

IBPA Meeting at Menton
Tuesday 24th June 2003 9.30 a.m.

Conducted by Patrick Jourdain, Executive Vice-President

Present: Stefan Back (Ger), Kay Downes (Ire), Tony Gordon (Eng), Mark Horton (Eng), Herman de Wael (Bel), Bronius Zibaitis (Lithuania).

In Menton there was 43 IBPA members present, but many were involved in play or Appeals within the next 30 minutes.

1. The EBL Draw

The European Bridge League in Montreal had offered IBPA members \$1500 of prizes for mentioning Menton in newspapers or magazines between then and Menton starting. Under normal IBPA rules each clipping submitted would earn the author one ticket in an Open Draw with no member being permitted more than one prize. There would be 5 prizes of \$200 and the final ticket drawn would be worth \$500. Drawing a winning ticket would eliminate that person from a later prize.

The Chairman read out the 43 entries and Stefan Back placed the tickets one by one in the box. The draw resulted as follows:

\$200 each: Niels Pedersen (Denmark), Brent Manley (USA), Jude Goodwin-Hanson (Canada), Eric Kokish (Canada), Alan Truscott (USA).

The draw for \$500 went to Peter Lund (Denmark).

2. The 2003 Awards

The Chairman announced that the Award ceremony together with the AGM, Accounts for the year ending 31st December 2002, and decision regarding subscriptions for 2004 would all be conducted in Monte Carlo at the Bermuda Bowl.

One sponsor had confirmed for 2003, namely the Digital Fountain Hand of the Year. The following sponsors had yet to confirm their continuation:

The Romex Award for Best Auction, The Fr. Joseph Hann & Arthur Kong Award for Best Defence, and the okbridge Award for a Junior.

It was therefore anticipated that at least one Award would become available for a new sponsor.

3. Journalist Pairs and Press Outing There would be no Pairs or outing due to lack of time in the schedule. It was likely there would be a journalist Pairs in either Monte Carlo or Malmo or both.

4. AOB Tony Gordon requested that future Press Rooms should not have computers with the jumble of three different national characteristics (English, French, and Italian) that existed in Menton. The fact that the computers were not networked was inconvenient. The heat was a problem common with the remainder of the building.

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