



**MINUTES OF THE 1st MEETING
OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL
Austin, Texas
Saturday, 27th November at 10:00**

In Attendance

Mr Gianarrigo Rona, President in the Chair
Mr José Damiani, President Emeritus
Mr Al Levy, 1st Vice President
Mr Jan Kamras, Hon. Secretary
Mr Marc de Pauw, Treasurer
Mr Marcelo Caracci, Member
Mr Nader Hanna, Member
Mr Eric Laurant, Member
Mr Bernard Pascal, Member
Mr Douglas (Kip) Rotchell, Member
Mr Adam Wildavsky, Member
Mrs Janice Seamon-Molson, Member

Also, in Attendance

Mr David Harris, General Counsel
Ms Arianna Testa, Secretary to the Executive Council

By invitation of the President

Mrs Georgia Heth, ACBL President and Honour Committee Member

Attending via Zoom

Mr Patrick Choy, 2nd Vice President
Mr Gilad Ofir, Member
Mrs Suzi Subeck, Member
Mr Fernando Lema, Member

Excused

Mr Giorgio Duboin, Member
Mrs Helen Kruger, Member
Mr Kirubakara Moorthy, Member
Mrs Kari-Anne Opsal, Member
Mrs Esther Sophonpanich, Member
Mr Ben Thompson, Member
Ms Wang Yunnan, Member

The President called the meeting to order at 10:05. He declared that there was a quorum, and the meeting proceeded as follows.

Opening & Greetings

The President welcomed the Council to the Meeting.

1. Approval of the minutes of the E.C. Meeting previous session (agenda item 3)

The Executive Council unanimously approved the minutes of the previous Executive Council meeting held on Zoom, in November 2020.

2. President's Report (agenda item 4)

The President reminded the difficult times we are all experiencing and addresses a message of hope for the future and reported: *"Dear Friends, good morning and welcome to Austin. I am pleased to send a special abbraccio to the colleagues that, due to the restrictions in effect, have not been able to come to Austin. We are trying to have them connected via Zoom. I want to thank the ACBL and its President Georgia Heth for the facilities offered us in organising this meeting. I am pleased to congratulate Bernard Pascal and Marcelo Caracci for their confirmation as members of the Executive Council for the term of the legislature. Unfortunately in the last year we suffered the passing of many friends and for all of them I want to remember Grattan Endicott, Patrick Grenthe and Sue Picus, who left us just few days ago. They all have been great personalities that have left an indelible trace of their passage in the world of bridge. Grattan achieved a great deal in his long and varied life: after decades in office he was elected Honorary Secretary to the Laws Committee in recognition of his enormous value to the Committee and its work. Patrick was one of those few people who seem able to manage various careers at the same time. In bridge he was World Champion and great administrator: nobody can forget the magnificent world championship by him organised in 2017 in Lille, as President of the French Federation. Sue was one of the greatest champion in the history of bridge, with an impressive career, including three Venice Cup and one McConnel Cup victories and several podiums: her popularity and smiling will be missed by the bridge community. After more than two years, since Wuhan September 2019, we have the opportunity to meet in person and to seat at the same table. They were two years of suffering, restrictions and deprivations that dramatically affected the whole world. This darn bug devastated the world, causing incalculable damage morally, economically and socially. Radically changing our style of life, social relations, actions and habits, our daily lives. And unfortunately it's not finish! We still live a situation of absolute precariousness, due to, the waves of variations the follow each other, like the last very dangerous "Omicron" coming from South Africa. As I have already reported to the Congress, Science is struggling with all its forces to find the necessary medical countermeasures to win and eradicate the virus and to restore serenity and security into the world. We, all together, are called to give our own contribution in a spirit of courage and confidence, wisely acting and respecting the rules that are imposed upon ourselves during this time of great crisis and that, only, can effectively help us to stand and finally to get out through the tunnel. In the last meeting via zoom of the Executive Council and the Management Committee we discussed several topics and took very important decisions.*

In the last period we worked a lot to restart next year with our championships: in March/April the World Bridge Teams Championship in Salsomaggiore, the World Bridge Series in September in Wroclaw and the Youth Open Championship in August again in Salsomaggiore. In addition we maintained the contacts for the organisation of the future championships. We will discuss in depth the items later during our works. Due to the restrictions connected to the pandemic, several Zones decided to hold electronically their championships and trials, adopting all the necessary measures to guarantee the security and the comfort of the players. The result was absolutely satisfying, as we can read in the Zonal reports. As all of you are aware another very sad episode had to be faced during the European Trials, due to the refusal of the other teams, in the Open category, to play against the Italian Team that included Fulvio Fantoni. Jan Kamras in his position of EBL President will report about what happened and its consequences. This is a very delicate point that needs to be discussed in depth to prevent and avoid possible similar cases in the future. Thank you for your attention”.

The members thanked the President for his report.

3. Treasurer’s Report (agenda item 5)

The Treasurer, after reminding that the 2020 accounts have been already approved by the Management Committee, reported as follows:



THE WORLD BRIDGE FEDERATION

Marc De Pauw
Treasurer

WBF EXECUTIVE COUNCIL
Austin, Texas US – November 27-28th , 2021

TREASURER REPORT

Mr President,
Dear Colleagues,

The present report contains the following items:

- (1) The **accounts 2020**.
- (2) An update on the **2021 budget**.
- (3) The proposed **budget** for the year **2022**.
- (4) Key figures / Financial policy guidelines.

I. Accounts 2020

The year 2020 has, without any doubt, been the most troublesome period in the history of world bridge. All forms and levels of "physical" bridge have been severely struck, not to say "eliminated", by the COVID crisis. Bridge clubs have been forced to shut down and stop their activities and bridge competitions at local, regional, national and international level have come to a hold. Most probably as a consequence of the health crisis, most of our NBOs are experiencing a notable drop in membership figures. The WBF also, had to cancel the year 2020 competitions, among which the quadri-annual World Bridge Games, foreseen for the Autumn of 2020.

The financial result for the year 2020 shows a substantial deficit. Whilst the initial budget for 2020, approved by the Executive Council in Sept. '19, Wuhan, presented a bonus of some 221 k€, in reality we have achieved a deficit of 244 k€. The following table compares reality to the budget:

Melkwegel 66/101, B-9070 Destelbergen, Belgium
Tel +32(0)495 510700 – Email marc.depauw@demanco.be

	Budget (k€)	Accounts (k€)	Difference
FIXED			
Income	+ 545	+ 384	- 161
Expenses	- 555	- 453	+ 102
VARIABLE			
Champ & Comp	+ 252	+ 10	- 242
Other activities	- 21	- 185	- 164
GLOBAL RESULT	+ 221	- 244	- 465

Some comments to explain the differences:

- 1) The activities and finances of the NBOs being, in most countries, heavily dependant on local and national competitions, also for our member-organizations, 2020 has been an horrific year. To help our member-NBOs to survive this crisis, the WBF has decided to reduce by 30 % the year 2020 **annual dues**, skipping even the financial contributions for those countries paying the minimum dues to the WBF. For our Organization, the total cost of this reduction amounted to some 174 k€. Realizing some "other" income (mainly VAT recuperations), the realized difference between the initial budget and the accounts amounts to -161 k€.
- 2) To reduce the global impact on our finances, we have limited the **expenses** foreseen in the budget to a minimal level. There have been no physical meetings of the governing bodies and the various committees during past year. From the local Swiss authorities, we have obtained some financial support (partial reduction of the rent of our offices in Lausanne, grants to reduce the labour cost) helping us in supporting the "structural" costs. In global, we have been able to reduce the fixed costs, as compared with the approved budget, by some 102 k€.
- 3) The financial "contributors" foreseen in the year 2020 budget, in terms of results from **Championships & various Competitions**, have been absent, with the exception of some online competitions organized by the GotoGames group. We estimate the missed net income at about - 242 k€.
- 4) The item "**Other activities**" contained within our Variable Budget, estimated at a deficit of -21 k€, has finally had an impact of - 185 k€ in the accounts. Also here, an explanation is due:

	Budget (k€)	Accounts (k€)	Difference
Zonal Org / Techn Meetings	- 30	- 4	+ 26
Exchange rates differences realized	0	- 15	- 15
Ex Rates differences Not realized	0	- 97	- 97
Litigations	- 5	- 3,24	+ 1,76
IOC grant	+ 14	+ 28,57	+ 14,57
CAS files	0	- 44,36	- 44,36
German drs	0	- 19,91	- 19,91
Canceled champ	0	- 15,13	- 15,13
WBF statutes	0	- 14,85	- 14,85
TOTAL	- 21	- 185	- 164

- a) The item "**Zonal Organisations / Technical Meetings**", foreseen to cover various cost such as the assistance (financial and other) given to the "smaller" zones, the costs (travel and other) for different meetings (medical, IOC, etc ...) did not have to fund a lot of activities in 2020, for the reasons we all know. We were able to save some 26 k€.
- b) On the transactions, during the year, in relation with the variation of the exchange rates between the various currencies used (€/\$/CHF/£/RMB), some losses and gains are always **realized**. For 2020 the net amount of these differences was a loss of – 15 k€.
- c) The WBF accounts are held in €, our "working currency". However, the financial reserves are held in both € and US\$ (and, to a lesser extent, in CHF), hence submitting us to the US\$/CHF vs € exchange risk. Between the start of the year and end of December 2020, the US\$ has lost some 10% of value against the €. Using the end of year exchange rate, we now have the \$ in our books at an exchange rate of 1 \$ = 0,814 € and 1 € = 1,22824 \$. This translation difference constitutes a **non-realized** item, varying every day. At the present exchange rate \$/€ (the € trading at 1,18 \$) we would have recuperated a large part of the non-realized loss at 31.12.2020. Because also the interest rates on \$ holdings (at Credit Suisse in our case) have fallen to symbolic levels, turning our \$ into € (at rates close to 1,10 ?) would constitute a protection against the phenomenon of "non realized" exchange rates differences).
- d) Because of the importance in the 2020 account of various **legal expenses**, below, an overview and explanation is given.
- e) In "normal" years, with youth competitions, half of the **IOC grant** to the WBF is recognized in the youth championships' budget (the other half passing through the P&L and finally allocated to the Promotion & Development Fund). Given the absence of competitions in 2020, the full 100% of the grant passes through the P&L, keeping afterwards the allocations to the Funds.
- f) **CAS files**: see the comments on the legal expenses.
- g) **German doctors**: idem
- h) Costs made preparing future years' championships are finally linked to the relevant competition. In 2020, we would normally have had the **World Bridge Games** (in Salsomaggiore, Italy. This event was finally cancelled, but we need to write off the expenses made in preparation of this competition.
- i) **WBF statutes**: see comments on the legal expenses.

On the, what we call, "Other activities" in the Variable budget, for all the reasons explained, we have gone 164 k€ over budget.

Looking at the "**external legal expenses**", spread over various item in the accounts, the year 2020 has been particularly touched. An overview:

	Booking location	Item	Amount (€)	Comments
1	Fixed exp 1.4	Congress 2020	7758	Kellerhals Carrard
2	Fixed exp 9.5	Legal counsel external	10043	Kellerhals Carrard Various consultations
3	Var exp – Other act. Item 4	Litigations (breach of Copyright)	3293	Klinkert / Fechner
4	Var exp – Other act. Item 6	CAS cases (PZ – FM)	44360	Kellerhals Carrard
5	Var exp – Other act. Item 7	German doctors	29908	Martens + various 10 k€ from provision
6	Var exp – Other act. Item 9	WBF statutes Cheating	14853	Kellerhals Carrard
TOTAL			110215	

For further comments on these items and cases, I refer to the WBF General Counsel, David Harris. It is however my role, as Treasurer, to point out the necessity to be careful in engaging external counsel, the invoices always following the advices given.

Attachment 1 contains all the details of the initial budget 2020 and the final accounts.

The final results shown are:

YEAR 2020	ACCOUNTS k\$	ACCOUNTS k€
FIXED income & expenses	- 85,41	- 69,54
VARIABLE income & expenses	- 214,31	- 174,49
GLOBAL RESULT	- 299,72	- 244,03

The proposed allocation:

	k\$	k€
Result to WBF EQUITY	- 334,81	- 272,60
Result to YOUTH FUND	17,55	14,29
Result to GENERAL PROVISION	0	0
Result to DEVELOPMENT & PROMOTION FUND	17,54	14,28

Attachment 1 also contains the information on the FUNDS evolution. Some additional comments:

YOUTH FUND

The Fund increases its holdings by some 6 k€ (growing from 110 k€ to 116 k€), benefiting on the income side by the 50% share in the IOC grant. The expenses side only shows half of the cost of the Youth Coordinator and the cost of the online University bridge project.

PROMOTION & DEVELOPMENT FUND

The WBF Seminar, foreseen to take place in the month of May, in Lima, Peru, has been cancelled (the accounts showing some prepaid expenses we were not able to recuperate). Further, there is only the other 50% of the cost of the Youth Coordinator and half of the IOC grant on the income side. Given the overall result of the year, no further allocation, from the P&L to the Fund, is proposed. Overall the reserves contained in the P&D Fund grow from 92 k€ to 97 k€.

GENERAL PROVISION

Given the deficit shown for the year, no additional allocation to the General Provision is proposed. The reserves remain at the level of 125 k€



Next, let's turn to the **BALANCE SHEET**, comparing the end of 2020 situation against the end of 2019 one:

	2020	2019
ASSETS		
Fixed assets	19921	7809
Inventories	3851	3851
Receivables	173666	65324
Bank Delen CH portfolio	1011064	1002703
Cash & Banks	1342320	1802203
Prepaid expenses	28456	30284
Total assets	2579278	2912175
LIABILITIES & EQUITY		
Capital & Reserves	2107018	2379608
Beginning of the year	2379608	2205519
Result of the year	- 272590	173689
Provisions		
Youth Fund	115907	110421
P&D Fund	97320	91938
General Provision	125000	125000
Other provisions	20000	52280
Accounts payable	55730	51712
Accrued expenses/Prepaid amounts	58303	101215
Total Liabilities & Equity	2579278	2912175

Though, as explained before, for the year 2020 we have had to register a substantial deficit, as before, the general situation of the WBF balance sheet remains sound. The **assets** mainly consist of bank holdings (Credit Suisse and Bank Delen CH). The increase of the receivables is linked with some outstanding claims for the dues (some NBOs having passed the ultimate date for payment).

The **liabilities** side first show a high level of solvability, because most of the items concern the equity position of the WBF as well as the various provisions.



The audit of the year 2020 WBF accounts has resulted in an "unqualified" opinion. The EY CH report is contained in **Attachment 2**.

Because of the need to submit, in a timely manner, the accounts to the Swiss Tax Authorities, the year 2020 accounts have been formally approved by the WBF Man Com. The requirements of the Swiss Tax Authorities have been met in a timely manner.

II. Budget 2021 - Update

Unfortunately, the year 2021 has not seen the return of physical bridge at the international level. If any, most of the Zonal competitions have been held via online platforms. The European Teams Championships, supposed to take place in June '21 in Funchal, Madeira, have been cancelled. These will take place next year, in the month of June. In the US, a Qualifying event to select the (2) Open Teams representing the US, has been organised in the month of September (Online phase) and October (KO round – physical encounter) and the first "nationals" are taking place in this November (Austin, Texas). Several other WBF Zones have also been organising Online events to select their teams for the next WBF Championships.

For reasons of incertitude around continuing pandemic, the **45thWBF World Championships 2021** have been moved from Q4-'21 to Spring 2022. The city of Salsomaggiore, Italy has offered the venue for these championships and a collaboration with the FIGB has been put into place. The World Youth Teams Championships needed also to be cancelled.

Because also the World Bridge Series will be organised in 2022, if no further unpleasant surprises in the world health situation occur, next year will see the organisation of two major bridge championships.

Attachment 3 shows the updated budget for 2021.

II.1. Fixed income & expenses

As shown in **Attachment 4**, we expect a substantially lower income from **dues** than initially estimated. On the one hand, the WBF has decided not to lower the regular dues (1\$/member), only offering payment facilities (on demand). However, two factors will lead to a lower income:

- a) As for the previous (10) years, the dues to be paid by the Zone 1 NBOs have been translated from the \$ into the €, using the average exchange rate for Q4 of the preceding year. Here too, we feel the effect of the drop of the American currency towards the Euro.
- b) As is shown in **Attachment 5**, membership figures from our NBOs have dropped substantially. Each member less means minus 1 \$ for the WBF. A source of worry is the deepening of this phenomenon seen in 2021. Many NBOs are struggling to maintain their membership and, if this evolution would be confirmed, the WBF will heavily feel the financial consequences.

Not changing the basic dues system, for the year 2021, I estimate the loss in income at about 50 k€.

Adding the interest income on our \$ holdings at Credit Suisse and some "various" income, we could end up with a total amount of some 480 k€ in terms of fixed income.

Organizing several meetings of the WBF Management Committee and of various other Committees by means of digital gathering, the number of physical meetings of the governing bodies of the WBF will be limited to one Executive Council meeting in Austin, US. The cost of this one meeting is reflected in the updated budget 2021.

Estimating the fixed expenses at some 480 k€, we could end up with a break-even result on the fixed side of the 2021 budget.

II.2. Variable Income & expenses

Due to the cancellation of the **World Bridge Championships** and the **Youth Teams Championships**, the financial impact of these organisations needed to be removed from our budget.

No new edition of the WBF **World Wide Bridge Contest** has been organised in 2021. In the multitude of offerings on the online bridge platforms, the question if this format of competition still has a future needs to be discussed.



Besides some bilateral contacts and one meeting of the Board via Teams, due to the health crisis, the activities of IMSA have remained on a minimal level. No mind sport competitions will have seen the day both in the years 2020 and 2021. The **2nd World Masters** in Hengshui, China, foreseen in our 2021 budget has again been postponed.

The SportAccord/ GAIFS meeting, foreseen to take place in November '21 in the Russian city of Yekaterinburg, has been moved to the month of May '22. During this convention, the IMSA Board will meet, updating its' programme and plans.



As in the past year, the GotoGames group has continued organizing online bridge formats, sharing the net income with the WBF.



The WBF in technological partnership with "52 Entertainment" (the holding company of Funbridge, BBO, CBO, Le Bridgeur, etc...) has submitted the candidature of E-bridge to participate in the Olympic Virtual Series. José Damiani will bring you an update on this project.

WBF has partially covered the costs of this project, putting these expenses at charge of the Promotion & Development Fund.

Taking into account all of these elements, the "**Championships & Competitions**" section of the Variable budget would close with a positive result of some 2 k€.

As we have noticed in 2020, the "Other activities" section of the Variable budget is quite hard to estimate. For the moment being, we estimate the impact at some +32 k€.

Overall, we estimate the result on the variable side of the budget at some +34 k€.

Together with the result of the fixed side, this would mean an **overall result** of + 36 k€ (43 k\$).

This result could be allocated as follows:

• To the WBF equity	7,74 k€
• To the Youth Fund	14,28 k€
• To the Development & Promotion Fund	14,28 k€
• To the General Provision	0,00 k€

The evolution of the various FUNDS would look as follows (see **Attachment 3**):

YOUTH FUND

Direct allocation of 50% of the IOC subsidy to the Youth Fund (in normal times this passes through the Youth Championships budget). No additional contribution @ charge of the year 2021 financial results is foreseen.

On the expenses side of the Fund, we find: 50 % of the cost of the Youth Coordinator contract and the prepaid expenses for the cancelled Youth championship.

Projecting these income and expenses items, the reserves of the Youth Fund would increase from 116 k€ to 123 k€.

PROMOTION & DEVELOPMENT FUND

On the income side, the proposal is to foresee the usual 50 % of the IOC grant and, for given the crisis situation, no extra contribution, as defined in our global financial strategy.

On the expenses side we find the other 50 % of the Youth coordinator contract and the cost sharing for the "Virtual Olympic Series" project.

Considering these income and expenses, the global reserves of the P&D Fund would go up from 97 to some 101 k€.

GENERAL PROVISION

No additional allocation would be foreseen at charge of the 2021 results. The reserves would remain at the level of 125 k€.

III. Budget 2022 - Proposal

Supposing a return to "normality", the proposed budget for the year 2022 contains all of the traditional components. In Attachment 6, the '22 budget is presented.

III.1. Fixed income & expenses

If NBO's don't succeed in turning the trend of decreasing membership figures, the WBF risks being severely struck in terms of income from the annual **dues**. Maintaining the 1 US\$/regular member (i.e. above the age of 25), not taking in account any effect of the exchange rate \$/€, for the year 2022 we risk another loss of some 40 to 50 k€. Together with some other, minor, sources of income, we estimate the fixed income for the year 2022 at some 434 k€ (512 k\$).

With 2 major championships to organize in 2022 and supposing that all activities return to their previous level, foreseeing 2 meetings of the full Executive Council (the "old" in March, Salsomaggiore and the "new" in Wroclaw), we will most probably end up with total fixed expenses at the level of 556 k€ (656 k\$).

This would leave us with a substantial deficit of some 122 k€ (144 k\$).

III.2. Variable Income & expenses

Next year will see the organisation of two major championships:

- **45th World Team Championships** in Salsomaggiore, Italy, from March 27th till April 9th 2022.
- **16th World Bridge Series** in Wroclaw, Poland, from September 2nd – 17th 2022.

The budget for these championships are contained in, respectively, **Attachment 7** and **Attachment 8**.



Due to the persistence of the pandemic, it has been decided that the **45th World Team Championships** will be limited to the Bermuda Bowl, the Venice Cup, the d'Orsi Trophy and the Wuhan Cup. For the teams not qualified to the KO stage and the teams not qualified for

the Semi-final of the WBTC, a **World National Teams Trophy** will be held during the second week of the competition. Moreover, a BAM event will be organised on April 7 and 8th, for the teams not qualified to the KO stage of the World National Teams Trophy. No entry fees are due for participation in these latter events.

As shown in the budget for these championships, beside the income fees paid by the 96 participating teams, the city of Salsomaggiore has agreed to put in a subsidy of 50 k€. To limit the expenses, we will also benefit from the logistic and material aid by the FIGB. If all thing run as expected, we could realise a bonus of some 100 k€ on this organisation.



After the very successful World Bridge Games organised in 2016, a principal agreement, the contract still needing to be signed, has been reached between the WBF and the Polish Bridge Union (PBU) to organise the **16th World Bridge Series** in Wrocław, Poland, in the month of September. Again, the Centennial Hall has been chosen as venue for this competition.

As in Orlando 2018, the Championships will include the Rosenblum Cup (Open T), the McConnel Cup (Women T), the Rand Cup (Senior T), the Mixed teams and pairs and the Open, Women and Senior pairs.

In these (almost) post corona times, it is very hard for LOC to fund these organizations. Though, basically, we do not abandon the "standard" financial conditions, the present times call for flexibility and understanding of the positions of the NBOs and the LOC. For that reason, concerning both the Bermuda Bowl as in respect to the WBSeries, we have had to put our financial ambitions at a minimal level. If ever the WBSeries would see a participation above the one put into our budget, the financial result could be more "substantial" than "conservative/prudent". Wait and see ...

The budget for the 2022 World Bridge Series is contained in **Attachment 8**.

Because of the pandemic, no Youth competitions have been organised in 2020 and 2021. The **2022 7th World Youth Open Championships**, will be held in the city of Salsomaggiore, Italy (TBC), between August 2nd -11th. As previously defined, any financial result of this competition will benefit / be at charge of the Youth Fund.

Though we did not receive any confirmation about this event, we suppose that next year, IMSA will organize at least one event. In the budget we have put a new edition of the **IMSA World Masters**, organized in the Chinese city of Hengshui. If organized, this competition would have a positive impact of some 50 k€ on our P&L.

Overall, the "Championships and Competitions" section of the budget is proposed with a positive result of 244 k€.

Regarding the "Other activities", including exchange rates differences and various other (legal) cases, as always it is impossible to predict the impact of this budget section. For the moment being, we estimate the results at some -21 k€.

Globally, the variable section of the budget 2022 is presented with a positive result of 223 k€ (263 k\$).

Putting these figures together with the fixed side of the budget, we could obtain a result of +100 k€ (+120 k\$), with a distribution as follows:

• To the WBF equity	50,36 k€
• To the Youth Fund	25,00k€
• To the Development & Promotion Fund	25,00 k€
• To the General Provision	0,00 k€



IV. KEY FIGURES

To keep track of the financial performance of the WBF, it is useful to overview the key financial figures. An overview of the past and the future (figures in k€):

Year	FIXED		VARIABLE		TOTAL	EQUITY	Youth F	P&D F	Gen Prov	TOTAL FINANCES
	Income	Expenses	Result	Result	Result	End year				
2010						690	0	0	0	690
2011	482	483	-1	173	172	862	0	0	0	862
2012	520	483	37	36	73	928	6	0	0	934
2013	518	537	-19	192	173	1086	21	0	0	1107
2014	541	475	66	234	300	1331	77	0	0	1408
2015	542	520	22	213	235	1509	81	50	0	1640
2016	580	530	50	592	642	1939	130	74	100	2243
2017	583	514	69	284	353	2145	156	97	150	2548
2018	518	565	-47	158	111	2206	122	99	75	2502
2019	534	546	-12	302	290	2380	110	92	125	2707
2020	383	453	-70	-174	-244	2107	116	97	125	2445
2021b	480	478	2	34	36	2115	123	101	125	2464
2022b	434	556	-122	223	100	2165	127	95	125	2512

And, finally, let's remind the set of Financial Policy Guidelines, which have been approved by the Executive Council in Chennai, 2015:

- The **core equity** of the WBF, representing the basic capital constituting the financial backbone guaranteeing the continuity of the Federation. The 2015 target was to arrive to bring this core equity to the level of 2 Mio\$ (1.7 ME) by the end of 2018. This target has been met. The 2020 deficit has brought us back below the 2.5 Mio€ level. Achieving important negative results – due to exceptional circumstances such as the COVID crisis – shows the necessity to achieve and maintain a substantial level of equity.
- The **Youth Bridge Fund**, benefiting on the income side from the net income of the Youth Simultaneous events and the bonuses (if any) of the Youth Championships. If needed, the Fund would cover any deficits of these Championships. Also, specific actions taken in favour of the youth bridge can also be funded out of this provision.
- A new **Bridge Promotion & Development Fund** intended to gather the financial means necessary for the organization of specific actions and programs serving this purpose. This new fund would be financed by:
 - (a) A yearly contribution of 50 k\$ out of the positive financial result for the year, if available.
 - (b) 50 % of the yearly IOC grant to the WBF (now 32 k\$/year in total), the other 50% remaining in the budget for the Youth Championships.

In its' March '17 Meeting, the Management Committee has approved the following add on to the Financial Policy Guidelines:

- Creation of a **General Provision** intended to cover any financial drawbacks resulting from various causes, among which: bad debtors, failing sponsors for major championships (the WBF being forced to organise relying on its' own resources), various write offs.

Comment: If indeed 2021 would bring the awaited, slightly positive, result, and if we would have a "normal" 2022, we could end the 4 -year cycle with the "Total financial means" at the level of 2018, i.e. around 2,5 Mio €. Considering the dramatic effects of the pandemic, in my view, this would be more than satisfactory.

Marc De Pauw
November 15th, 2021

List of attachments:

1. Accounts 2020
2. Audit report 2020 EY CH
3. Budget 2021 – Update
4. Dues 2021
5. Membership figures 2021
6. Budget 2022 – Proposal
7. World Championship Salsomaggiore 2022 - budget
8. World Bridge Series Wroclaw 2022 – budget

A discussion followed and the Treasurer answered to the questions submitted by the members.

When the discussion touched on the topic of sponsorships, Mr Damiani expressed his concern about the future, related to possible Chinese sponsorships: due to the political situation and to a change in mentality, it will be harder from now on for the Bridge to be appealing for them as it has been in the past.

The President, referring to the championships in particular, remarked the great increasing difficulty to find organisers for the World Championship, due to the now physiological difficulty in finding sponsors and the great sufferance of the NBOs, because of the pandemic that has wiped out their economic conditions. He noted that the NBOs need to have a stimulation, also economic, to organise and host an event. It's impossible to think to maintain a standard contract: for now on the new contracts must be tailor-made, considering the needs of the organizing NBO and the needs of the WBF. The E.C. unanimously shared the President's considerations.

At the end of the discussion, the President and the Council thanked the Treasurer and his report has been unanimously approved.

4. Approval of the meeting of the Management Committee (agenda item 6)

The Executive Council unanimously approved the minutes of the previous Management Committee meetings held on Zoom, in November and December 2020 and in March and May 2021.

5. IMSA (agenda item 7.1)

Mr De Pauw informed the Executive Council that after a conversation with Geoffrey Borg they said that they would meet again in Ekaterinburg, Russia, for the Sport Accord Convention in May 2022. For the moment, IMSA too is waiting.

6. IOC, Canton de Vaud, GAISF, ARISF (agenda item 7.2)

The President briefly reported about the International Organization in Lausanne. The IOC already gave the usual annual subsidy, the Canton de Vaud is regularly paying the indemnities for the COVID-19 crisis and subsequent loss of work. He attended GAISF General Assembly and will attend the ARISF General Assembly in mid-December, both online. The President reported that ARISF appointed himself as one of the two Auditors, remarking that it has to be intended as a gratification for the WBF and its role in the association.

7. The Virtual Olympic Games (agenda item 7.3)

The President asked Mr Damiani to report about the Virtual Olympic Games.

Mr. Damiani informed that this year the IOC had the first Virtual Olympic Games, to be held every 2 years, and 5 Sports were involved: Sailing, Cycling, Motor Sport, Rowing, Baseball. He reported that, as unanimously approved by the Management Committee, the WBF will present and support the Bridge candidature for the next Virtual Olympic Games. He remarked that bridge has all the characteristics and requirements to be included in the Games and authoritative IOC members, that are helping in following the correct procedure, share this belief. He personally his in contact with the IOC authorities, with the support of authoritative IOC members, to provide to submit a presentation of Bridge together with all the other needed elements to reach this ambitious goal.

Mr. Damiani shared the presentation of bridge:

1. Le bridge
2. La World Bridge Federation
3. 52 Entertainment, partenaire technologique de la WBF
4. Candidature du bridge aux Olympic Virtual Series



1. Le bridge



Le bridge est devenu un sport parce qu'il est organisé comme tel avec des compétitions qui excluent tout hasard. Pratiqué aujourd'hui par plus de **50 millions de personnes** sur tous les continents, il est né au milieu du 19e siècle à la suite de différents jeux pratiqués dans plusieurs parties du monde, a transité par l'Inde puis par Constantinople avant que les premiers clubs ne voient le jour au Royaume-Uni et en France. Il a pris sa forme de Bridge Contrat aux États Unis avec Harold Vanderbilt en 1925 et il a encore évolué sensiblement pour devenir **un jeu de comparaison** qui permet à chacun de jouer avec le même jeu que son adversaire direct et d'obtenir ainsi un résultat du uniquement aux aptitudes de chaque joueur. Il se pratique généralement sous forme de tournois par paire ou par équipe de 4 qui occupent chacun un des points cardinaux avec les 13 cartes identiques d'une table à l'autre sur le total des 52 cartes de l'As, Roi, Dame... au 2 dans chaque couleur, Pique, Cœur, Carreau, Trèfle. **Le bridge peut se comprendre en 10 minutes et fait l'objet de scores toutes les 2 à 3 minutes avec des classements immédiats et évolutifs permettant aux spectateurs de suivre avec intérêt le suspens généré.**

C'est le jeu qui sert de support au calcul des probabilités dont se sont servis les mathématiciens les plus célèbres. C'est aussi un des meilleurs exemples de **logiciel de communication** puisqu'il faut établir un dialogue avec son partenaire avec un **langage codé** mais relativement réduit dont les adversaires doivent comprendre la signification.

C'est ce qui a permis à Monsieur Li Lanqin, vice-premier ministre de Chine, en charge de l'économie de dire que le Bridge est avec la musique **le seul langage universel.**

E-Bridge

Parfait exemple d'activité sportive à distance, on peut pratiquer le bridge aux quatre coins du monde en même temps. Le bridge a su s'adapter avec son époque, devenu E-Bridge dans la mesure où un humain peut jouer avec **un robot contre d'autres robots** et établir une véritable échelle comparative basée sur les qualités de chaque joueur. Cette nouvelle forme de bridge est maintenant pratiquée par plus de **5 millions de joueurs** et contribue aux recherches sur l'Intelligence Artificielle, plutôt avec succès d'ailleurs grâce à une collaboration internationale.

Même pratique, que ce soit en présentiel ou en distanciel, l' E-Bridge s'adresse à toutes les générations.



Eclairage sur l'impact auprès des jeunes

« Le Petit Bridge », une déclinaison du bridge adaptée aux jeunes adolescents et labellisée par la WBF

Le bridge est une activité désormais adaptée aux jeunes grâce au Petit Bridge, une déclinaison du jeu conçue par des professionnels de l'éducation. La WBF a labellisé ce support qui s'inscrit dans la stratégie de développement du secteur jeunes mondial. Une version numérique est en cours de réalisation.

La WBF contribue à la politique éducative de lutte contre l'innumérisme en préconisant l'utilisation du bridge pour favoriser les apprentissages. Le bridge permet aux jeunes de développer de manière ludique, des qualités de concentration, d'analyse, d'autonomie, d'initiative et de mémorisation. Il aide également au développement social des jeunes en étant le seul sport de l'esprit à se pratiquer avec un partenaire.

Les avantages du Petit Bridge sont nombreux:

1. C'est un **sport collaboratif** qui permet la construction d'une réflexion par l'échange avec son partenaire. Il place le jeune au cœur d'un jeu éducatif tant en classe qu'au sein de la famille favorisant ainsi les liens intergénérationnels.

2. Il permet de cultiver le **sens des nombres** chez les plus jeunes. D'éminents neuroscientifiques soulignent régulièrement l'importance de l'apprentissage du bridge pour acquérir les compétences des mathématiques: la **numération**, la notion d'**ordre**, la **complémentation à 10** et les **opérations**. Il permet également de travailler la lecture d'où son rôle essentiel dans l'Education.

3. Il fait la part belle à l'élaboration d'un raisonnement et permet de donner à l'enfant le **goût de la recherche d'une solution**.

Dans de nombreux pays, le bridge est enseigné comme discipline à des dizaines de millions d'élèves tant à l'école, qu'au collège, qu'à l'université avec le soutien des ministères de l'Education. A titre d'exemple, en France, une opération nationale est prévue au mois d'octobre 2021 auprès de 800.000 élèves.



« Le bridge est un outil pédagogique de première classe. »

Cédric Villani, mathématicien lauréat de la médaille Fields (le Nobel des maths)

2. La World Bridge Federation



La **World Bridge Federation (WBF)** a été constituée en 1958 en rassemblant les fédérations nationales européennes existant depuis 1932, au sein de ce qui est devenue l'European Bridge League, et des différentes entités telles que l'American Contract Bridge League et du Far East ainsi que l'Océanie. A ces quatre fondateurs se sont ajoutées depuis les nouvelles zones d'Amérique du Sud, d'Amérique Centrale, du Moyen Orient et l'Afrique. Chaque fédération nationale organise ses propres compétitions et championnats qualificatifs pour les championnats internationaux. La WBF compte 130 pays membres sur les 5 continents.

Les athlètes sont représentés au sein du comité exécutif de la WBF par deux joueurs de haut niveau avec droit de vote.

Chaque année, elle est en charge de l'organisation des championnats du monde catégoriels Open, dames, seniors, **juniors** (U25), **jeunes** (U20), **cadets** (U15), **Girls**. C'est évidemment elle aussi qui est gardienne des règles du jeu à travers **un code International** qui s'impose à tous et dont malgré tout le premier fût édité en 1870 avec déjà des articles sur l'éthique. Elle publie chaque année **un classement** des meilleurs joueurs internationaux dans chaque catégorie avec différents rangs gagnés grâce aux « Master Points » et aux « Performance Points » attribués à chaque compétition.

Elle a été reconnue par le Comité International Olympique en 1999 à la session de Séoul, comme FI et a organisé le Grand Prix au musée Olympique de Lausanne pendant de nombreuses années. La WBF est aussi soutenue par l'UNESCO pour son programme éducatif.

Elle est membre de la GAISF, de l'ARISF, de la WADA, de l'International Mind Sports Association ainsi que de la FISU avec laquelle elle organise des championnats universitaires en réel et **en ligne**.

Rayonnement du bridge à l'international

Zoom sur le Championnat du monde jeunes

Le championnat du monde jeunes est une manifestation internationale de bridge annuelle rassemblant des milliers de jeunes du monde entier, jouant soit en équipe nationale, soit en mode transnational ce qui permet des associations internationales.



Nombre d'inclusion du bridge dans d'autres événements multisports :

World Mind Sports Games	3
Universiade	3
Championnat du monde universitaire	12
Jeux Asiatiques	3
Asian Para Games	1
Jeux d'Asie du Sud-Est (SEA)	5
SEA Para Games	2
Jeux Africains	1
Jeux d'Amérique Centrale et des Caraïbes	1
SportAccord Mind Games	4

3. 52 Entertainment partenaire technologique de la WBF



About 52 entertainment

52 Entertainment is the ultimate holding company of #Funbridge #BridgeBase (BBO), CBO, Le Bridgeur, Bridge Baron and many others which together forms the world's uncontested leader in bridge entertainment, books, magazines, e-commerce and software.

Our goal is to further expand the universe of bridge players by providing them with entertaining and fun options to play or follow bridge.

Overall, we have today a fantastic community of 5 million fans across our various platforms.

52 Entertainment is now exploring new games and different community to become a leading digital company on all mind and strategic games.

Our journey is just beginning



2017

Starting point: **FUNBRIDGE**, European leader of online bridge.



2018

Acquisition of **Bridge Base Online (BBO)**, making us the world bridge leader.



2019

Acquisition of **LE BRIDGEUR**, bringing specialized media content into the Group portfolio.



2019

Creation of **CBO**, thereby entering the Chinese market.



2020

Acquisition of **Bridge Baron**, **Master Point Press** and **Canasta Junction**. Launch of **Funbelote** and **World of Bridge**



2021-2023

New projects to continue to develop our vertical logic in bridge, as well as diversification projects related to mind games.



20 YEARS

We've been growing steadily over the last 20 years.

Right now, we have more than **150 employees on 3 continents** and continue to grow.

BRIDGE & MIND GAMES

52 Entertainment is a mind games **specialist**.

From the first tentative steps, playing a new game, to the highest level of competition. Players of all abilities use our products.

Including the **world's best**.

We are the world leader in the market of the most played mind game in the world: bridge

Our successes



1,000,000,000

Games played in 1 year



5,000,000

Players registered on our platforms



2,500,000

Players online per month

A success built with clubs and federations, players with a long background in the discipline

We are working in a **structured network of clubs and national federations** (the World Bridge Federation is made up of more than 130 countries).



A COMMUNITY OF ENTHUSIASTS

Every month more than **5 million fans** use 52 Entertainment platforms.



INDUSTRY LEADER

We are the world leader in bridge. People from **180 countries** are playing more than a **billion games per year** on our platforms.

STRONG ECOSYSTEM

You can **live your passion online and offline** with our extensive ecosystem. Play alone, in a partnership, in a team and even with your clubs and federations.

Funbridge in a few words

Funbridge lets you **play bridge for free** with no hang-ups and no commitments. It offers a subscription to both mobile iPhone and Android users and also to computer users with either Mac or Windows desktop.

There are even hints to help you if you are asking yourself "**How do you play bridge?**". For those who already know how to **play bridge**, this bridge app helps you sharpen your skills at both declarer's play and defense before jumping in to play duplicate bridge against live opponents.

We want to make it not just fun, easy and educational, but we also want you to play bridge online as a meaningful experience in every way. We aim to lead the way among free bridge apps.

[Discover Funbridge](#)

4.5 / 5

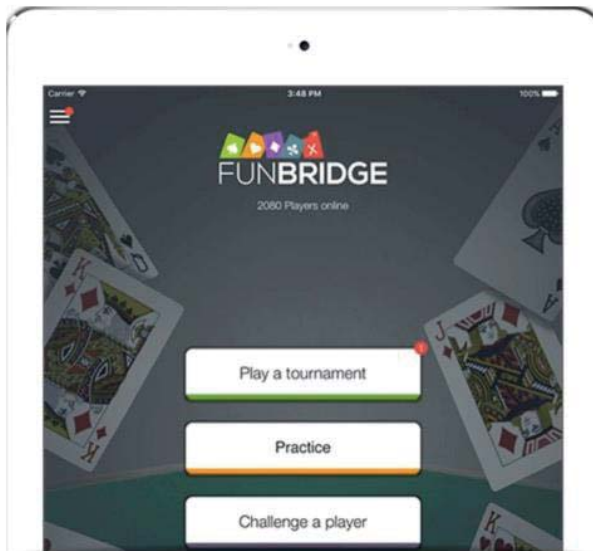
Players' rating

1,097,158

Deals played yesterday

171,716

Regular players



Video chat at the game table



4. Candidature du bridge aux Olympic Virtual Series





On a vu plus haut les vertus du bridge chez les jeunes joueurs qui peuvent le pratiquer en réel entre eux mais aussi en virtuel avec **trois intelligences artificielles** qui complètent la table. **Une étant le partenaire du joueur et les deux autres les adversaires.**

Grâce à la technologie innovante développée par le groupe 52 Entertainment depuis 20 ans, leader mondial de E-Bridge également partenaire de la WBF, nous pouvons organiser toutes formes de compétitions qui s'intégreraient aux Olympic Virtual Series en couvrant le monde entier. Nous pouvons en effet moduler **la durée de l'événement**, à volonté, **garantir l'universalité et le nombre de joueurs** en distinguant si on le souhaite les classements (âge, catégorie, niveau ...). De même, la fiabilité technique est assurée ainsi que l'éthique par des logiciels d'études statistiques et de reconnaissance des connexions des joueurs.

Popularité et Universalité

A l'occasion du 1^{er} championnat du monde d'E-Bridge en 2016, Bill Gates, fan de bridge, filmé devant son ordinateur, commentait sa participation à la première coupe du monde. **Cette vidéo a été vue par 32 millions de personnes**, La Yeh Online Bridge World Cup, du nom de ses sponsors chinois, a opposé en ligne pendant trois jours **une équipe américaine de Seattle, dont Bill Gates**, deux équipes chinoises (**l'équipe officielle de Chine Populaire à Pékin capitainé par M. Guo Jinlong** en charge des sports au politburo et celle des frères Yeh à Taiwan), et **l'équipe vainqueur Lavazza à Turin.**

De nombreuses retransmissions TV importantes ont eu lieu sur Canal+, TF1 et sur la chaîne CCTV (12 millions de téléspectateurs).



Mens sana in corpore sano – Bridge in the Olympic Virtual Series



- Au travers de la candidature du Bridge pour intégrer la prochaine édition des Olympic Virtual Series, la WBF offre au CIO la possibilité de diversifier le portfolio de disciplines proposées au public ainsi qu'une **dimension complémentaire** aux autres sports ayant permis le succès des premiers OVS. Très accessible, passionnant et contribuant à développer la concentration, la détermination, les capacités d'analyse et la prise de décision, le ebridge permettra **de véhiculer les valeurs olympiques auprès d'un nouveau public jeune** et féru de sport de l'esprit, tout en vivant une expérience digitale innovante, inspirante et unique.

- En outre, le format de compétition possible **offre toute la flexibilité** nécessaire (la WBF s'adaptera aux critères définis pour faire partie des OVS) afin de répondre aux attentes du CIO et de correspondre à la vision future du E-Sport en vue de toucher un public très large, tant au niveau des spectateurs que des suiveurs. La participation des meilleurs joueurs du monde **motivera également les jeunes générations de tous horizons** à se mesurer à eux au travers d'une expérience unique, tant au niveau compétitif, culturel qu'éducatif.

- L'expertise et la fiabilité de notre partenaire technologique garantira des **compétitions équitables, sans manipulations et faciles à suivre**. Ici également, en plus des garanties apportées, nous pouvons nous adapter au format des prochains Olympic Virtual Series.

C'est en partenaires solides et crédibles que la World Bridge Federation et 52 Entertainment offrent un atout supplémentaire dans le jeu du CIO et des Olympic Virtual Series.

The President and the Executive Council thanked Mr Damiani for the excellent job he did and his doing and unanimously approved the submission of the candidature of Bridge to be included in the Olympic Virtual Series.

8. The Pan-American Games (agenda item 7.4)

The President briefly informed the Council that Zone 3 has promoted contacts to explore the chance for bridge to be included in the Pan-American Games. Mr. Caracci confirmed also remarking that at the moment the situation is stalled

9. Seminar and Meetings (agenda item 7.5)

The President underlined the importance of having the head quarter in Lausanne, in order to participate to the life of the Olympic capital with all the seminars and events sport-related and gives the floor to Ms. Arianna Testa, who reported about the seminars and meeting by her attended in 2020 and 2021:

“Maison du Sport International - 2020-2021 Activities

2020

Clean Sport organized in collaboration with the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA)
Smart Cities & Sport Summit

Dedicated to the question of how smart and forward-thinking cities can leverage inclusive sport, physical activity and sporting events to advance the common roadmap to transform communities and contribute to the UN 2030 Agenda.

The Smart Cities & Sport Summit 2020 aims to bring cities closer to IFs, in order to share inspiring initiatives and best practices, and ultimately to build partnerships to reach the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Development in regard to the mental health of athletes

The topic of the Seminar focused on the following questions:

- What is the current 'state of play' in supporting the mental health of elite athletes ?
- How can IFs best provide National Federations and athletes with mental health resources in order to enhance their development programs?

This seminar included the perspectives of three expert speakers in the field:

- Ajla del Ponte, Swiss sprinter and Olympian, will talk about the mental challenges and needs for support of a modern elite athlete.
- Denis Hauw, Professor for Sports Psychology at the University of Lausanne (UNIL), will provide a comprehensive overview over the latest scientific findings as regards to mental health and how they are translated into concrete initiatives.
- Niccolò Campriani, 3-time Olympic Champion and sport engineer with 15+ years of experience in the Italian Olympic Shooting Team and Senior Sports Intelligence Manager at the CIO Sports Department explained the everyday implementation of initiatives for the promotion of athletes' mental health.

Latest digital developments in fan-engagement solutions

The subject has been approached in two ways:

Pitches of 5 minutes:

A selection of Sport Tech Companies & Start-ups had five minutes to present a new solution in the field of fan-engagement which can be applied by IFs.

Panel discussion:

a selection of IF shared how they utilize fan engagement technologies, whether for their own events or for their members'.

The seminar was inspiring thanks to the sharing of brand new solutions in fan engagement, and allowed federations to exchange about how such technologies can be adapted and implemented within the realities of today's international sport landscape.

2021

Integrity/ Legal

The topic of the Seminar focused on the question 'Sports betting in a post-Covid19 landscape: How can IFs protect their sport from betting-motivated match-fixing and how can they benefit from proactive and transparent engagement with the betting industry?'

The Seminar tried to answer the above questions by providing technical explanations, practical recommendations on regulatory frameworks and hands-on suggestions, covering two different perspectives:

- The perspective of Genius Sports, a company specialized in integrity protection and betting-related commercialization.
- The perspective of an IF providing insights into its day-to-day work.

Kevin Carpenter (Genius Sports): Protecting Sport from Betting-motivated Match-fixing, Benefitting from Proactive & Transparent Engagement with the Betting Industry

Valérie Horyna (FIH): Protecting the Integrity of Hockey

Benjamin Schindler (FIBA): Protecting the Integrity of Basketball

Communication / Marketing

The topic of the Seminar focused on the question "Communications, marketing and fan engagement at Tokyo 2020: How can IFs best prepare their communications efforts to make the most of the increased visibility of their sport during the Olympic Games?"

The Seminar provided answers the above question by providing concrete examples and best practices both from an IF perspective, as well as from the perspective of a company specialized in sports marketing.

Speakers:

- Jackie Brock-Doyle - Executive Director communications - World Athletics
- Ace Ferdinand Asas - Digital content manager - Volleyball World
- Tim Stott - Executive Producer Digital HBS - Infront Sports & Media

Member services

The topic of the Seminar was “Improving Member engagement: Creating stronger Member buy-in through increased participation in development plans”.

It provided expert views from both international federations and international organizations, this Seminar included case studies and concrete examples aiming to address the above-mentioned question.

During the Seminar we had some examples and best practices that IFs should consider when trying to engage with its members and other stakeholders when defining strategy, running new projects and designing plans. Speakers from UN specialized agency World Health Organization, as well as from the World Sailing IF, shared how they have co-created inclusive strategies and developments plans.

Speakers:

- Fiona Bull - Head of Unit, Physical Activity, Dept of Health Promotion, at WHO
- Victoria Low - Head of World Sailing Trust
- Scott Over - Commercial Director at World Sailing

Finance/ Commercial

The topic of the Seminar focused on the question “How can IFs find new streams of revenue in a post-Covid world?”

During this seminar key insights on top opportunities to increase revenues in the sports industry have been shared by PwC - David Dellea - Director Sports Business Advisory, exploring in detail the “creation and monetization of digital assets” opportunity with Horizm - Pedro Mestriner - CEO. The seminar included a case study from FIH - Ricky Thussu - Sales Director - with an overview of its various streams of revenue and how they can be leveraged. A round table discussion moderated by PwC will conclude the seminar.

Technology

The topic of the seminar focused on the question “E-sports: where we are and where are we heading?”

During this seminar heard from Roger Lodewick - CEO of Dreamhack Sport Games, Andre Flackel - Head of & E-sports at Infront and Gustavo Arellano - Head of Commercial Development at FIBA who gave us key insights on how have IFs best integrated e-sports into their structure and how do they see the role of e-sports evolving into the future via case studies.

Events

The topic of the Seminar focused on the question Key-learnings from the Tokyo Games: What good ideas can we take away for the coming Olympic cycle?

The Seminar wanted to answer the above questions by getting the sports actors’ feedback, concrete examples and insights after their experience in Tokyo.

- Ace Ferdinand Asas - Digital Content Manager at Volleyball World
- Siret Luik - Deputy Secretary General at World Archery
- Susanne Böhlen - Head of Olympic Team Support at Swiss Olympic

Undoubtedly Covid 19 forced IFs to deliver their events in a different way accelerating a host of exciting technological and organizational innovations that will

probably last for future sport events.

Clean Sport

The Seminar was organized in collaboration with the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA).

This seminar focused on the 2021 World Anti-Doping Code and revised International Standards entered into force on 1 January 2021. WADA European Office and Sport Movement Relations Team wanted to provide IFs with the opportunity to ask questions in this regard, before the 2022 Code Compliance Questionnaire is issued. WADA presented also the new Dried Blood Spot (DBS) Testing Method and provided an update on the Speak Up! Whistleblower platform and policy.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

GAISF-IGNITX Athletes' Safeguarding Workshop (Sessions 1&2)

Webinar "Checking criminal records as a tool to protect children in sport"

The 138th IOC session (from Tokyo)

EY & KC / Sports Federations event

(Ernst&Young – Kellerhals Carrard)

- Key trends in competition law sports federations should be aware of
- Latest topics around sports federations: New trends in corporate structure
- Economic impact of sport events
- COVID survey presentation and discussion
- Roundtable with Mathieu Jaton, CEO of the Montreux Jazz festival and other guests from the sports community

GAISF General Assembly

ARISF General Assembly

UPCOMING EVENTS (2021)

IF' Seminar on Innovation

ARISF General Assembly

In addition to the MSI life – that is hopefully slowly going back to a social dimension- I've been in touch with the Canton de Vaud for the financial support that they provided for the COVID-19 crisis. Thanks to this dialogue, WBF received approximately CHF 50'000 since I arrived in Lausanne (September 2020-November 2021). Unfortunately we lost the first part of this funding (March 2020-August 2020) since it was not possible to make a retroactive request, we couldn't manage to ask for the allowances prior to my arrival.

The everyday routine includes administrative tasks: Switzerland is the "Insurance country" par excellence and we are not exempt from this bureaucracy, the headquarters is the fulcrum of all these incessant communications.

I'm in touch with MEI (Major Events International) to develop future projects for the optimizations of our services.

I'm exploring the possibility for us to implement a new technology used by the World Archery Federation during the last Olympic Games in Tokyo to trace the heartbeat of the athletes during the competition, I'm investigating the possibility to have such equipment in our events to make our competitions even more appealing and exciting.

I'll be happy to welcome you, to share a nice breakfast with the tempting bakery of the Boulanger that comes every morning at MSI or to enjoy a break at the Ping Pong table downstairs (and don't forget the Bridge tournament on Wednesday's evenings at the Lausanne Bridge Club La Cité).

Being in Lausanne is an inspiring experience, the Sport community is vibrant and active, the international atmosphere is a reach context where new ideas and project

have the chance to grow and become a reality. I'm looking forward to having an increasing active role now that the pandemic seems to be under control and that the activities are cautiously going back to normal."

The Council expressed to Arianna its great appreciation and thanked and congratulated her for the detailed report and the excellent job done.

10. The 2021 European Online Trials (agenda item 9)

The President asked Mr Kamras to report about the European Online Trials. Mr Kamras explained how EBL organized the trials and they handled the controversy that involved the Italian team.

The Members agreed on finding a way once and for all to have a policy and guidelines to avoid this kind of situation in the future. A possibility would be to negotiate with the NBOs that a convicted player is not allowed to play in the National Teams in WBF events.

Mr De Pauw pointed out that in the Eligibility Code the principle is already there but it probably needs a different wording.

During the discussion the members debated on the possibility of refusing to invite a player who's not been convicted by the CAS. Mr Kamras said that the lawyer from the Kellerhals Carrard cabinet in Lausanne confirmed that if the success of an event is threatened by the presence of a player than the organization can refuse to invite the player.

The President shares the position reported by Mr. Kamras and remarked the necessity to have a clear and unambiguous rule. With the approval of the Executive, he remits to the Credential Committee with the support of the General Counsel and if needed of our Lawyer, Ross Wenzel, to formulate the principle.

The meeting was adjourned at 14.00 to be reconvened on Sunday, 29th November at 9:30.