



The International Bridge Press Association

IBPA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Saturday morning, 3rd Oct 2015 – Chennai, India

Minutes

0. **Attendance:** 36 (see list below)

1. **Remembrance** of members deceased since last AGM: Kathy Fallenius, Brigitte Mavromichalis, Steen Moller. Henry Bethe (member until 2012), Jean Claude Beineix (member until 2012), Ernesto D'Orsi.

2. **Minutes** of the AGM held on 20th October 2014 in Sanya, Hainan, China - Approved.

3. **Officers' Reports:** President, Chairman, Secretary (attached)

4. **Appointees' Reports:** Editor, Membership Secretary (attached)

5. **Treasurer**

Accounts for the year ending 31st December 2014 is read out by Per Jannersten. The deficit of 2,605\$ is caused by a loss of over 4,000\$ on exchange rates. The accounts are approved.

Auditor's report for 2014 (Richard Fleet) read out by Per Jannersten – Approved.

Budget for 2016: membership earnings are lowered, so the budget presents a loss, but travel expenses are frequently left unneeded. - Approved

Proposal regarding subscriptions for the year 2016 : they can remain unchanged, but the added subscription for the printed bulletin is increased to 60\$ – Approved.

6. **Elections:**

The current officers have been elected until 2016.

Proposed for annual election are:

Hon. Auditor: Richard Fleet - Approved

Hon. General Counsel: David Harris - Approved

7. **Election of Executive members:**

Proposed for a 3-year election to 2018: GeO Tislevoll (NZ); Jerry Li (China); Ron Tacchi (France). - Approved

The Executive announces that Jeremy Dhondy is no longer co-opted in the executive. He is no longer the Membership Secretary. Herman De Wael is appointed to that post.

Just before the General Meeting, Executive Member David Stern handed in his resignation from the executive. He disagreed with the announcement, at this premature moment in time, of the Personality of the Year (see below).

8. The IBPA Annual Awards

Barry Rigal presented four awards, Patrick Jourdain presented the Alan Truscott Awards (to the Investigators) and the Personality of the Year (to Boye Brogeland). The citation for the POTY reads as follows:

Our Personality might well have been named previously for his achievements at the bridge table. This year other activities made him a Personality in the bridge world.

It is not IBPA's role to express an opinion on the allegations made in recent weeks, but we could not disregard the name that will no doubt be associated with bridge in 2015. A much tougher decision was how to handle this conclusion.

Have our recipient's decisions and actions in the past few weeks all been correct? Most probably not. Were they brave? Yes.

Has he forced many organisations, including IBPA, into difficult decisions? Certainly.

We are the International Bridge Press Association. It is not our job to judge innocence or guilt. We merely acknowledge the bridge personality who in the last year has made the greatest impact in the media. Our naming IS not, and MUST not be interpreted as a judgment on any of the ongoing processes. The IBPA Personality of 2015 is Boye Brogeland.

9. Any other competent business

The Job Descriptions are updated with a section on the President Emeritus:

President Emeritus

President Emeritus is an honorary title given to any living Past President of the IBPA. There may be more than one. The title may only be removed by proposal of the Executive Committee approved by a General Meeting. President emeriti shall be listed as such in the IBPA's Bulletin.

A President emeritus has the right to receive the Agenda and Minutes for meetings of the Executive and, upon his notification to the Secretary, to attend in person without a vote. If present at an event where the IBPA President and vice-Presidents are absent he shall be deemed the senior officer of the IBPA present, and, as such, may be allocated a role by the IBPA President.

Herman De Wael, secretary.

List of attendees to the AGM

Yves Aubry, Anant Bhagwat, John Carruthers, Mirek Cichocki, Simon Cocheme, Simon Cope, Maureen Dennison, Herman De Wael, Simon Fellus, Azwerul Haque, Panos Gerontopoulos, Dilip Gidwani, Davis Harris, Britt Jannersten, Per Jannersten, Patrick Jourdain, Laurie Kelso, Ron Klinger, Fernando Lema, Marshall Lewis, Jerri Li, Jean Paul Meyer, Kailas Pat Newatia, T.C. Pant, George Retek, Barry Rigal, Pierre Schmidt, David Stern, Jan Swaan, GeO Tislevoll, Jan van Cleeff, Elisabeth van Ettinger, Howard Weinstein, John Wignall, Marek Wojcicki, Michael Yuen
(36)

Reports to the AGM

Chennai, 3rd October, 2015

IBPA President's Report 2015

Deceased: Kathy Fallenius, Brigitte Mavromichalis, Henry Bethe, one of our most distinguished authors, journalist and long-standing members: Steen Moller; and our great friend, Ernesto d'Orsi.

Until a month ago the main event for IBPA since the last AGM, was the resignation of our Membership Secretary, Jeremy Dhondy of England, who had very nobly continued with that appointment after taking on the onerous duty of becoming Chairman of the English Bridge Union. The two jobs eventually proved too much and he relinquished the IBPA one having processed most of the 2015 memberships. Our thanks go to Jeremy for that.

I am pleased to report that our Secretary, Herman De Wael, appointed pro tem as Membership Secretary, has agreed to combine the two jobs and your Executive was happy to confirm his appointment as Membership Secretary.

Your Executive had been concerned by the continuing gentle downward drift in our Membership and this was looking more serious early in 2015. Our reaction was to spend some funds on a sample Bulletin available to attendees in Chennai in the hope of new recruits. So far we have only two new members here, but, of the 12 2014 members here who had failed to pay for 2015, 11 have re-newed.

In my thanks I start with the World Bridge Federation for their annual grant to IBPA. The two organizations have a mutual interest in the wellbeing of bridge. Next our Award sponsors: Ron & Suzi Klinger, Nick Nickell, Chen Yeh, Ray Lee, and Dilip Gidwani have continued their support and our thanks are due to them.

The Press Room here in Chennai is perhaps the largest we have ever had and we thank the Press Room Manager, Jan Swaan, for his very helpful way of looking after us.

I said not much had happened in IBPA until a month ago. Since then there has been an upheaval in the bridge world affecting many here today. It has meant several people facing agonizing decisions. At this stage I can only say it has given your Executive what may be its most difficult decision since I joined it more than thirty years ago. I fully respect the differing views that have been expressed and hope all members will do so as well. So with more emphasis than usual I want to thank your Officers, Executive members, and appointees. I am completely confident that each voted as they saw their duty to IBPA.

Chairman's Report 2015

I am happy to report that our organization is in good standing (also in Montana's Secretary of State eyes).

It is not a winning strategy to be standing, however. Members need to be reminded that they have a duty and self interest to recruit new members. I hope that both individual members and the Executive will give recruiting higher priority in the future.

Per Jannersten

Secretary's Report

My duties as Secretary are mostly just administrative, as such, there is not much to report to the AGM.

Herman De Wael

Editor's Report

It was business as usual for the past 12 months until I spent \$332 on a telephone call with Boye Brogeland after the Summer Nationals in Chicago. We have seen what has happened since then.

My thanks go out to my crack team of reviewers: PO Sundelin, who makes sure that when I say a finesse wins, it actually does win; Katie Thorpe, who ensures that every deal has a two of clubs; and Phillip Alder, who chides me if I forget that a bridge deal consists of 52 cards while a bridge hand has only 13.

The usual suspects provided us with many entertaining and instructive deals; chief among them were Barry Rigal, Tim Bourke, Mark Horton, Ron Klingner, Phillip Alder, Marek Wojcicki and Fernando Lema. Most of the Bulletin material came from authors in Europe, North America and Australia, although South America and Asia were also represented.

I'd like to proffer special thanks to Dilip Gidwani, who manages the hard copy version of the Bulletin, arranging for printing and mailing from Mumbai, and to Katie Thorpe, who uploads the online version and emails the link to members.

John Carruthers

Membership Secretary's Report 2015

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Members	292	282	270	277	246
Of whom Printed Copies	49	37	27	21	17
Of whom new/rejoining	15	20	25	42	18
Have not renewed as of 2/10/15	29	29	37	28	49

Membership is down by over 10%. The previous year's high number of new members is reflected in the number of non-renewals. We have a large number of members who join at a championship but fail to renew in January. Maybe we need to make it as easy as possible for people to pay their subscriptions. The number taking the printed bulletin continues to fall, which is one of the reasons why the price for this service will need to go up.

Members who have notified resignation or died since the 2014 AGM

Kathy Fallenius, Brigitte Mavromichalis, Steen Moller, Ernesto d'Orsi
Ton Schipperheijn, Sally Brock (-6)

Have not paid their subscription for 2015:

Ajania Nurdin, Andersson Gunnar, Arnesen Kirsten Rita, Barden Bianca, Barrett G.S. Jade, Bass Richard K, Beauvillain Olivier, Chaudhuri Amit, Chavarria Kaifmann Mario, Cronier Philippe, De Boer Wubbo, De Waele Nira, Del Monte Ishmael, Dix Mario, Endicott OBE Grattan, Eschweiler Armin, Eskes Onno, Gibson Michael, Green Benjamin, Grosfils Colette, Hallén Hans-Olof, Herber Louk, Hinge Simon, Hung Andy, Kristjansson Bjarni, Lantaron Luis, Levy Alvin, Levy Didier, Matos Pedro M P, McGowan Elizabeth A, McIntosh Andrew, Nicholson Russell, Noda Yuko, O'Connor Michael, Parnis England Margaret, Remy Eric, Rizvi Ahsan Zahir, Shenkin Barnett J, Smith Stephen Joseph, Snyder Gene, Spruit Pieter, van Reenen Alex, Vornicu Constantin (-43)

New members in 2015 (Sanya AGM to Chennai AGM 3/10/15)

Yves Aubry, Rob Clark, Justin Corfield, Chris Dixon, Valentin Foncez, Paolo Garrisi, Jude Goodwin, David Harris, Julian Laderman, Jean Paul Meyer, Yves Mucha, Rui Marques (rejoining), Els Witteveen (rejoining), Bob Hamman (rejoining), Brian Glubok, Sam Whitten, David Price, Marcelo Caracci (+18)

Herman De Wael (with help from and thanks to my predecessor Jeremy Dhondy)

Accounts for 2014 (excerpt)

INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE PRESS ASSOCIATION

BALANCE SHEET

As at 31 December 2014

(in USD)

Assets	2013	2014
Current Assets		
Trade debtors	600	0
Cash and cash equivalents	<u>74,413</u>	<u>72,566</u>
Total assets	75,013	72,566
Current liabilities		
Award Money in advance	2,000	2,000
Trade and other payables	<u>92</u>	<u>250</u>
Total Current Liabilities	2092	2,250
Net assets	<u>72,921</u>	<u>70,316</u>
Reserves		
Retained profit brought forward	71,771	72,921
Profit and loss account	1150	-2,605
Total reserves	<u>72,921</u>	<u>70,316</u>

INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE PRESS ASSOCIATION

INCOME STATEMENT

For the year ended 31 December 2014

	2013	2014	budget 2014	budget 2015	budget 2016
Income	20,546	20,749	21,210	20,400	19,000
Subscriptions	10,884	10,188	11,760	11,760	10,500
Subscriptions due – printing	945	1,035	1,350	1,080	900
WBF grant	2,500	2,480	2,500	2,500	2,500
Award Sponsors	4,500	7,000	5,500	5,000	5,000
Interest received	58	46	100	60	100
Surplus on exchange rate	1,659	0	0	0	0
Expenditure	19,396	23,354	21,800	21,000	20,600
Bulletin Editor's Fee	9,000	9,000	9,000	9,000	9,000
Bulletin Editor's Allowance	1,600	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Bulletin Editor's Travel	600	600	1,200	1,200	1,200
Bulletin Hands Columnist	900	900	900	1,000	1,000
Bulletin Printing and postage	1,335	1,242	1,800	1,100	900
President's Allowance	500	500	500	500	500
President's Travel	1,200	1,200	1,200	1,200	1,000
Treasurer's Allowance	500	445	500	500	500
Treasurer's Travel	0	0	1,000	1,000	1,000
Membership Secretary's Allowance	500	500	500	500	500
IBPA award Prizes	2,000	1,700	2,600	2,400	2,400
IBPA Award Costs	567	600	200	200	200
Credit Card Charges	413	449	500	500	500
Bank charges	281	457	500	500	500
Miscellaneous Costs	0	123	400	400	400

Loss on Exchange	0	4,638	0	0	0
EXCESS INC / EXP	1,150	-2,605	-590	-600	-1,600

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
For the year ended 31 December 2014

1. Subscriptions paid in advance

Subscriptions paid in advance according to the income statement confirm a liability for the year ended 31 December 2014 to the extent of \$4,761.

2. Assets

Computers, printers and fax machines are all written off to NIL during the year of purchase.

3. Cash Funds 31st December 2014. **US\$**

HSBC – Euro Account (Euro 27,833) 33,688

HSBC – US\$ Account 35,745

Paypal 3,133

Per Balance Sheet 72,566

Richard Solomon

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