



THE WORLD BRIDGE FEDERATION

World Championships, November 2003

I have been asked to send you the following information from the President of the World Bridge Federation, Mr José Damiani:

As you will be aware, the circumstances surrounding the siting of the Bermuda Bowl, Venice Cup, Seniors Bowl and World Transnational Open Teams have been fraught with difficulty. Following the problems in Bali in 2001 & 2002 it was decided not to attempt to hold the Championships there in 2003, and it has been very difficult to find a suitable and peaceful venue. However, we believe we have now succeeded in finding a marvellous venue in Monte Carlo. Although it is slightly more expensive than we would perhaps have liked, there is, nevertheless a range of suitable hotels. We ask for your support and understanding.

The Championships will be held under the auspices of the Société des Bains de Mer, of the Principality of Monaco and the Compagnie Monégasque de Banque. The bridge will be played at the Sporting d'Hiver. For accommodation we have arranged that rooms will be available in the following Hotels:

Hotel	Detail	Single Room (Euro)	Double Room (Euro)
Hôtel de Paris	De Luxe hotel adjoining the playing area	230	260
Hermitage	De Luxe hotel adjoining the playing area	195	225
Mirabeau	4* hotel in walking distance from the playing area	150	165
Monte Carlo Beach Hôtel	4* hotel - shuttles will be arranged to and from the playing area	150	165

The rates will include buffet breakfast, taxes and service
Reservations must be made through the SBM

resort@sbm.mc

Tel : + 377 92 16 25 25

Fax : +377 92 16 26 26

Travel: players can fly to Nice Airport in France, which is very close to Monte Carlo.

The dates for the Championship will **be 2nd – 15th November**, with the **Opening Ceremony** being in the evening of **2nd November** and the **Prize Giving** on the evening of **15th November**. The Bermuda Bowl, and Seniors Bowl will start on 3rd November and we are considering starting the Venice Cup on Tuesday 4th ; the Round Robins for the Bermuda Bowl and Venice Cup will finish by Sunday 9th November, and the Seniors Bowl will end before the start of the World Transnational Open Teams.

The **World Transnational Open Teams** will start on **Tuesday 11th November (late afternoon)** and the Semi Final will be played on the evening of **14th November**, with the Final on **Saturday 15th November**. We ask you to encourage as many teams as possible to enter this prestigious and enjoyable event.

Monday, 24 February 2003

Anna Gudge, WBF Liaison

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The entry fees for the Championship events are as follows:

Bermuda Bowl, Venice Cup, Seniors Bowl: US\$ 3,000 per team

Players who are not qualified for the later stages of the Bermuda Bowl and Venice Cup may participate in the Transnational Open Teams free of charge, as may any players from the Seniors Bowl which finishes before the start of the Transnational event.

World Transnational Open Teams: US\$ 800 per team

I would like to remind you of the numbers of teams from each Zone invited to participate in the Bermuda Bowl and Venice Cup, which are as follows:

Zone	Bermuda Bowl N° Teams	Venice Cup N° Teams	Seniors N° Teams
1	7 (Inc host)	5	4 (Inc Host)
2	3	3	2 or 3
3	2	1	1 or 2
4	2	2	1 or 2
5	1	1	1 or 2
6	3	3	2 or 3
7	2	1	1 or 2
8	2	2	1 or 2

The Zonal Presidents have been contacted to inform them of all these details, and also to ask them to let us know as a matter of urgency how many teams they are able to send to compete in the Seniors Bowl.

We will be publishing details in World Bridge News, which will be sent to you very shortly. Please ensure that this information is publicised as widely as possible among your members so that they are aware of the event and the opportunity to compete in the Transnational Teams.

Please note that information will also be placed on the WBF Website at www.worldbridge.org and also on www.ecatsbridge.com, so please check these sites regularly for any updates, and also inform your players that details will be made available there.

WORLD TEAMS OLYMPIAD, 2004

In order to aid your future planning, please note that the contract has been signed with the Turkish Bridge Federation for 2004, and the World Teams Olympiad will be held in Istanbul from **25th October – 6th November 2004**.

Kind regards

Anna Gudge
WBF Liaison