

IBPA OPEN FORUM

24th June 2008, Pau

Members present: Christer Andersson: Jan van Cleeff: Maureen Dennison: Tony Gordon: Hans Olof Hallen: Per Jannersten (Chairman): Patrick Jourdain (President): Michael O'Connor: Bill Pencharz: Nissan Rand: Jan Swaan:

1: The meeting, opened by Jourdain, was to give members opportunity to bring any ideas or complaints to the attention of the Executive and to discuss conditions for the press both here in Pau and for the future:

2: Jourdain reported that a revised handbook was nearly completed and should be on line in the near future. As near as possible, it will include all past awards from the past 50 years. It was also hoped that Jannersten could supply a list of the original members as well as some description of these personalities. There would also be a hard copy printed free to IBPA by Jannersten and taken and distributed in Beijing. The WBF has graciously undertaken to cover postage of the new Handbook to any members not at the World Championships. Thereafter there will be a fixed copy on the net but alongside that would also be a membership file for members personally to up-date any changes of address etc. Though the present membership is around 330, there would be 400 copies printed to allow copies for future new members.

3: Rand mentioned some shortcomings of coverage in the IBPA Bulletin. He pointed out that there were many good Middle East events going unreported. Jourdain pointed out that it was up to the membership to send reports to the editor and he had the same problems when Editor. Israeli journalists do report in their local press but they should be persuaded to translate their articles and send them to Carruthers. Jourdain felt that it should be the duty of EVERY member to send at least one hand a year to the editor. Organisers could be asked to send in reports provided they had the judgment to pick out hands worthy of coverage.

4: There was a discussion about the security of the Press Room in that at this Championship, Swaan does not have a key and is not responsible for opening and closing the Press Room. Concern was expressed about the arrangement for Beijing. Jourdain is to contact Jose Damiani for the situation to be clarified and to check that IBPA would have a separate Press Room from the other mind sports. Approval was given for Swaan, who has accepted an invitation to Beijing, to purchase four chains so that members' lap tops can be secured to the tables.

5: Swaan informed the meeting that at the start of the Championship, there was no incoming telephone line to the Press Room and that he had some problems in getting one installed. He asked that it be made clear to future organisers that there should be at least two incoming lines, one for the telephone and one for Fax. He also asked it should be stressed that 4 computers are not sufficient and that there should be a minimum of six supplied by the organisation. He pointed out that we welcome

Associate Members and they often like to check their mail and, indeed, have the right to do so, thus putting more pressure on the available machines.