the conclusion of the Round-Robin. The VP penalties shall not affect individual matches for purposes of tie-breaking procedures in any manner, but may determine a team's ranking and affect carry-over.

Penalties assessed in IMPs shall be deducted from the score of the offending team at the conclusion of the match during which the penalty was imposed, before its VP score is calculated. However the score of the non offending team shall not be affected, except in the knockout phase.

21.1 Failure to File Systems in a Timely Fashion

Any team containing a partnership that, for any reason, has failed to comply with the time requirements of Section 17.3 shall (in addition to the requirements of Section 17.3.2):

- a) not be sent the information regarding the website containing the Systems of opposing teams unless and until the whole team has submitted its Convention Cards in accordance with these regulations; and
- b) be subject to a decision of the Tournament Appeals Committee who may forbid the team to use specific conventional understandings not submitted in accordance with these Conditions of Contest. If a disallowed convention is used, the Tournament Appeals Committee may impose penalties at its discretion; and
- c) be fined US\$100.00 (€80) to be paid prior to the commencement of the Tournament.

21.2 Failure to Submit Line-up on Time

If a Captain fails to submit line-ups in accordance with Section 9:

- a) for the first such offence a warning shall be issued by the Tournament Director;
- b) for the second offence there shall be a fine of US\$ 40 (€32);
- c) for the third offence there shall be a fine of US\$ 60 (€48) and for each subsequent offence there shall be a fine of US\$ 100 (€80);

penalties are cumulative.

When failure to provide the line-up in a timely fashion is due to late filing by the captain of the opposing team, penalties under this Section shall be imposed only on the captain of the team whose duty it was to file line-up first. The captain of the other team shall have five minutes after the filing by the offending team's line-up to file his own. If, after filing of the line-up by the offending team, the captain of the non-offending team exceeds the filing deadline, or the extra five minutes allocated in the foregoing, whichever is later, this captain too is deemed guilty of late line-up filing and is subject to penalty under this Section.

21.3 Lateness

Any team not seated and ready to play at the announced starting time of a match or a session of a match will be assessed a penalty according to the following scale:

During the Round-Robin

0+ – 5 minutes late -	warning to captain(s) (after the second warning the provision for 5+ minutes late shall apply)
5+ – 10 minutes late -	1 VP
10+ – 15 minutes late -	2 VPs
15+ – 20 minutes late -	3 VPs
20+ – 25 minutes late -	4 VPs
Over 25 minutes late -	at the Discretion of the Tournament Appeals Committee; may include recommendation of forfeit of match or more severe action by the Executive Council.

During the Knock-out Phase

0+ – 5 minutes late -	warning to captain(s) (after the second warning the provision for 5+ minutes late shall apply)
5+ – 25 minutes late -	1 IMP plus an additional 1 IMP for each full minute or part thereof beyond 5 minutes.
Over 25 minutes late -	at the discretion of the Tournament Appeals Committee; may include recommendation of forfeit of match or more severe action by the Executive Council.

For the above purposes, the Round Robin phase and the Knock Out phase are considered to be separate events. Thus any late arrival warnings issued during the Round Robin are not carried over into the Knock Out phase.

21.4 Slow Play

The time allowed for each match or session shall be computed from the time play in such match or session is started by a Tournament Director. If play continues after the time allowed by Section 18 of these Conditions then either or both of the pairs shall be subject to penalty, according to the amount of delay for which such pair was judged responsible, as follows:

21.4.1 Excess time apportioned to a pair during the Round-Robin

0+ – 5 minutes late -	1 VP
5+ – 10 minutes late -	1½ VPs
10+ – 15 minutes late -	2 VPs
15+ – 20 minutes late -	2½ VPs
20+ – 25 minutes late -	3 VPs
Over 25 minutes late -	at the Discretion of the Tournament Appeals Committee; may include recommendation of forfeit of match or more severe action by the Executive Council.

Example:

If a 16-board match or session took 2 hours and 35 minutes (excess of 15 minutes) and pair A is held responsible for 9 extra minutes and pair B for 6 extra minutes, the total penalty will be 2 VPs; pair A receiving 1.2 VPs penalty and pair B 0.8 VP penalty. In any case if the Tournament Director judges that one match will be so delayed that it would disturb the starting time of the next round, he

may truncate it, reducing the number of the boards played: if this happens the match will be scored only with the boards played at both tables, but the same conversion scale will be used as that used for the complete matches.

21.4.2 *Excess time apportioned to a pair during the Quarter-finals, Semi-finals and Finals:*

- 0+ – 25 minutes late - 1 IMP for each minute or part thereof
Over 25 minutes late - at the Discretion of the Tournament Appeals Committee; may include recommendation of forfeit of match or more severe action by the Executive Council.

A Tournament Director or an official appointed by the President shall determine responsibility for slow play. A partnership which considers its opponents are playing slowly shall inform the Tournament Director who may appoint a monitor if he thinks it is necessary; the partnership is only protected from the time at which the Tournament Director is informed. A Director may install a monitor without request of the players.

21.5 Fouled Boards

See the General Conditions of Contest for explanation. If a board is fouled and it can be determined that one side is clearly at fault that side shall be subject to procedural penalty.

21.6 Frivolous Appeal

Forfeiture of the deposit if the Tournament Appeals Committee determine the appeal to be without merit ("frivolous"). See Section 32 of the General Conditions of Contest.

22. Recording of Matches and Verification Of Scores

22.1 Table Result Card

An official Table Result Card must be filled in by the North or South player at each table, for each match and sessions thereof. Team captains will determine and agree upon the scores for each match and segments thereof and the winning captain shall hand in both table result cards to the TD or scoring desk as instructed at the Captains' Meeting. At the conclusion of each match, or session of a match the Tournament Director shall post an official result.

Players and Captains are reminded that they are responsible for the accuracy of their own scores.

The correction period in Law 79C expires at the time specified in Section 22.3; and thereafter, the results will be final, with the following exceptions:

- i) awaiting decision of the Tournament Appeals Committee on a filed appeal;
- ii) completion of play or replay boards where such replay has been directed by the Tournament Appeals Committee.

22.2 Table Recorders

During the play of each hand of the round-robin and quarter-final matches, when there is not an official record (as in Vu-Graph matches for instance), an Approved Recorder (see General Conditions, Section 26) shall complete the Recording Form provided at the table for each board in accordance with

instructions given. The Team playing North/South is responsible for the provision of such Recorders.

22.3 Score Corrections

Score corrections may be made as sanctioned in Law 79 and in Laws 69 and 71.

An agreed-upon score that is proven to be erroneous to the complete satisfaction of the Chief Tournament Director and the Appeals Committee, may be corrected up to thirty minutes after the posting of scores at the end of play on each day. Only the results of boards played that day are subject to correction.

23. Duplicated Boards

Duplicated boards will be used throughout these Championships, whenever possible.

24. Eligibility for Master Point Awards

According to the WBF Master Points Plan, the following scale of Master Points will be awarded to the Championship events.

24.1 Bermuda Bowl and Venice Cup

Position	Bermuda Bowl		Venice Cup	
	Master Points	Placing Points	Master Points	Placing Points
1	800	5	800	5
2	500	3	500	3
3	300	2	300	2
4	200	1	200	1
5	150		150	
6	120		120	
7	90		90	
8	60		60	

In the Round Robin: Each match won by the team: 6 MPs (accumulative)

Each match tied: 3 MPs (accumulative)

24.1.1 Special Conditions

In order to qualify for the MPs and PPs won by the team, a player, in any case, must have played at least one third of the boards in the Round Robin.

For first place: at least one third of the total number of hands in the final, semi-final and quarter-final combined and at least one third of the total number of hands in the final.

For second place: at least one third the total number of hands in the semi-final and quarter-final combined and at least one third of the total number of hands in the semi-final.

For third place: at least one third of the total number of the hands in the semi-final and play-off combined and at least one third in the playoff

For fourth place: at least one third of the total number of the hands in the semi-final and play-off combined.

24.2 Seniors Bowl

Position	Master Points for Senior Ranking
1	450
2	300
3	150
4	90

24.3 World Transnational Open Teams Championships (WTOTC)

The WTOTC will award Master Points in accordance with the following scale:

Position	Master Points	Placing Points
1	300	2
2	240	1
3	180	0.5
4	150	
5	100	

From 6th to 15% of the field: 50 MPs

From thence to 25% of the field: 25 MPS

In order to qualify for the Master Points and Placement Points won by the team a player must have played at least 16 boards of the semi-final and 16 boards of the final.

In all events, in order to qualify for the title of World Champion, the same criteria regarding number of boards played shall be applied, save that under special circumstances the WBF Executive Council may, at its discretion, over-ride such qualification regulations.

25. Entry Fees

25.1 Bermuda Bowl, Venice Cup & Seniors Bowl US \$ 4,700

A discount of US\$ 1,200 will be available to teams staying in the designated hotels, in which case the entry fee will be US\$ 3,500

25.2 Transnational Teams:

Entry is free to participants from the Bermuda Bowl, Venice Cup & Seniors Bowl

For new teams or teams with four new players: \$1,250 or €1,000 per team less \$250 or €200 discount for teams where all players are staying in the designated hotels.

For teams with three new players: \$1000 (or €800) less \$250 or €200

For teams with two new players: \$650 (or €520) less \$150 or €120

For teams with one new player: \$300 (or €240) less \$100 or €80

26. Contact Addresses

26.1 *The WBF President, Mr José Damiani*

c/o Mrs Christine Francin
World Bridge Federation
40, Rue François 1er.
75008 - Paris, France
Fax: +33 1 40 70 14 51
Email: cfrancin@worldbridgefed.com

26.2 *The WBF Financial Director*

Mrs Christine Francin
World Bridge Federation
40, Rue François 1er.
75008 - Paris, France
Fax +33 1 40 70 14 51
Email: cfrancin@worldbridgefed.com

26.3 *Systems*

Mrs. Anna Gudge
WBF Systems Administrator
The Old Railway Station
Long Melford
Sudbury, Suffolk C010 9HN
England
e-mail: systems@ecats.co.uk

26.4 *Websites:*

The official WBF Website:
www.worldbridge.org

For Systems information:
www.ecatsbridge.com

The official Website of the Olympic Movement:
www.olympic.org

The official Website of the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA)
www.wada-ama.org/