



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

The World Bridge Federation

**Supplemental
Conditions of Contest
for the
47th World Bridge Team Championships
Bermuda Bowl
Venice Cup
d'Orsi Seniors Trophy
Wuhan Cup
and the
14th World Transnational Teams Championship
Open BAM Teams

Herning, Denmark
20th – 31st August 2025***

* Registration and Opening Ceremony on 19th August

SCoC as amended August 3 2025

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1. Preamble

These Supplemental Conditions of Contest (SCoC) are supplemental to the **General Conditions of Contest** (GCoC) issued by the World Bridge Federation and together form the rules and regulations to govern the 2025 Bermuda Bowl, Venice Cup, d'Orsi Seniors Trophy, Wuhan Cup (**WTC**) and the World Transnational Teams Championship (**WTTC**) and the Open BAM Teams (**OBT**) that will be played in Herning, Denmark from 20th – 31st August 2025, with Registration and the Opening Ceremony on 19th August.

[The GCoC and all Ancillary Regulations.](#)

Each of these Regulations will have the date of revision shown under the heading and a link to a log of all additions/amendments is also available. Ensure that when referring to them please check for an updated version on the website, if necessary clearing any cached copies on the local computer.

Participants should also note the following sections in the GCoC:

- **Section 3: Conditions of Entry** including eligibility regulations and the information regarding the commitment form.
- **Section 5: Ethics and Deportment**
- **Section 7: Anti-Doping Regulations** The application form for therapeutic exemption together with examples of the medical certificate that will be issued if the exemption is approved by the WBF Medical Commission, can be found on the [WBF website](#). Details of prohibited substances can be found on the [World Anti-Doping website](#).
- **Section 10: Restrictions and Security**
- **Sections 13 & 14: Vu-Graph, Broadcasting and Media Presentation**

In the event of a conflict between the GCoC and these supplemental conditions, the Supplemental Conditions of Contest have precedence.

2. Definitions

Expressions used in this document without definition have their usual meaning in contract bridge terminology (which may include expressions defined in the International Code). In the event of doubt or dispute as to the meaning, the decision of the Championship Committee will be final. The singular includes the plural and vice-versa.

Unless there is a conflict with context or obvious meaning, all terms defined in the GCoC have the same meaning for the purpose of this document. In addition, the following expressions have these meanings:

2.1 “General Conditions of Contest (GCoC)”

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

2.2 “Open” and “Closed” Rooms

Rooms will be designated as Open or Closed for every stanza, segment, or session of a match.

2.3 “Convention”

Terms such as or similar to “convention”, “conventional call”, “conventional play”, “conventional agreement” refer to special partnership understandings (see Law 40).

3. Conditions of Entry (Bermuda Bowl, Venice Cup, d'Orsi Seniors Trophy, Wuhan Cup)

See also Section 3 of the GCoC



3.1 Eligibility Requirements

The Credentials Committee must be satisfied that each contestant has been nominated by their NBO, and satisfies the [WBF Eligibility Code](#) requirements.

Each contestant, NPC and coach or other team official is required to have read, signed and registered the WBF Commitment Form. Contestants can find the form, which is now digital, at

<http://www.worldbridge.org/rules-regulations/competitions/participants-commitment/>

Contestants who signed the form in 2017 & 2018 should note the amendments introduced in 2019 in compliance with WADA regulations. They are not required to sign the revised form but are assumed to be in agreement with the revisions (section 20).

If an NBO is in arrears for any payment due to the WBF, nominated contestants who have been submitted for invitation may be refused until such dues and entry fees have been settled satisfactorily. This includes non-championship events such as the Worldwide Bridge Contest.

3.2 Submission of Entries

Bermuda Bowl, Venice Cup, d'Orsi Seniors Trophy & Wuhan Cup

An NBO, once qualified from a zone, is 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 d'Orsi Seniors Trophy and/or at least one team for the Wuhan Cup. Each zone is requested to confirm its intention to hold a zonal tournament in order to qualify the requisite number of teams for the 2025 Championships. As soon as such a tournament has finished, the zone is asked to inform the WBF President which of their NBOs will participate in the 2025 World Bridge Championships in each of the four categories. The list of teams with the right to enter can be found on the [Registration page](#) for the event.

Registration of players' names and NBO delegation members for all four WTC teams must be made by 30th June. There is no specific deadline for registration to the Transnational Teams or the BAM Open Teams, and new teams will be accepted on site provided there is sufficient space at the venue. However advance registration is appreciated to assist the organisation of the event.

4. Entry Fees

The entry fees together with the payment information for all events are detailed on the [Championship Website](#)

5. 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.

5.1 Age Limitation for Participants in the d'Orsi Seniors Trophy

Details of the age restrictions for Senior events can be found [on the WBF Website](#).

5.2 Composition of Mixed Teams

The team must be made up of at least two men and two women, and each playing pair must consist of one man and one woman.



5.3 Penalty for Non-Participation

In the event that a team entered for these Championships determines it is unable to participate, the WBF must be notified at least 48 hours prior to the scheduled Captains' meeting for these Championships. Failure to notify the WBF of non-participation will result in a €1,350 penalty, payable by the NBO and/or Zone that nominated the team; an additional disciplinary penalty may be added by the WBF.

6. Anti-Doping Regulations

The procedures provided by the WADA Anti-Doping Policy will be followed and enforced. Any breach will result in a player being banned from participation in every bridge activity for the period as provided by the WADA Anti-Doping Code.

The WBF Anti-Doping Rules are published as an appendix to the WBF General Regulations and are available, together with the required Exemption Form on the [WBF Website](#).

7. Types of Contest

7.1 Bermuda Bowl, Venice Cup, d'Orsi Seniors Trophy, Wuhan Cup

The dates of the various rounds can be found on the [Championship Website](#).

7.1.1 Round Robin

The competing teams (expected to number 24) play a complete round-robin of 14-board matches, from 20th – 25th August (4 matches per day except the 6th day) with each match played in a single session. The eight teams with the most Victory Points after the round-robin will qualify for the quarter-finals (See Section 17 for tie-breaking procedures).

The teams/players not qualifying may enter the World Transnational Teams Championship free of charge. Such players may also form new teams, including players who did not participate in the WTC, subject to the entry fee rules detailed on the website.

7.1.2 Quarter Finals

The quarter-finals will be played as a knockout match of 112 boards (played as eight 14-board stanzas) with IMP scoring.

Quarter-final match opponents are determined as follows:

1st from the round-robin chooses 5th 6th 7th or 8th qualifier; then

2nd chooses from the remaining of 5th 6th 7th or 8th; then

3rd chooses from the remaining of 5th 6th 7th or 8th; then

4th placed team will play the team not yet chosen.

The teams/players not qualifying may enter the World Transnational Teams Championship free of charge.

7.1.3 Semi Finals

The semi-finals will be played as a knockout match of 112 boards (played as eight 14-board stanzas) with IMP scoring.

Subject to the requirement that if two teams from the same NBO qualify, they must meet in the semi-finals, the highest finishing team from the round-robin will choose their prospective semi-final opponent from any of the other quarter-final matches. The remaining winners will become opponents for the



other semi-final match. This choice must be made at the completion of the quarter-final draw and before play in the quarter-final begins. Hence the semi-final draw is decided prior to the quarter-final stage and remains applicable whatever the outcome of the quarter-final matches.

7.1.4 *Final*

The winners of the semi-finals play the final as a knockout match of 112 boards (played as eight 14-board stanzas), with IMP scoring.

7.1.5 *Play Off*

The losing semi-finalists will play-off as a knockout match 56 boards (played as four 14-board stanzas) with IMP scoring.

If one team declines the right to play off for third place, they will automatically be assigned fourth place and receive one-third of the available Master Points for that position, and no placement points. Their opponent will be declared bronze medallist.

If both teams mutually agree not to play off for the third place, no bronze medal will be awarded for the competition, and each team will receive one third of the Master Points awarded to fourth place, and no placement points.

The defeated quarter-finalists will be ranked 5th to 8th according to their VP total in the round-robin; if a tie exists, it will be broken using the normal tie-break criteria.

7.2 World Transnational Teams Championship

7.2.1 *Type of Contest*

All categories will play together.

The format will be a Swiss teams qualification over three days, with four matches of 14 boards each per day (168 boards in total). The top 8 teams (or 16 if 65 or more teams participate) qualify for the knockout phase, played over three days. In the case of 16 teams the Rounds of 16 and the Quarter-finals will be played on the same day over two stanzas of 16 boards each with the following rounds played on one day each. In the case of 8 teams each KO match will be played on one day each, in four stanzas of 14 boards each.

After the semi-finals, should a team decline to play off for third place, they will automatically be placed in fourth place and receive one third of the Master Points awarded for that position. Their opponent will be declared bronze medallist.

If both teams mutually agree not to play off for third place, no bronze medal will be awarded and each team will receive one third of the Master Points awarded for fourth place.

Teams/players not qualified for the Knockout phase may enter the Open BAM Teams free of charge. Such players may also form new teams, including players who did not participate in the WTC, subject to the entry fee rules detailed on the website.



7.2.2 KO Stage

If 8 teams qualify to the KO stage, then 7.1.2 applies to the draw. All KO matches will be played over four stanzas of 14 boards each, a total of 56 boards in one day, except the play-off for bronze, to be played over three stanzas.

If 16 teams qualify to the KO stage, then:

The Round of 16 will be played as a knockout match of 32 boards (played as two 16-board stanzas) with IMP scoring.

Round of 16 match opponents are determined as follows:

- 1st from the Swiss qualification chooses from the bottom 8 qualifier. The two teams receive seeding number 1 and 16 respectively; then
- 2nd chooses from the remaining bottom 8 qualifier. The two teams receive seeding number 2 and 15 respectively; then
- 3rd chooses from the remaining bottom 8 qualifier. The two teams receive seeding number 3 and 14 respectively; then
- 4th chooses from the remaining bottom 8 qualifier. The two teams receive seeding number 4 and 13 respectively.
- The remaining seeds nos. 5-12 are assigned in ascending order according to the original seeding made before the start (e.g. 5 vs 12, 6 vs 11 and so forth).

The quarter-finals will be played as a knockout match of 32 boards (played as two 16-board stanzas) with IMP scoring.

The Semifinals and finals will be played over four stanzas of 14 boards each, a total of 56 boards in one day, except the play-off for bronze, to be played over three stanzas.

7.2.3 Drop-in Rules

Teams that lose on the first day of the WTOT KO are eligible to drop into the second day of the OBT at no charge.

Teams that lose on the second day of the WTOT KO are eligible to drop into the OBT final at no charge.

Each eligible team is entitled to one drop-in spot. If fewer than six of its players choose to continue, the team can add players provided that the added player or players had not played in another OBT team.

If a player is added who has not previously played in either one of the main events or in the World Transnational Teams Championship, that player will be required to pay an entry fee.

Teams that drop in will be assigned a carry-over.

7.3 Open BAM Teams (OBT)

The format will consist of a two day qualification followed by one day of Finals A & B.

8. Carry Over

There will be no carry over to any knockout phase.



9. The Draw

The draw for all the four categories will be made by three members of the WBF Championship Committee appointed by the WBF President.

Team numbers and the order of play will then be published on the [Championship website](#). The Championship Committee has authority to make alterations to team numbers (and as a consequence in the sequence of play) if required by circumstance after the draw has been announced.

10. The Schedule of Play

The schedule of play will be published on the [Championship website](#).

11. Regulations for Electronic Line-Ups

Line-ups must be submitted electronically in accordance with the details below. Failure by a captain to submit a line-up in a timely fashion will result in fines.

In round-robin matches line-ups for both teams must be submitted no later than 10 minutes after the end of the previous round; teams will not know the line-up of their opponents.

The deadline for submission of line-up for the first round will be announced at the Captains' Meeting.

In the knockout phase the team to line-up first must submit its line-up no later than 10 minutes after the end of the previous session. The second team must then submit its line-up no later than 15 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. This will be a dedicated area, with computers available. Each team will also have its own dedicated page, with a password, in the wireless LAN set by the organization, so captains may access via their own laptops.

The system automatically records the time a line-up is made, so penalties for late line-ups will be automatic.

If a partnership without a registered System Card is to play, the captain must notify the opposing team through the communications system which of the previously registered System Cards will be used.

12. Designation of Matches and Seeding

12.1 Seeding

After seeding each Series the draws will be randomised, with the only restriction being that minor changes can be made in the designations in order to ensure that teams of the same NBO meet in the early rounds.

12.2 Responsibility for the Draw

The draw will be made under the direction of the Championship Committee. The team numbers and the sequence of the matches will be published on the WBF Website. The Championship 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.

13. Seating rights

The regulations governing Seating rights can be [downloaded here](#).



14. Regulations for Screens, Bidding and Entering Scores

14.1 These regulations can be downloaded [here](#).

14.2 Tablets will be used for bidding and entering scores.

15. Change of Players

A change of players, pairs or partnerships can be made only at the beginning of a match or a stanza or according to Section 17 below when an extra tie-break board is played.

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, according to art. 20 of the GCoC, the Head Tournament Director, in consultation with the captain of the team, may designate a substitute to complete the team.

16. Disclosure of Systems and Conventions

16.1 WBF Systems Policy

The [WBF Systems Policy](#) (updated in 2024) forms part of these Supplemental 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 16.2 below for restrictions during the round-robin phase.

The d'Orsi Seniors Trophy and Wuhan Cup are Category 2 events. HUM systems are not permitted at any stage but Brown Sticker methods may be used in the KO stages provided they have been registered correctly in accordance with the regulations.

The World Transnational Teams Championship and the BAM Open Teams are Category 3 events, so neither HUM nor Brown Sticker Methods are permitted at any stage.

If a pair in any event uses a convention not listed on their System Card, a disciplinary penalty of up to 2 VPs or in a KO match up to 4 IMPs, will be deducted from the team's score. In addition, the Tournament Director may award an adjusted score if an opponent is damaged.

The pair may not play again until their system card has been corrected to the satisfaction of the Systems Coordinator.

If a pair re-offends, they may not play as a partnership for the remainder of the event.

16.2 General Regulations

HUM systems and Brown Sticker conventions are prohibited in the round-robin of the Bermuda Bowl and Venice Cup. They may be used in the knockout stages of both events, provided additional, separate System Cards are submitted in accordance with the regulations below. Separate forms for each Brown Sticker convention, along with proposed defences must be supplied. A pair may register a maximum of three Brown Sticker conventions.

16.3 Submission of Systems for the Bermuda Bowl, Venice Cup, d'Orsi Seniors Trophy & the Wuhan Cup

The Regulations for the Registration and Use of Systems at World Championship events can be [downloaded here](#). Systems for each competing pair, in the correct format, must be emailed to systems@worldbridgefed.com no later than 22.00 hours on 14 July BST. Minor changes will be accepted up to 22.00 hours on 21 July BST. In addition to the penalties for late submission detailed in the Regulations for the Registration and Use of Systems,



participants are advised a late submission penalty of 2 VP will also be applied to any team not registering correctly formatted systems for all their pairs.

16.4 Systems for the WTOT and the OBT

Both these events are Category 3, and HUM systems and Brown Sticker Methods are prohibited. Systems are not required to be submitted in advance but nevertheless must consist of properly completed WBF cards as detailed in the Systems Regulations.

17. Tie-Breaking Procedures

Procedures for Tie Breaking can be [downloaded here](#).

18. Forfeits and Withdrawals

Procedures for Forfeits and Withdrawals can be [downloaded here](#).

19. Penalties

Procedures for Apportioning Penalties can be [downloaded here](#).

20. Review Procedure

The Procedure for Reviews can be [downloaded here](#).

21. Score Corrections

When Bridgemates are in use the official score will be that keyed in by N/S and agreed by E/W.

When tablets are in use the official score will be that keyed in by declarer and agreed by both defenders.

Players and captains are responsible for the accuracy of their own scores.

The correction period in Law 79C expires at the time specified in 21.1 below and thereafter, the results will be final, with the following exceptions:

- Awaiting a decision of the Reviewer on a requested review
- Completion of play or replay of boards where such replay has been directed by the Championship Committee or the Operations Director

Upon a proposal of the Head Tournament Director or the Operations Director, the Tournament Committee may modify the Correction Periods prior to any event. Any changes will be posted prominently in the playing area and listed on the event's website.

21.1 Correction Period

The Correction Period normally expires thirty minutes after the posting of scores at the end of play on each day or, for the final session of a day that is not the final day of a stage, until the start of play the following day.

21.2 Corrections

Requests to correct manifestly incorrect scores (e.g. four spades scored as played by West, but in fact played by North) entered at any time during a stage of an event may be requested until 30 minutes after the end of that stage.

Otherwise, a request to change a score that was agreed upon at the table may be submitted only until the end of the Correction Period, and the score will be changed only once it is proven erroneous to the complete satisfaction of the Head Tournament Director.



However, no correction may be requested more than 30 minutes after the scores are posted for the final session of a qualification stage. This includes KOs, where every round is a qualification stage.

22. Duplicated Boards

Duplicated boards will be used throughout these Championships whenever possible.

23. Principal Addresses

23.1 The WBF President

Mr Franck Riehm

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Email: president@worldbridgefed.com

23.2 The WBF Treasurer

Mr Marc de Pauw

Email: marc.depauw@demanco.be

23.3 Systems & Communication

Anna Newton

Email: systems@worldbridgefed.com or anna.newton@worldbridgefed.com

24. Official WBF pages and links

- [The WBF Website](#)
- [The Championship Website](#)

24.1 External links to other websites

- [The World Anti-Doping Agency \(WADA\)](#)
- [The current Prohibited List](#)

