

Asia Pacific Bridge Federation

General Conditions of Contest

for APBF Championships and Congress,
Asia Cup Championships
and other Tournaments
held under the auspices
of the Asia Pacific Bridge Federation

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I. Preamble

These Conditions of Contest are the standard regulations, which apply to all Asia Pacific Bridge Federation Championships & Congress and Asia Cup.

The WBF Systems Policy, the WBF Alerting Policy, the WBF Policy on Psychic Bidding, the WBF Code of Practice and the WBF Anti-Doping Regulations are part of the Conditions of Contest for every Asia Pacific Bridge Federation Championship & Congress and Asia Cup and are annexed to these General Conditions of Contest. The APBF also issue Supplementary Conditions of Contest further to regulate particular APBF Championships & Congress and Asia Cup in accordance with their characteristics. In the event of any inconsistency between these Conditions of Contest and any Supplementary Conditions of Contest, the Supplementary Conditions of Contest shall prevail.

Expressions used in these Conditions of Contest and not defined shall have their ordinary meaning in contract bridge terminology (which may include expressions defined in the Laws of Duplicate Bridge 2007). In the event of any doubt or dispute as to such meaning, the decision of the event's Organising Committee shall be final and conclusive. The singular shall include the plural and vice-versa and reference to one gender shall include the other.

2. Definitions For The General Conditions Of Contest

Unless repugnant to the context or obvious meaning, the following expressions where used in these Conditions of Contest shall have the following meanings:

2.1 APBF

means the Asia Pacific Bridge Federation.

2.2 Approved Recorder

means:

- a) a person approved for the purpose by the Chief Tournament Director or his designee;
- b) either non-playing Captain of the playing teams, or
- c) the North or South player.

2.3 Asia Pacific Bridge Federation Championship & Congress and Asia Cup Championships

means any event so designated by the APBF from time to time and if the context permits, also means the totality of such events scheduled for play at a particular site. The event should generally commence sometime between May I and June 30. Within these limits, actual dates are left to the convenience of the host NBO. However, the host NBO should circulate approximate dates by November I of the previous year.

2.4 Brown Sticker Announcement Form

means the form designed for the announcement of Brown Sticker Conventions (bids, overcalls and subsequent auction) as referred to in the WBF Systems Policy.

2.5 Chief Tournament Director and Assistant Chief Tournament Director

mean the respective Directors so designated by the APBF for an APBF Championship or Congress, or Asia Cup.

2.6 Director or Tournament Director

means a Director as defined in the Laws of Duplicate Bridge 2007 appointed for an APBF Championship or Congress, or Asia Cup.

2.7 Executive Committee

means the Executive Committee of the APBF established under the Constitution and By-Laws of the APBF.

2.8 Guide to Completion

means the publication of that name issued by the WBF to instruct players in the correct completion of WBF Convention Cards for an APBF Championship or Congress, or Asia Cup, copies of which may be obtained from the APBF Systems Administrator whose address can be found in the Supplementary Conditions of Contest.

2.9 Highly Unusual Methods (HUM)

mean any of the systemic agreements so described in the WBF Systems Policy.

2.10 Host NBO

means the NBO which hosts a APBF Championship or Congress, or Asia Cup.

2.11 HUM System

means a System that utilises Highly Unusual Methods.

2.12 Law

means a Law contained in the Laws of Duplicate Bridge 2007.

2.13 Line-Up Desk

means the facility set up at the site of an APBF Championship or Congress, or Asia Cup for the teams to register their Line-ups and for the provision of other services relating thereto.

2.14 NBO

means a National Bridge Organisation that is a member of the APBF.

2.15 Playing Area

the area defined by the APBF which may include the lobby in the immediate vicinity of the actual playing rooms, the toilets adjoining the playing rooms which are designated for the use of the players and any other rooms/lobby areas to be decided on site. Such areas will be identified to the participants through the Souvenir Programme or the Daily Bulletin at the Championships.

2.16 President

means the President of the APBF.

2.17 Reviewer and His Assistants

The reviewer and his assistant(s) are appointed by the APBF President before the start of the championship and will review the TD's rulings where required to do so.

2.18 Schedule of Play

means the schedule for the play of an Asia Pacific Bridge Federation Championship or Congress or Asia Cup, either as contained in the Supplementary Conditions of Contest or as subsequently determined by the APBF.

2.19 Session

means a segment of play (as prescribed by the Schedule of Play) after which scores are computed.

2.20 Supplementary Conditions of Contest

means the additional Conditions of Contest issued from time to time by the APBF for the further regulation of APBF Championships & Congress and Asia Cup.

2.21 Supplementary Sheets

means such additional pages containing system details as are annexed to and form part of WBF Convention Cards in accordance with these and the Supplementary Conditions of Contest.

2.22 System

means all agreements and understandings a pair has as to the meaning of any call or play as those respective expressions are defined in the Laws of Duplicate Bridge 2007.

2.23 System Desk

means the facility set up at the site of an APBF Championship or Congress or Asia Cup for the filing of systems and for the provision of other services relating thereto.

2.24 These Conditions of Contest

means these General Conditions of Contest.

2.25 WBF

means the World Bridge Federation, an International Sport Federation recognised by the IOC and incorporated in Switzerland.

2.26 WBF Alerting Policy

means the Policy, issued by the WBF from time to time and adopted by the APBF, that regulates the alerting procedure in an APBF Championship or Congress or Asia Cup (see Appendix 2: WBF Alerting Policy)

2.27 WBF Convention Card or Card

means the Convention Card authorised by the WBF and adopted by the APBF for the disclosure of Systems by contestants in an APBF Championship or Congress or Asia Cup and includes Supplementary Sheets.

2.28 WBF Convention Booklet

means the definition of bidding conventions published under that name by the WBF and adopted by the APBF for use by contestants in an APBF Championship or Congress or Asia Cup in conjunction with the WBF Convention Cards. For the interpretation of these General Conditions any special partnership understanding is included in the terms "convention", "conventional call", "conventional play", "conventional agreement" or the like. The Convention Booklet is contained within the WBF Guide to Completion of the Convention Card (see Section 2.8).

2.29 WBF Policy on Psychic Bidding

means the policy, issued by the WBF from time to time and adopted by the APBF, that specifies the APBF's Policy with regard to Psychic Bidding (see Appendix 3: WBF Psychic Bidding Policy).

2.30 WBF Systems Policy

means the Policy, issued by the WBF from time to time and adopted by the APBF that regulates the use of Systems in an APBF Championship or Congress or Asia Cup Championship (see Appendix I: WBF Systems Policy and APBF Adoption).

2.31 World Standard Card

means the Card devised by the WBF and adopted by the APBF for use in specific circumstances defined in the Supplementary Conditions of Contest, copies of which will be available at an APBF Championship or Congress or Asia Cup.

2.32 Zone

means a geographical zone of the WBF and includes any NBO or NBOs representing a Zone.

3. Conditions of Entry

3.1 General

Asia Pacific Bridge Federation Championships & Congress and Asia Cup are conducted under the auspices of the APBF and all events designated as APBF Championships & Congress and Asia Cup shall be played in accordance with the Laws of Duplicate Bridge 2007. These Conditions of Contest, and any Supplementary Conditions of Contest, supplement the Laws of Duplicate Bridge 2007 as required.

By participating in an APBF Championship or Congress or Asia Cup, each NBO and its contestants agree that all or part of any event may be filmed, recorded, or otherwise documented or publicised at the discretion of the APBF. Each NBO agrees that in the interest of promoting goodwill in the

world, and for the proper conduct of an APBF Championship or Congress or Asia Cup, it shall instruct its contestants that they must compete against all other contestants. Entry in an APBF Championship or Congress or Asia Cup and subsequent refusal to play against any other team or contestant as required by the Schedule of Play shall result in immediate disqualification of any team, or of any contestant refusing to play. Such disqualification shall extend for the balance of the APBF Championship or Congress or Asia Cup involved. Furthermore, the offending contestant(s) and their NBO shall be subject to suspension from participation in any future event conducted under the auspices of the APBF for such period as the APBF in its discretion shall determine.

3.2 Invitation to Participate

Participation in an APBF Championship or Congress or Asia Cup is by APBF invitation only. Furthermore, no player shall be eligible to compete unless his name has been submitted in writing by his NBO to the APBF, for invitation by the APBF - see also Section 4.

4. Eligibility

4.1 General

To be eligible for participation in an APBF Championship or Congress or Asia Cup a competitor must comply with the Olympic Charter as well as with the rules of the APBF, and must be entered by his NBO. He must notably respect the spirit of fair play and ethics, and behave accordingly.

4.2 Credentials Committee

The APBF Executive Committee will be the Credentials Committee of the APBF Championship or Congress or Asia Cup, whose functions shall be (subject to these Conditions)

- a) to determine all questions relating to the rights and eligibility of players and non-playing captains whose names have been submitted by a NBO for invitation to compete in an APBF Championship or Congress or Asia Cup, taking into account the reports (if any) received from NBOs regarding previous proceedings involving suspension of or disciplinary proceedings against players under their jurisdiction. The names of players and non-playing captains submitted by the NBOs for invitation to an APBF Championship or Congress or Asia Cup must be transmitted to the President, or his designee, in writing, as prescribed by the relevant Supplementary Conditions of Contest;
- b) in its discretion, to refuse to invite any player or non-playing captain whose name has been submitted for invitation by a NBO, as aforesaid, to participate in an APBF Championship or Congress or Asia Cup. In any such case of refusal, the Credentials Committee shall give no reason.

4.3 Eligibility Requirements

The Credentials Committee must ensure that each nominated contestant satisfies the birth and residence requirements of the NBO nominating him belongs as follows:

Except for those players being nominated for participation in any APBF Youth Championship or Transnational Event (as defined by the Executive Committee), to determine that any competitor in an APBF Tournament must be a national of the country of the NBO entering him for participation, or the player has been a resident in the NBO concerned during three years out of the five years immediately preceding the date of the Tournament, or the player has lived six months immediately preceding the Tournament in the NBO concerned, subject to the following:

- i) If a competitor is a national of two or more countries at the same time, he may represent either one of them, as he may elect.
- ii) If a competitor has represented one country in an APBF Championship or WBF Tournament and has changed his nationality or acquired a new nationality, he shall not participate in an APBF Championship to represent his new country until after three years of such change or acquisition. This period may be reduced or even cancelled upon the request of the NBO with the approval of the APBF Executive Committee.
- iii) If a new NBO is affiliated as a member of APBF, a competitor may continue to represent the country to which he belongs or belonged. However, he may, if he prefers, choose to represent his country or be entered in an APBF Championship by his new NBO if one exists. This particular choice may be made only once.

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

4.4 Over-Riding Eligibility Regulations

The Supplementary Conditions for a specific event may specify over-riding Eligibility Regulations based on residency qualifications which prevail for that particular championship or congress.

4.5 Eligibility for Youth Players

As a general rule, players competing in Junior and Girls events shall be aged 25 years or younger in the calendar year in which the competition is to take place. Players competing in Youngsters events shall be aged 20 years or younger in the calendar year in which the competition is to take place. For example: throughout 2017, Juniors and Girls are players born in 1992 or later, Youngsters are players born in 1997 or later.

4.6 Eligibility for Senior Players

In order to be eligible to participate in APBF Seniors events, players must be at least 60 years of age or attain the age of 60 during the calendar year of the Championship or Congress or Asia Cup.

5. Official Language

English is the official language of an APBF Championship or Congress or Asia Cup. During a match the players may converse only in English unless both captains (in team events) or all four players at the table (in pair's events) agree to use some other common language at their own risk. If necessary, each captain is responsible for the provision of an interpreter for translation into English. The Laws printed in English will be used by the Tournament Directors to adjudicate irregularities. No request for review due to misunderstanding in a language other than English will be entertained.

6. Ethics And Deportment

6.1 Player's Obligations

All contestants in APBF Championships or Congress or Asia Cup are required to conform at all times to the highest standards of ethics and deportment. The APBF expects all teams and partnerships to play to win at all times and in all circumstances. All contestants (including non-playing captains) are also expected to accept the decisions made by the championship authorities in a courteous and sportsmanlike manner.

6.2 Looking at Partner

Players are requested not to look at their partners during play of a hand. The objective is to avoid any suggestion of unethical communication.

6.3 Anti-Betting Regulation

It shall be a violation for any player, team captain or official, or any other persons associated with or related to a player, team captain or official participating in any APBF event to wager on the results of any such event or part thereof. Any violation will be subject to charges to be presented to a hearing before the APBF Executive Committee.

7. Anti-Doping Regulations

It is mandatory for all participants to follow the WBF Anti-Doping regulations adopted by the APBF detailed in Appendix 5.

8. Dress Code

NBOs are asked to take note of the recognition of Bridge as a Sport by the IOC and requests that players should, at all times, be dressed appropriately; this is particularly the case at the Opening Ceremony and at the Prize Giving Ceremony or Victory Banquet, when it is expected that teams should at least be uniformly dressed even if a team uniform is not available. During play appropriate dress would, for example, be an open-necked shirt, or a smart polo or sweatshirt worn with trousers or skirt as appropriate.

9. Restrictions

The following restrictions apply to the playing areas (see definition of these areas in Section 2.15).

9.1 Smoking and Alcohol

Smoking and the consumption of alcoholic beverages of any nature in the playing area are prohibited. No player may leave the playing area in order to smoke or consume alcohol before the end of his match. Any player or team official smoking or consuming alcohol before, during or after the session in these areas will result in his team being fined 2 VPs, or in the case of pairs events, will result in his partnership being fined 25% of the match points available on a board during the session. Constant violation of this regulation will result in the player being prohibited from playing and in the team official not being admitted into the playing area.

9.2 Mobile Phones and Electronic Devices

Mobile telephones and electronic devices may not be brought into the playing area and toilets. Any player or team official bringing such an item into these areas will result in his team being fined 2 VPs or in the case of pairs events, will result in his partnership being fined 25% of the match points available on a board during the session. This penalty is mandatory. Constant violation of this regulation will result in the player being prohibited from playing and in the team official not being admitted into the playing area. The Chief Tournament Director may, at his discretion, prohibit a player from bringing other equipment into the playing area. Anyone entering the playing area may be required to comply with procedures put in place by the APBF for the detection of such electronic equipment. See also Section 28.1 for restrictions pertaining to spectators.

The Chief Tournament Director will arrange for random checks of players and team officials to ensure that there is compliance with these prohibitions. Refusal to submit to these checks will bar the individual concerned from the playing area and toilet area for the duration of the match or until such time as the Chief Tournament Director in consultation with the Executive Committee shall decide.

10. Disqualification from any APBF Championship or Congress or Asia Cup

Should a team, pair or individual play be disqualified as a result of a decision made by the Executive Committee, no refund of the entry fees, either in part or in whole, will be made.

11. Vu-Graph

All contestants are required to play on Vu-Graph whenever assigned to do so by the President or his designee. In the absence of any contrary stipulation, the room from which play is broadcast to the Vu-Graph audience shall be the Open Room.

12. Media Presentation

Players are required to participate in any public presentation of matches, interviews etc arranged by the APBF, including video, Internet, TV, radio or any other media presentation.

13. Completion of WBF Convention Card

13.1 Publication of Systems

Registration of Convention Cards with the APBF gives the APBF the right to publish such convention cards via Internet or to any parties at the Championship or Congress or Asia Cup in such form as it sees fit. When full systems are registered on site, for the purposes of providing additional information, these will not be published by the APBF to persons other than those requiring them for the purpose of running the Tournament.

13.2 Requirements

Contestants are required to make full written disclosure of their System and also to make a full disclosure of the meaning of any call or play in response to

a proper question at the table from an opponent. The Supplementary Conditions of Contest will set forth detailed procedures for that disclosure, in accordance with the WBF Systems Policy and in addition to rules established in these Conditions of Contest.

The full written disclosure referred to in the above paragraph is made by the completion in due form of the WBF Convention Card and Supplementary Sheets as required. Partnerships are required to file their Convention Cards and Supplementary Sheets in accordance with the Supplementary Conditions of Contest. A Card will not be regarded as having been completed in due form for the purposes of this section unless:

- a) all sections of the Card have been accurately and legibly completed, in English, in accordance with the Guide to Completion, these Conditions of Contest, and the Supplementary Conditions of Contest;
- b) the Card and Supplementary Sheets contain a clear and sufficient explanation of the System used, including, without limitation, all competitive agreements and understandings, it being accepted by the APBF that the full particulars of some sequences (such as relays) which occur in later rounds of the auction, may be omitted from the Card without such omission constituting a breach of the requirement that the Card contain a clear and sufficient explanation of the System;
- c) the type of System and its appropriate colour are duly indicated in the prescribed place on the Card.
- d) any appropriate Brown Sticker or other forms required by the WBF Systems Policy are fully completed and appended to the Card.

13.3 Supplementary Sheets

- a) The WBF Convention Card may be supplemented by the addition of Supplementary Sheets. The function of the Supplementary Sheets is to facilitate the full disclosure of Systems and the relationship of material on a Supplementary Sheet to material on a Card should be clearly indicated by corresponding numbers on both the Card and the Supplementary Sheet.
- b) The number of Supplementary Sheets allowed, as well as the procedures for amendment and variation of Convention Cards will be set forth in the Supplementary Conditions of Contest.

13.4 General

- a) If a player makes use of any conventional call not sufficiently described on his Card (including Supplementary Sheets), that player's partnership may be subject to a procedural penalty (Law 90) for the infraction and/or to disciplinary penalty as well as to score adjustments to redress any damage.
- b) The onus of disclosure is on the user. When there is a claim of damage through inadequate disclosure, the Tournament Director will give the benefit of any doubt to the opponents.

14. Use of Convention Card at Table

Unless otherwise set forth in the Supplementary Conditions of Contest, each member of a pair must hand to one of his opponents at the table during each Session of an event his duly completed Card and Supplementary Sheet(s) (incorporating any variations made pursuant to

the provisions of the Supplementary Conditions of Contest for a specific APBF Championship or Congress or Asia Cup) which shall contain in the designated place on the Card an indication of the appropriate colour. These are to be reclaimed at the end of the Session. After withdrawing his cards from the board and until they are restored at the conclusion of the play, a player may not consult his own Card or Supplementary Sheets. He may consult the WBF Convention Booklet in respect of a call made by an opponent, but not in respect of a call made by his partner, or one made or contemplated by himself, and he may consult written defences against Brown sticker conventions and HUM-aspects in his opponents system.

15. Alerts and Explanations

An alertable call is defined in the WBF Alerting Policy (see Appendix 2: WBF Alerting Policy). Subject to the provisions of Section 25.2 when screens are in use, the partner of a player who has made an alertable call must immediately alert his opponents unless they have stated, before the auction started on the first board of the set that they do not wish to be alerted. It is the responsibility of the alerting player to alert clearly. No explanation of the meaning of the alertable call should be made unless requested by an opponent. Request for explanation of an alertable call may be deferred until later in the auction, or until after the auction has closed in accordance with Law 20.

16. WBF Convention Booklet

Except in the case of initial action, whether offensive or defensive, showing two or more specified suits (for which the suits involved must be specified on the convention card) a reference on the Card to the name of a convention described in the WBF Convention Booklet which is contained on the WBF CCE or within the WBF Guide to Completion (obtainable from www.ecatsbridge.com Documents section) shall be deemed to incorporate on the Card the full text of the relevant convention as described in the WBF Convention Booklet. Should any modification of the description contained in the WBF Convention Booklet be used, sufficient details of such modification must appear on the Card in the appropriate section where the subject convention is named. No modification should be written on the WBF Convention Booklet itself.

17. Non-Playing Captains in Team Tournaments

17.1 General

A non-playing captain (NPC) may observe his team during play subject to the rules set forth in this Section and to any supplementary regulation made from time to time by the APBF before an APBF Championship or Congress or Asia Cup begins. The NPC must enter the room before play begins at the start of a Session, and if the NPCs of both teams are in the room, they shall sit on the same side of the screen. In case of dispute the "Home Team" captain shall decide on which side of the screen they will sit. A NPC may observe play in the Closed Room at the discretion of the Chief Tournament Director.

17.2 Procedure during matches

a) A NPC who leaves the room, except as provided in this Section, cannot return during that Session. Exceptionally, if the NPC is requested to leave

- the playing room (for the purpose of consultation or for whatever reason) by a Tournament Director, the President, or the Chairman of the Organising Committee, he may (but need not) be permitted to return to that playing room at the discretion of the Tournament Director.
- b) A NPC is bound to the same restrictions as spectators (Law 76), except that he may intervene to restrain misbehaviour or curtail unnecessary discussion on the part of his team members, and may with the concurrence of the Tournament Director speak to questions of fact or law, after the Tournament Director has been called to the table, but may not call the Tournament Director.
- c) During the time allowed for a Session, whether play is actually taking place at the moment or not, a NPC should not address members of his team at the table in any but the English language or in a language understood by the opponents. If it is desired to use a language other than English, the permission of the opponents should be sought, and, where reasonably possible, should be given. If difficulty arises, a NPC wishing to speak to his team in a language not known to the opponents should do so through an interpreter or team member who can translate for the benefit of the opponents.
- d) At any time when a comparison of scores is allowed a non-playing Captain may draw his players' attention to his observation of an infraction but he is bound as a spectator by Law 76B until that time.

17.3 Delegation of responsibility by the NPC

NPCs are responsible for the performance of various functions detailed in these Conditions of Contest and the Supplementary Conditions of Contest. While the APBF recognises the importance of other team officials (such as coach, etc.), it is only when they are specifically named by the NPC, and have been invited to participate in the relevant APBF Championship or Congress or Asia Cup by the APBF, that they may perform certain of the official functions assigned to the NPC. Such additional team officials may not enter the playing rooms unless they obtain the permission of the APBF President and the President may impose conditions on such entrance in his discretion.

18. Substitutes in Team Tournaments

If, for any reason, a team is unable to produce four players, either at the start of a session or because of an emergency that develops during the session, the Chief Tournament Director, in consultation with the captain of the team, may designate a substitute to complete the team. A substitute need not be a member of the NBO represented by the team on which he or she substitutes, but must not be a player from another team and may not be a male in the case of an event restricted to women.

The Chief Tournament Director, having designated a substitute, shall inform the Tournament Organising Committee and the Executive Committee as soon as practicable. The results obtained by the substitute shall stand unless the Executive Committee judges that the substitute's bridge skills were considerably greater than those of the player replaced, in which case an adjusted score may be determined. Whether or not the result stands, the Executive Committee may impose appropriate penalties when it judges a team to be at fault.

The Executive Committee shall have authority to determine whether, and to what extent, a substitute may become a permanent replacement.

19. Substitutes in Pair Tournaments

The Chief Tournament Director may make emergency substitutions whenever they are necessary to the smooth operation of the game. If this will, or may, cause the resultant disqualification of any contestant, the contestant shall, where practicable, be notified at the time the substitution is made.

20. Forfeits in Team Tournaments

If a team is unable to play or complete a match, the Executive Committee may find that team to be in default and declare the match forfeited or postponed. The team in forfeit shall score zero Victory Points and zero IMPs for that match. The team winning the forfeited match will receive the best score between: (a) 12 VPs using the 20-0 VP scale, (b) the team's average, or (c) the average score obtained by all the other opponents against the team at fault, whichever is greater. If it is, or becomes, necessary also to assign an IMP score for tie breaking or carry-over purposes, the winning team shall be credited with the average number of IMPs, rounded up, which earn the assigned Victory Points score.

21. Substitute Boards in Team Tournaments

A "substitute board" is one introduced into play in a session or a match, to replace a board already played at one or both tables. Depending upon the decision of the Chief Tournament Director, the results of a substitute board may, or may not, be counted as part of the session or match. Substitute boards are put into play by the Tournament Director either on his own volition or by direction of the Chief Tournament Director.

22. Fouled Boards

A board is considered "fouled" if the Tournament Director determines that one or more cards were misplaced in the board in such a manner that contestants who should have direct comparison did not play the board in identical form. If in a team event a pre-duplicated board is wrongly dealt and Law 13 of the Laws of Duplicate Bridge 2007 applies in such a way that the board cannot be played, the board is considered to be a fouled board.

22.1 Fouled Boards in Team Tournaments

A board is not considered fouled if the boards played in the same match are identical even though that board may differ from the like numbered board played in simultaneous matches. In general, a fouled board should be replayed through the substitution of a new board. In addition, penalties will apply in certain circumstances (in accordance with the Supplementary Conditions of Contest). Replays through the substitution of one new board shall not be permitted after the result of a match may be known to the contestants, as to which circumstances the Tournament Director's decision shall be binding. That match is scored as though the board had never been played *.

The same rules apply whenever a substitute board would normally be played, for example, when the Executive Committee nullifies a board. When the

Tournament Director has reason to believe the Executive Committee may wish to have a substitute board played in the final session of a match, he should have a provisional board played during the session with an extra time allowance of 8 minutes. The Tournament Director, on his own volition, may instruct that a provisional board be played pending a future decision.

*Example: if the 7th board in a 16-board match is fouled and the error is discovered when the contestants are computing the result of the match, the board is disregarded and the match is scored as though it consisted of only 15 boards, no additional IMPs will be awarded.

22.2 Fouled Boards in Pair Tournaments

When a board has been fouled, the Tournament Director shall determine where the foul occurred. If guilt can be determined, penalties should be assessed in accordance with the Supplementary Conditions of Contest. Procedures for scoring fouled boards are contained in the Supplementary Conditions of Contest.

23. Bidding Boxes, BridgeMates and other devices

23.1 Bidding boxes

The use of bidding boxes is mandatory throughout an APBF Championship or Congress or Asia Cup. Starting with the dealer, players place the bidding cards on the table in front of them, from the left and neatly overlapping so that all calls are visible and faced towards partner; players should refrain from touching any bidding cards until they have determined their call. A call is considered to have been made when the bidding card(s) is removed from the bidding box with apparent intent (but Law 25 may apply and if a player's mind was elsewhere as he makes an unintended call the 'pause for thought' should be assessed from the moment when he first recognises his error).

Alerts should be made by the use of the alert card; it is the responsibility of the alerting player to ensure that his opponents are aware of the Alert. STOP card is NOT to be used. After a skip bid an opponent may pause as though the STOP card has been used.

Until they are removed from the table, a player obtains a review of the auction by inspecting the bidding cards. When such inspection is not feasible a player may obtain a written review of the auction at his first turn to play to trick one. If a player whose pass will conclude the auction removes his bidding cards from the table he is deemed to have passed.

If screens are in use the foregoing is modified - see Section 26.

23.2 BridgeMates and other devices used for the recording of matches

BridgeMate IIs are currently used for the official recording of the scores throughout the APBF Championships or Congress or Asia Cup. This recording is the responsibility of the team sitting North/South at each table. The E/W pair will be responsible for agreeing the score by keying in their confirmation. The official score will be that keyed in by N/S and agreed by E/W. Players and Captains are reminded that they are responsible for the accuracy of their own scores. Repeated violation of correct entering procedures may be subject to penalties.

24. Verification of Scores

The correction period in Law 79C expires upon the commencement of the next match or segment, or - in respect of the final match or segment of any phase of the event only - 30 minutes after the final result has been posted and thereafter, the results will be final, with the following exceptions:

- awaiting a review;
- completion of play or replay boards where such replay has been directed by the Executive Committee.

24.1 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 may be corrected up to 30 minutes after the posting of the scores at the end of play on each day. Only the results of the boards played that day are subject to correction.

25. Play of the Cards

During the course of play, each card should be played towards partner in a consistent manner and placed on the table in the same position each time so that it can be seen by all players at the table. Quitted tricks should be placed consistently in a neat row in front of the player, evenly overlapping with tricks won pointing towards partner and tricks lost pointing towards the opponents.

26. Screen Regulations

Screens will be used whenever possible in an APBF Championship or Congress or Asia Cup.

26.1 Description of the Operation

The North and East players sit on the same side of the screen throughout. It is North's responsibility to place the board on, and to remove the board from, the bidding tray. The sequence is this: North places the board on the bidding tray after which the aperture is closed (and remains so during the entire auction period) so that the bidding tray can just pass under it. The players remove the cards from the board. Calls are made with the cards from the bidding box. The player places the selected call in the bidding tray, which will be visible only on the player's side of the screen. A player's first call should touch the extreme left of his own segment of the bidding tray, with subsequent calls overlapping neatly and evenly to the right. Players should make every effort to perform these actions as quietly as possible. With screens in use a call is considered 'made' when placed on the tray and released. A player who removes one or more of his bidding cards from the tray in an apparent attempt to "pass" is indeed deemed to have "passed".

After two players on the same side of the screen have made their calls, North or South (as the case may be) slides the bidding tray under the centre of the screen so as to be visible only to the players on the other side. They then make their calls in like manner and the bidding tray is slid back again. This

procedure is continued until the auction is completed. It is considered desirable that players should vary the tempo randomly when returning the tray under the screen. After all four players have had the opportunity to review the auction (equivalent to the right of having the auction restated) the players replace their bidding cards in their respective bidding boxes. The bidding tray shall be removed from the table by a member of the declaring side. After a legal opening lead is faced, the screen aperture is opened the minimum necessary to permit all players to see the dummy cards and the cards played to each trick. If a defender exposes a card and, because of the screen, declarer does not see it, dummy may draw attention to the irregularity.

26.2 Alerts and Explanations

- a) A player who makes an alertable call as defined in Appendix 2 must alert his screen-mate, and partner must alert on the other side of the screen when the bidding tray arrives there. The alert must be made by placing the Alert Card over the last call of the screen-mate, in his segment of the bidding tray; the alerted player must acknowledge by returning the Alert Card to his opponent. A player may, by written question, ask for an explanation of an opponent's call; the screen-mate then provides a written answer.
- b) At any time during the Auction a player may request of his screen mate, in writing, a full explanation of an opponent's call. The reply is also in writing.
- c) At all times from the commencement of the Auction to the completion of play each player receives information only from his screen mate about the meanings of calls and explanations given. Questions during the play period should be in writing with the aperture closed. The screen is raised after the response has been made. Therefore the tournament director cannot make enquiries on a player's behalf on the other side of the screen during the auction or play.

26.3 Modifications of Laws when Screens are in Use

- a) An irregularity passed through the screen is subject to the normal laws, with the following provisions:
 - i) an inadmissible call see Law 35 must be corrected.
 - ii) if a player infringes the law and, inadvertently (otherwise Law 23 may apply), the irregularity is passed through the screen by his screen mate the latter has accepted the action on behalf of his side in situations where the laws permit LHO to accept it.
- b) Before an irregularity is passed through the screen the offender or his screen mate shall draw the Director's attention to it. Infringing calls shall not be accepted and shall be put right without other rectification (but see (a)(ii) above); any other irregularity shall be rectified and the Director ensures that only the legal auction is passed through the screen. No player on the other side of the screen shall be informed of the occurrence unless the application of a law requires it.
- c) The screen mate should attempt to prevent an opening lead out of turn. Any opening lead out of turn shall be withdrawn without other rectification if the screen has not been opened. Otherwise:

- i) when the screen has been opened through no fault of the declaring side (and the other defender has not led face up) Law 54 applies.
- ii) when the declaring side has opened the screen the lead is accepted. The presumed declarer becomes the actual declarer, Law 23 may apply.
- iii) when two opening leads are faced by the defending side the incorrect lead is a major penalty card.
- iv) for a card faced by the declaring side see Law 48.
- d) When an alertable call is made see 26.2 above.
- e) When a player takes more than a normal time to make his call, it is not an infraction if he draws attention to the break in tempo. His screen mate, however, shall not do so.
- f) If a player on the side of the screen receiving the tray considers there has been a break in tempo and consequently there may be unauthorised information he should, under Law 16B2, call the director. He may do so at any time before the opening lead is made and the screen opened.
- g) Failure to do so as F provides may persuade the Director it was the partner who drew attention to the break in tempo. If so he may well rule there was no perceived delay and thus no unauthorised information. A delay in passing the tray of up to 20 seconds is not regarded as significant.
- h) However, if the players have not been randomising the tempo of the auction as desired by section 26.1 paragraph 2, then a delay of less than 20 seconds may well be regarded as being significant.

27. Duplicated Boards

Whenever possible, duplicated boards will be used throughout all APBF Championships & Congress and Asia Cup.

28. Attendance in Playing Rooms

Subject to any supplementary regulations made by the Executive Committee or special permission of the President, only the following are permitted to enter the playing rooms:

- a) participants assigned to play in that room;
- b) Tournament Directors;
- c) personnel needed to operate these tournaments, including assigned recorders, scorers, timers, caddies and Vu-Graph personnel;
- d) the President;
- e) Chairman of the Organising Committee;
- f) The Reviewer or his assistants;
- g) staff personnel for provision of refreshment and room cleaning, if necessary;
- h) "Officials on duty" appointed for a specific session or sessions by the President;
- i) a maximum of two members of the Daily Bulletin staff to be named by its
- j) a maximum of eight approved journalists who have been accredited by the President (or his designee).

The assignments of places in the playing rooms to those in categories (i) and (j) shall be made by the Editor of the Daily Bulletin subject to the following rules: (There are a maximum of 10 individuals who represent categories (i) and (j). For purposes of the

following, those 10 are considered a single group and members of it are referred to as "representatives").

- Except by permission of the President, not more than one "representative" shall be at any table at the same time; preference will be given to category (i).
- The "representative" must enter the room before the session begins, must remain on the same side of the screen throughout the session and, should he leave before the end of the session, may not re-enter any playing rooms.
- "Representatives" in categories (i) and (j) may be assigned to Open and Closed Rooms.
- A "representative" from category (j) may not be assigned to either room of a match that is presented on Vu-Graph. A "representative" from category (i) may be assigned only to the Closed Room of a Vu-Graph match. However, if both rooms of a match are being simultaneously presented on Vu-Graph, "representatives" from all categories shall be excluded from both playing rooms of that match.
- A "representative" from category (j) who is from the same NBO as a player in that room, is deemed to be, for purpose of Law II, a spectator for whose presence at the table that player is responsible. Accordingly, the player's consent is required for the "representative's" presence at the table.

The Executive Committee may increase the number of the approved journalists specified in (j) above if the space available and the security conditions permit. Subject to conditions of play, the President may permit spectators to watch matches in the Open Room. In this event, a spectator should be seated at one side of the screen and no more than six spectators may watch at any one table. Spectators can only watch one match. Non-playing players from a team are not permitted to watch either own team's match.

An individual who observes an irregularity when a spectator is subject to the inhibition in Law 76B until a ruling on the board may no longer be sought. "Representatives" are spectators, as also are other non-participants observing the play.

28.1 Restrictions

The following restrictions apply to the playing areas (see definition of these areas in Section 2.16).

Spectators are not permitted to smoke or consume any alcoholic drinks in these areas, nor may they bring mobile telephones, pagers or other electronic equipment into these areas. Spectators contravening any of these regulations will be required to leave the playing area immediately and will not be permitted to return for the remainder of the Championships without specific permission from the Chief Tournament Director.

The Chief Tournament Director may, at his discretion, prohibit a spectator from bringing other equipment into the playing area. Anyone entering the playing area may be required to comply with procedures put in place by the APBF for the detection of such electronic equipment.

29. Rulings

The Tournament Director shall be summoned to a table as soon as attention is drawn to an irregularity. After the Director has given the ruling, a request for a review may be made.

30. Review Following a Tournament Director's Ruling

30.1 General

The WBF Code of Practice is utilised by the Tournament Directors before any rulings are given, and such rulings are made in consultation with other Directors, senior players and other personnel as appropriate.

The Code of Practice will apply. Players should note the procedures which the Code calls upon them to adopt (as, for example, that they should randomise and make unpredictable the tempo of passing the tray).

30.2 Request for a Review

A request for a review of a Tournament Director's ruling must be lodged within 30 minutes of the first posting of the official score for the session in which the board was played that is the subject of the ruling. All such requests must be lodged by the team's Captain or his designee, or by one member of the pair in a pair's events.

30.3 Requests for Review Deposit

When lodging a Request for Review the appellant must make a monetary deposit with the Tournament Director. The amount of deposit required will be not less than US\$100 (or its equivalent in local currency). This deposit will be refunded unless the Reviewer determines that the request was without merit, in which case the deposit will be forfeited.

31. Review Procedure

31.1 General

The case will be reviewed by a person who was not involved in the original decision. The Reviewer will check that the TD has gathered the necessary evidence of what occurred when the infraction arose. The Reviewer will then need to be satisfied that the correct law was applied and that other TDs were consulted where appropriate. In matters involving the judgement that was exercised by a player following unauthorised information, incorrect explanation or failure to alert, the Reviewer will clarify that suitable players have been asked appropriate questions to enable a judgmental view to be obtained. Finally the Reviewer will check that ruling that was issued based upon all the information available to the TDs was within the bounds of reasonableness. The fact that the Reviewer might have determined a slightly different ruling would not be good reason for the ruling to be varied. In the event that the process had not been followed properly in some material way, the Reviewer will ask the Chief Tournament Director to correct the failings and issue a new ruling.

32. Interpretation of the Bridge Laws

The interpretation of the Bridge Laws is a matter to be referred to the WBF Laws Committee, from which three members will be appointed by the WBF President. The decisions reached shall be final.

33. Interpretation of these Conditions of Contest

The interpretation of these Conditions of Contest or any Supplementary Conditions of Contest is a matter to be referred to the Executive Committee, and 2 other members appointed by the President. The President shall preside over this meeting and decisions reached shall be final.

34. Eligibility for Awards

The APBF will establish, for each APBF Championship or Congress or Asia Cup, a scale of APBF Master Points Awards in accordance with the APBF Master Point Plan. Gold, Silver and Bronze Medals will normally be awarded for APBF Championships & Congress and Asia Cup. In APBF Championships in all events, the highest-ranking team after the round robins will be awarded the Gold Medal and/or Trophy, the 2nd ranking team will be awarded the Silver Medal and/or Trophy, and the 3rd ranking team will be awarded the Bronze Medal and/or Trophy. In APBF Congress in all team events, the winning team in the final will be awarded the Gold Medal and/or Trophy. The losing finalists will be awarded the Silver Medal. For the play off regulations to determine the Bronze Medallists, see Section 37. In all pair events, the winning pair shall be awarded the Gold Medal and/or Trophy or prize, the second placed pair shall be awarded the Silver Medal and the third placed pair the Bronze Medal.

35. Play-off Regulations for 3rd Place

The detailed play-off regulations for bronze medals or 3rd place as appropriate will be contained within the Supplementary Regulations for each APBF Congress and Asia Cup.

36. Authority of the APBF Executive Committee

The APBF Executive Committee reserves the authority to modify or supplement these Conditions of Contest and the Supplementary Conditions of Contest, at any time.

37. Responsibility of the APBF

The APBF schedules an APBF Championship or Congress or Asia Cup to occur at a particular time and place. However, the APBF makes no warranty to any participating NBO, team, pair or person, that any particular APBF Championship or Congress or Asia Cup will take place as scheduled and accepts no responsibility for any loss or expense should it not do so.

38. Appendix I: WBF Systems Policy and APBF Adoption

Players should ensure that they obtain the latest version of any WBF Policies, which will be available on the WBF Website (www.worldbridge.org) or from the contact listed in Section 44.

APBF adopts the WBF Systems Policy with the following exceptions:

- a) Brown Sticker Conventions are allowed during the round robin in the Open, Ladies and Senior series.
- b) Psyches protected by system and classified as Brown Sticker by the WBF are not allowed for APBF Championships & Congress and Asia Cup.
- c) Psyches of conventional and artificial openings are not allowed for APBF Championships & Congress and Asia Cup.

39. Appendix 2: WBF Alerting Policy

Players should ensure that they obtain the latest version of any WBF Policies, which will be available on the WBF Website (www.worldbridge.org) or from the contact listed in Section 44.

APBF adopts the WBF Alerting Policy with the following exception:

a) All doubles are NOT alertable, with or without screen.

40. Appendix 3: WBF Psychic Bidding Policy

Players should ensure that they obtain the latest version of any WBF Policies, which will be available on the WBF Website (www.worldbridge.org) or from the contact listed in Section 44.

41. Appendix 4: WBF Code of Practice

Players should ensure that they obtain the latest version of the WBF Code of Practice, which will be available on the WBF Website (www.worldbridge.org) or from www.ecatsbridge.com or from the contact listed in Section 44.

42. Appendix 5: WBF Anti Doping Regulations

Players should ensure that they obtain the latest version of the WBF Anti-Doping Regulations, which will be available on the WBF Website (www.worldbridge.org) or from www.ecatsbridge.com or by contacting Anna Gudge, Mill Cottage, Voy, Stromness KW16 3HX, United Kingdom. Tel: +44 1787 881920; Fax: +44 870 123 1955; email anna@ecats.co.uk

Applications for Therapeutic Exemption should be made, using the specified form, and sent to Anna Gudge, Mill Cottage, Voy, Stromness KW16 3HX, United Kingdom Tel: +44 1787 881920; Fax: +44 1787 881339; email wbf@ecats.co.uk, to arrive no later than 21 days before the Championship event in which the Competitor is playing commences.

43. Appendix 6: WBF IMP to VP Conversion Scale (For Use in APBF Championships & Congress and Asia Cup Championships)

IMP						
Difference	6	8	10	12	14	16
0	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00
I	10.50	10.44	10.39	10.36	10.33	10.31
2	10.99	10.86	10.77	10.71	10.66	10.61
3	11.46	11.27	11.14	11.05	10.97	10.91
5	11.90	11.67	11.50	11.38	11.28	11.20 11.48
6	12.75	12.42	12.18	12.01	11.87	11.76
7	13.15	12.77	12.51	12.31	12.16	12.03
8	13.53	13.12	12.83	12.61	12.44	12.29
9	13.90	13.45	13.14	12.90	12.71	12.55
10	14.25	13.78	13.43	13.18	12.97	12.80
11	14.59	14.09	13.72	13.45	13.23	13.04
12	14.92	14.39	14.00	13.71	13.48	13.28
13 14	15.24 15.54	14.68	14.28	13.97	13.72 13.96	13.52 13.75
15	15.83	15.23	14.80	14.46	14.19	13.73
16	16.11	15.50	15.05	14.70	14.42	14.18
17	16.38	15.75	15.29	14.93	14.64	14.39
18	16.64	16.00	15.52	15.15	14.85	14.60
19	16.89	16.23	15.75	15.37	15.06	14.80
20	17.12	16.46	15.97	15.58	15.26	15.00
21 22	17.35 17.58	16.68	16.18	15.79 15.99	15.46	15.19
23	17.58	16.90 17.11	16.39	16.18	15.66 15.85	15.38 15.56
24	17.79	17.11	16.78	16.37	16.03	15.74
25	18.19	17.50	16.97	16.55	16.21	15.92
26	18.38	17.69	17.16	16.73	16.38	16.09
27	18.56	17.87	17.34	16.91	16.55	16.26
28	18.73	18.04	17.51	17.08	16.72	16.42
29	18.90	18.21	17.68	17.24	16.88	16.58
30	19.06	18.37	17.84	17.40	17.04 17.19	16.73
31 32	19.22	18.53 18.68	18.00	17.56 17.71	17.19	16.88 17.03
33	19.51	18.83	18.30	17.71	17.49	17.17
34	19.65	18.97	18.44	18.00	17.63	17.31
35	19.78	19.11	18.58	18.14	17.77	17.45
36	19.91	19.24	18.71	18.28	17.91	17.59
37	20.00	19.37	18.84	18.41	18.04	17.72
38		19.50	18.97	18.54	18.17	17.85
39 40		19.62 19.74	19.10	18.66	18.29 18.41	17.97 18.09
41		19.85	19.33	18.90	18.53	18.21
42		19.95	19.44	19.01	18.65	18.33
43		20.00	19.55	19.12	18.76	18.44
44			19.66	19.23	18.87	18.55
45			19.76	19.34	18.98	18.66
46			19.86	19.44	19.08	18.77
47 48			19.96 20.00	19.54 19.64	19.18 19.28	18.87 18.97
48			20.00	19.64	19.28	19.07
50				19.83	19.47	19.16
51				19.92	19.56	19.25
52				20.00	19.65	19.34
53					19.74	19.43
54					19.83	19.52
55					19.91	19.61
56 57					19.99 20.00	19.69 19.77
58					20.00	19.77
59						19.93
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44. Appendix 7: Contact Addresses

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44.11 Official Websites

APBF Website: www.pabf.org
Australia Website: www.abf.com.au
China Website: www.ccba.org.cn

China Hong Kong Website: www.hkcba.org Chinese Taipei Website: www.ctcba.org.tw

French Polynesia: www.bridge.pf
Indonesia Website: www.gabsi.or.id
Japan Website: www.jcbl.or.jp
Korea Website: www.kcbl.org

Malaysia Website: www.mcba.org.my

New Zealand Website: www.nzbridge.co.nz
Philippines Website: www.bridge.org.ph
Singapore Website: www.scba.org.sg

Thailand Website: www.thailandbridgeleague.com

45. Appendix 8: Format for APBF Championships

- I. The APBF Team Championships and the APBF Youth Team Championships will be held once in every calendar year except for the World Bridge Games years, and for these years, APBF Congress will be held. The APBF Championship will be divided into the Open, Ladies and Senior series. The APBF Youth Championships will be divided into the Junior, Youngster and Girls series.
- 2. A NBO may send only one (I) team for each of the Open, Ladies, Senior, Junior and Youngster series.
- 3. A NBO may send up to a maximum of two (2) teams for the Girls series, subject to the guidelines as detailed in the Supplementary Conditions of Contest. The 2nd Girls teams may be transnational teams.
- 4. The Championship will take the format of single, double, or triple round robins in each of the series depending on the number of teams participating and as stipulated in the Supplementary Conditions of Contest. The team who ranked highest after the round robins in each of the series will be the Champion.
- 5. The number of boards played in each match should be between 12 and 24, depending on the number of teams participating and as stipulated in the Supplementary Conditions of Contest.
- 6. The number of boards played each day is stipulated in the Supplementary Conditions of Contest, and should generally be between 48 and 64.
- 7. The Tournament schedule is to be arranged so that the Championships take no longer than 11 consecutive days.

46. Appendix 9: Format to Determine Zone 6 Berths to World Championships (if held that year)

46.1 General

Zone 6 current has 3 berths each in the Open, Ladies, and Senior series; and 4 berths each in the Junior, Youngster and Girls series. The eligibility to the berths in the Open, Ladies and Senior categories is subject to the NBO having participated in the respective category at the preceding World Bridge Games. Subject to stipulation in the Supplementary Conditions of Contest otherwise, the berths are determined as follows.

46.2 First Berth

The highest-ranking Zone 6 team at the end of the round robins in each of the series will automatically earn the berth to the World Championship.

46.3 Second Berth

The 2nd berth is determined by a 64-board play-off between the 2nd and 3rd ranking Zone 6 teams at the end of the round robins in each of the series. The winner of this play-off will earn the second berth.

46.4 Third Berth

The 3^{rd} berth is determined by a 48-board play-off between the loser of $2^{nd}/3^{rd}$ play-off and the winner of the $4^{th}/5^{th}$ play-off. The winner of this play-off will earn the third berth.

46.5 Refusing the Rights

If any eligible NBO decides not to participate in the play-off, hence refusing the rights to represent Zone 6 in the World Championship, its place will be taken up by the next highest ranking Zone 6 team eligible in the series.

If any NBO who has earned the rights to represent Zone 6 in the World Championship subsequently decides to withdraw, its place will be taken up by the next highest-ranking Zone 6 team eligible in the round robin who has not yet earned the berth.

46.6 Host NBO of World Championship

If the hosting NBO of a World Championship is automatically awarded a berth by the WBF, the hosting NBO will not be included in determining the berths.

46.7 Youth Teams

The top 4 finishing Zone 6 teams in the Junior, Youngster and Girls series will earn the rights to represent Zone 6 in the World Youth Teams Championship, with the exception that a transnational Girls team will not be eligible.