

## **MINUTES OF THE APBF OFFICERS MEETING ON ZOOM**

Friday, December 18, 2020, 20:30 ~21:30 (Hong Kong time)

### **PRESENT:**

Esther Sophonpanich

Wang Yannan

Derek Zen

Patrick Choy

Anthony Ching

Tadashi Yoshida

### **2021 World Team Championship (WTC)**

Patrick reported the sponsor of 2020 World Bridge Games has agreed to extend its support to 2021. Accordingly, WBF is planning to organise the WTC to be held in Salsomaggiore – Italy during second half of September. If by then a “face to face” tournament cannot be held, WBF would most probably organise an internet WTC.

### **2021 Asia Pacific Bridge Federation Championship (APBFC)**

The 2019 APBF Delegates Meeting approved HKCBA to host 2021 APBFC. Derek advised HKCBA is currently organising the “face to face” APBFC in July 2021. The details of which can be announced by end of January. Derek also advised that the chances of having a China Hong Kong “travel bubble” (no quarantine/isolation) for all visitors from East Asia (i.e. Zone 6) by July 2021 is extremely slim. As the contingency measure, APBF must be prepared to host Zone 6 Internet Selection Trial in July, at the same time of the originally planned “face to face” 2021 APBFC.

### **Action Item**

Derek to announce the details of 2021 APBF –31 Jan 2021

## Zone 6 Internet Selection Trial

Yannan /CCBA agreed to organise the July 2021 Zone 6 Internet Selection Trial using Patrick's proposal, which featured high security measures, as the guidelines. A copy of Patrick's "Zone 6 Internet Selection Trial" is attached.

The following action items were proposed and agreed:-

— Yannan is appointed to chair the Organisation Committee of the Zone 6 Internet Selection Trial (OCZ6IST); Anthony will be recruited as a OCZ6IST member.

— OCZ6IST will seek the support, assistance and endorsement of WBF Tournament Directors and Operation Committee for:-

...training and qualification of internet tournament directors

...formulating operation procedures for internet tournament

...selection of platform to conduct internet tournament.

—An "experimental internet tournament" will be held in March/early April to test the system, procedures, tournament directing etc. OCZ6IST will invite at least up to six national teams from different NBOs to participate to this "experimental internet tournament".

—OCZ6IST will issue a progress report before February 15 regarding training and qualification of internet tournament directors, operation procedures, selection of platform, experimental internet tournament etc.

## WBF Revised Disciplinary Code (DC)

Patrick tabled WBF Revised DC and Comments & Observations to facilitate the discussion. Copies of these two documents are attached . Currently WBF is seeking inputs from Zonal organisations and NBO. During the meeting, APBF officers expressed the following comments, suggestions and opinions:-

- Instead trying to detect and penalise cheating at the tail end, APBF will prevent cheating upfront

- APBF will use Zone 6 Internet Selection Trial to show the bridge world how cheating can be prevented.
- Unless high security measures (like Zone 6 Internet Selection Trial) are installed, APBF will not recognise internet tournament as official. APBF encourages Zone 6 NBOs (and WBF) to follow this practice.
- Article 3.3 of DC requires NBOs and Zone to follow WBF's conviction and sanction. This will put NBO and Zone as the defendant along with WBF when the cheating case is appealed in CAS or court of law. Zone 6 NBOs and APBF simply cannot afford the legal fees. Esther suggested to add "Provided WBF underwrites all the legal fees involved ...." to begin Article 3.3
- Article 4.1 gives WBF the absolute power to investigate, convict and sanction reprehensible conducts occurred in tournaments at all levels – World, Zonal, NBO or even third party. To limit WBF involvements APBF and Zone 6 NBOs should develop the ability to manage cheating investigation.

#### Action Item

Based on the discussions above and feedbacks from NBOs, Patrick will draft a position paper no later than Feb 15, 2021. The position paper should best be accepted by Zone 6 NBOs / Zonal Administration before submitting to WBF.