

SUPPLEMENTAL CONDITIONS OF CONTEST

For

HAROLD VANDERBILT BRIDGE CENTENARY CELEBRATION

CONDITIONS OF ENTRY and GENERAL INFORMATION

GENERAL RULES FOR ELIGIBILITY TO PARTICIPATE

- **Participation in this tournament is open to resident/non-resident bridge players of Indian Nationality as well foreign players.** All participating players are expected to have been registered under BFI Master Point Scheme and in good standing with their NBO and should meet the requirement of participation of the particular event, as specified by BFI.
- It is presumed that all players participating in the championship have read and will abide by the required clauses in the "**Competitors Agreement Form**", as given on the BFI website.
- Withdrawals are not permitted unless due to extremely unavoidable situations. Premature withdrawals will be reported to the BFI disciplinary committee for not adhering to the Players Code of Conduct.
- Each player is required to play **minimum 25% of the stipulated sessions (at least 3 sessions in the Elimination stage (to be eligible to participate in the next level) and 1 session in the Final League (Gold/Silver)** in order as well eligible for BFI Federation points.
- The General COC/Handbook of BFI will apply wherever needed with regard to the policies and tournament related guidelines
- TRIOS are allowed in this event.

EVENT DETAILS

- In the qualification stage, each Session will consist of 18 Boards to be played over nine progressions.
- **Scoring is IMPs** (Datum)
- There will be six sessions in the qualifying stage to be played on 15th and 16th August 2025.
- Finals will be played on 17th August 2025. After the qualification stage, the top 26 Pairs will qualify for the Gold Final, where they will be joined by 2 Pairs to be nominated by the Sponsors of the Tournament. The next 26 Pairs will play the Silver Final.
- If a pair does not play in the final, they may be replaced by the Reserve Pairs. If 2 or more Pairs are absent, Tables may be reduced in the respective Final.
- There will be a Carryover in the Gold and Silver Finals. The carryover from qualifying session to the Finals will be one-fifth of the difference between the TOP & the last qualifying pair (Rounded to 2 decimal places), subject to a maximum of 10.8 IMPs for the Gold Final and 10 IMPs for the Silver Final (rounded to two decimals - one-fifth of the total number of boards to be played in the final). The Carryovers may be suitably amended if a lesser number of Boards is played in the Finals.
- In case of a Bye, the Pairs will get their own Session score for that session.
- In case of missing opponents who had to discontinue for whatever reason, the Pairs so affected will get 60% for the first Board and 50% for the second Board in the round.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

- Qualification stage: 6 Sessions of 18 Boards on 15th and 16th August 2025.

- Final: Gold and Silver Final on 17th August 2025.
- Pairs not qualified for the Finals would play in a side event, subject to a minimum number of Entries.

LAWS & POLICY

The event will be conducted as per **WBF – 2017 Laws of Duplicate Bridge** and will follow **BFI System and alert policy**. All participants are requested to make themselves familiar with the governing laws and policies

REVIEW PROCEDURE

- Before giving a ruling, the directors consult each other, and if needed other senior players.
- Please ask for a review only and only if you believe certain facts didn't come to director's notice, or a law has been applied incorrectly.
- All review requests will attract a fee (Rs. 1000), which would be forfeited if the review request is found to be baseless and/or frivolous. The reviewer's decision is final and binding. There will be no further appeal against reviewer's decision

Conduct

All contestants are expected to accept the decisions of the Tournament Directors / Review Committee in a sportsman like manner.

- Please maintain a courteous attitude towards your partner, teammates, directors, and other officials and support staff.
- Please refrain from using foul language, even as a joke.
- Repeated misbehaviour will lead to ban from the event and disciplinary action by Tournament Committee.
- Please be suitably attired.
- A penalty may be levied on repeat offenders from previous instances as well

Smoking

- Strictly no-smoking during the session. Penalties will apply.

Mobile Phones

- Usage of Mobile phone or of any other second device is strictly prohibited during play.
- This is irrespective of whether the player is talking about the game or any other topic.
- Director will immediately penalize the offender. Repeat offences will attract higher penalties.

ENTRY FEE AND SUBMISSION OF ENTRIES

Entries must be submitted online through the prescribed entry form on the tournament web site, accompanied by the requisite entry fees to be submitted online through the payment gateway, stating the full names and MP Registration Numbers of the participating players, within the prescribed time for each event as mentioned in the tournament web site. Entries not accompanied by the entry fee or not giving the names of both the players of the pair, or without the players' M.P. Registration numbers will be rejected. Acceptance of late entries shall be at the sole discretion of the CTD, CTD may accept late entries at his sole discretion, where such acceptance does not disturb the tournament schedule.

The tournament web site link for Registration & Entry Payment is at: <https://wbbridge.in/>

Authority of the Tournament Committee

The Tournament Committee reserves the authority to alter or modify this SCoC. In exercising this right the committee shall also have the right to ratify any clear error in the SCoC as soon as it is brought to its notice, provided that the error is evident from the context or from it's being in conflict with the laws.

SYSTEM POLICY, THIRD HAND OPENINGS & PSYCHIC BIDS

"**BFI System Policy 2021**" will be followed. The policy can be found on BFI web site. <http://www.bfi.net.in>

Please note that this event has been categorized as **Category 2 Event**, hence The use of **HUM systems and Brown Sticker conventions are prohibited**.

Psychic Artificial bids are prohibited at all stages

Substitutes

- In the event of severe inability to continue, a TD may allow the third member of the trio to substitute the affected member. However, once this is done, the original player will not be allowed to return for the session.
- If a Pair is not able to play three consecutive rounds, the Pair would be dropped for the forthcoming rounds/sessions of the event.

Withdrawal and Walk over

- It is advisable not to withdraw or give Walk over unless there is an emergency.
- However, if utmost necessary, a pair is permitted to withdraw only with the expressed consent of CTD after the completion of a Session. In case a pair withdraws without such consent, the pair will be disqualified for the rest of the championship by the CTD and may also have to face the disciplinary proceedings by BFI Disciplinary Committee.

IMPORTANT: Pairs giving walk over or forfeiting the match at any stage of the event will not be eligible for Master Points

Disciplinary Rules and Penalties

- The schedule of penalties which follows is supplemental to the laws. All infringements of the law will be dealt with in accordance with the norms laid down by Bridge Federation of India.
- **YELLOW CARD** Regulations are in force.
- **Mobile Phones** – Mobile phones shall be switched off during the play, If the players are observed calling or receiving call during the play will be penalized (3 IMPs) for the first offence and (6 IMPs) for any offence thereafter. Repeated violation by any player may mean suspension of that player / pair at the discretion of the CTD and Chairman Tournament Committee.
- **Smoking** – Players are not allowed to smoke during the play. The entire playing arena is a no smoking zone. Pair from which the players are observed smoking during the play will be penalized (3 IMPs) for the first offence and (6 IMPs) for any offence thereafter. Repeated violation by any player may result in higher penalties or even suspension of that player / pair at the discretion of the CTD and Chairman Tournament Committee

ADDITION OF POWERS TO DIRECTORS AND DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE:

In accordance with Section XXXVIII of the Rules and Regulations of the Memorandum and Articles of Association of BFI

- **XXXVIII. CODE OF DISCIPLINARY REGULATIONS:**

The Executive Committee shall have the power to expel, suspend or otherwise discipline a player for any of the following reasons:

In case of any impropriety / cheating / fraud committed by the said player.

In case of misbehaviour with officials or fellow contestants during various bridge competitions or contests or during meetings of the Council, Executive Committee, or any other bridge related forum.

With respect to the above clause, if any competitor is found guilty of Improper conduct, including without limitation, acts of aggression, violence or intimidation, on the part of an individual towards any director/s in preview of their ruling against any individual where such nominated director is in performance of his/her BFI duties or functions, whether within the context of laws and bye laws of BFI rules and regulations and WBF Laws for Duplicate Bridge will be seriously taken for procedural penalty and disciplinary action immediately.

- **Penalties liable to be imposed for misconduct:**

Procedural Penalty: Notwithstanding any penalties which have been empowered to a Director as per WBF Law of Duplicate Bridge 2017, the director may depending on the gravity of the reprehensible conduct, impose one or more of the following penalties in respect of reprehensible conduct:

- **Warning:**

On repeated misconduct in the same/later appearance, a penalty of 5 Imps

Where Reprehensible Conduct occurs frequently at or in connection with a BFI Event, disqualification of all results (including, at the discretion of the hearing panel, the results of the team) at such BFI Event, including forfeiture of any points, prizes and medal.

- **Disciplinary Action:**

Suspension for a given period of at least 3 to 6 months from the day of adjudication of final verdict of violation to participate in any national federation recognized events or minimum 2 federation events whichever is later.

Suspension for a given period of time of at least 1 year from the day of adjudication of final verdict of violation to participate in any national federation recognized events or minimum 4 federation events whichever is later.

Permanent ban on the person concerned (excluding STATES) from attending and/or participating in BFI Events and/or activities.

Tie- breaking Procedures

The Pairs with identical scores after deducting all penalties will deem to have tied. In case of a tie, determinations of rank will be broken on VP product of all rounds as per BFI handbook - Page No. 65.

Appeal on Scoring of Results

- Appeal for correction of an error in Computing or tabulating the total point score of an agreed number of tricks on the hand must be made on the score appeal form which is to be submitted to CTD within 20 minutes of the end of the respective session. (10 minutes for the last session). However, in case of discrepancy between official results on any board, correction period may be extended by CTD

Ethics and Deportment

- All contestants are required to conform at all times to the highest standards of ethics and deportment. BFI expects all teams and partnerships to play to win at all times and in all circumstances. All contestants (including non-playing captains) are expected to accept the decisions of the Tournament / Review Committee in a sportsman like manner.

Disciplinary Powers

- For any BFI event, the entry of any player, pair, or team may be rejected. If this occurs the affected party or parties will receive, in writing, the reasons for the rejection. The offenders will be given reasonable opportunity to answer the allegation in person or in writing. The Governing Council of BFI, has constituted and empowered a "Disciplinary Committee", which will exercise these disciplinary powers. Typical causes of disciplinary action are:
- **Any breach of the Laws or proprieties of bridge as set out in the Code or in these regulations, Offensive behaviour, Withdrawal or non-attendance from an event without good reason.**

CARRYOVER:

- The carryover at Final League (Gold/Silver) of the event will be equivalent to "the difference between the Qualification Score of the topper and the last qualifier" rounded to two decimals – (the maximum being the one-fifth of the total number of boards to be played in the final). The Carryovers may be suitably amended if a lesser number of Boards is played in the Finals.
- All other qualifiers will be given their carryover proportionately, with topper getting the upper limit and the last qualifier zero.