



IBPA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING & AWARDS

Thursday, August 16th, 2012
Lille, France



Present:

Phillip Alder (USA), Sevinç Atay (Turkey), Jean-Claude Beineix (France), John Carruthers (Canada), Jan van Cleeff (Netherlands), Simon Cocheme (England), José Damiani (France), Herman De Wael (Belgium), Heather Dhondy (England), Jeremy Dhondy (England), Mario Dix (Malta), Chris Dixon (England), Ernesto d'Orsi (Brazil), Elisabeth van Ettinger (Netherlands), Patrice Foulon (France), Joan Gerard (USA), Panos Gerontopoulos (Greece), Ghassan Ghanem (Jordan), Mazhar Jafri (Pakistan), Britt Jannersten (Sweden), Per Jannersten (Sweden), Patrick Jourdain (Wales), Laurie Kelso (Australia), Ron Klinger (Australia), Suzie Klinger (Australia), Linda Lee (Canada), Ray Lee (Canada), Fernando Lema (Argentina), Didier Lévy (Guadeloupe), Micke Melander (Sweden), Jaime Ortiz-Patiño (England), Margaret Parnis-England (Malta), Barry Rigal (USA), Gianarrigo Rona (Italy), Ton Schipperheyn (Netherlands), PO Sundelin (Sweden), David Stern (Australia), Jan Swaan (Netherlands), Katie Thorpe (Canada), GeO Tislevoll (New Zealand), Marek Wojcicki (Poland), Tadashi Yoshida (Japan) (42).

Minutes:

0) The president welcomes two people who had been present at the founding meeting of the IBPA in Oslo in 1958: Jaime Ortiz-Patiño and Per Jannersten (who was only 10 at the time that his father became one of the founder members).

1) Remembrance of members deceased. Léon Tintner (France), who died aged 101, and all other members and former members who have passed away since our last AGM.

2) Minutes of the AGM held on 24th October, 2011 in Veldhoven, as published in Bulletin 563, page 2 & 3. Adopted nem. con.

5) Treasurer's report (brought forward because the treasurer needed to play later in the morning.

The accounts are presented.

The Auditor's report is read out.

The accounts are approved nem. con.

The subscription for 2012 is approved as unchanged from 2011 at 42\$ (+45\$ for printed bulletin).

3) Officers' Reports:

3a) President

The extra tasks for your President this year have been the change in treasurer and the rewrite of the Job Descriptions. Changing Treasurer, signatures, and learning how to handle the bank accounts in Malta has been a major challenge for our new officer and we thank him indeed. We hope to see the new Treasurer in Bali.

This year I tackled the first rewrite of the Job Descriptions for more than ten years. The new definitions are half the length of the previous ones, reflect current practice, and acknowledge the existence of the internet, for example. Each new sentence was checked in Dublin with your Chairman and my thanks to him for that. Your Executive has a few comments that will be dealt with here in Lille and then the new Job Descriptions will go on the website for members to see.

I take this chance to thank the World Bridge Federation for their support for IBPA. The IBPA prizes come from our sponsors who I thank warmly. Dilip Gidwani is not able to be with us this year but we give a welcome to Ray Lee, Nick Nickell and Ron & Suzie Klinger. You will see there is a vacancy for sponsoring Auction of the Year but, with the help of Executive member Tadashi Yoshida, we believe we have filled that spot next year.

I conclude with thanks for your other officers and Executive. Of 16 members of the Executive 12 are here in Lille and all were present for our meeting. Thank you all.

3b) Chairman

The state of the realm of the organization is, generally speaking, good. The organization's legal status (in Montana, USA) must be addressed, however, and we (still) need to find ways to attract new members.

3c) Secretary

There my job entails no activity that needs to be reported on.

4) Appointees' Reports

4a) Editor

Things have been moving along fairly smoothly in terms of the IBPA Bulletin. In a few instances, we've had enough material for 20 or 24 pages rather than the usual 16. A few stalwarts continue to be the most frequent contributors – Barry Rigal from USA, Tim Bourke from Australia, Mark Horton from England, Ron Klinger from Australia and Brent Manley from the USA. We would welcome more material from the Zones outside North America, Europe and Australia.

As usual, my thanks and appreciation go out to Katie Thorpe for all her help with the Bulletin and to PO Sundelin for his technical assistance and analysis. Dilip Gidwani produces and mails the physical copies of the Bulletin in Mumbai. Also, this year, Phillip Alder has volunteered his services as a proof reader and his help is also much appreciated. Thank you all.

4b) Liaison Officer

Everything is OK. I am not aware of any problems.

4c) Membership Secretary

We have 282 members plus 10 in Lille, exactly the same 292 as last year.

6) Elections

Officers to be re-elected to the 2015 AGM are: President: Patrick Jourdain (Wales); Chairman: Per Jannersten (Sweden); Exec Vice-President: Jan van Cleeff (Netherlands); Organisational Vice-President: Dilip Gidwani (India); Secretary: Herman De Wael (Belgium); Treasurer: Richard Solomon (New Zealand). Accepted nem. com.

Proposed for annual election are: Hon. General Counsel: Bill Pencharz (England); Hon. Auditor: Richard Fleet. Accepted nem. com.

Automatically continuing without election are the Presidents Emeritii: Tommy Sandsmark (Norway); Henry Francis (USA).

7) Election of Executive members:

For a three-year election to 2015: GeO Tislevoll (New Zealand); Nikolas Bausback (Germany); Ron Tacchi (France). Accepted nem. com.

Already elected to 2013: David Stern (Australia); Brent Manley (USA); Todashi Yoshida (Japan).

Already elected to 2014: John Carruthers (Canada); Barry Rigal (USA); Gavin Wolpert (USA).

Note: Appointees in post: Awards Chairman: Barry Rigal (USA); Editor: John Carruthers (Canada). Membership Secretary: Jeremy Dhondy (England).

8) Awards (see separate document)

9) Any other business – none.

President's Report from Lille

IBPA had a successful time in Lille.

As the World Mind Sports Games opened, membership was down 10 on last year, but by the time I left, it was up. We welcome as new members: Katia Reznik of France (organiser of Deauville); Linda Lee of Canada (blogger, and wife to member Ray Lee); and Roy Hughes of Canada (author of Book of the Year); and re-joining members: Martin Schifko of Austria; Luis Lantaron of Spain; Donna Compton of the USA (n.p.c. to many USA teams); and Jean-Christophe Quantin of France (major contributor to the French Bridge Magazine). In addition, a number of late-payers, who were members last year, paid their dues.

There was a spacious Press Room, well-managed as usual by our friend Jan Swaan. The WBF President, Gianarrigo Rona, hosted a dinner for 40 IBPA members at a local restaurant, for which we are grateful. The next day, our AGM and Awards had a good turnout. Unusually, none of the players winning awards were in Lille, but this does indicate how widely the honours are spread.

Your Executive has 16 members, of which 12 were in Lille, and all 12 turned up for the main meeting of the Executive. This could be a record. We approved the first re-write of the Job Descriptions for more than ten years and that will go on our website for all members to see.

We also asked Jan van Cleeff to launch a sub-committee to advise your Executive on expanding IBPA's services to the broadcast media, meaning TV, radio, and internet-based services with moving pictures and blogs open to the public.

We have had an offer to sponsor the Best Auction of the Year beginning with next year, bringing our tally of sponsors back up to five.

Patrick Jourdain, IBPA President