



The International Bridge Press Association

IBPA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Saturday morning, 10th September 2016 – Wrocław, Poland

Minutes

0. **Attendance:** 26 (see list below)

1. **Remembrance** of members deceased since last AGM: Patrick Jourdain, Mario Dix

2. **Minutes** of the AGM held on 3rd October 2015 in Chennai, India - Approved.

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

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

5. **Treasurer**

Accounts for the year ending 31st December 2015 is read out by Per Jannersten. The deficit of 6,015\$ is caused by the decline in membership. The accounts are approved.

Auditor's report for 2015 (Richard Fleet) read out by Per Jannersten – Approved.

Budget for 2017: Approved

Proposal regarding subscriptions for the year 2017 : they can remain unchanged – Approved.

6. **Elections:**

Officers proposed for election to the 2018 AGM: President: Barry Rigal (USA); Chairman: Per Jannersten (Sweden); Executive Vice-President: David Stern (Australia); Organisational Vice-President: Dilip Gidwani (India); Secretary: Herman De Wael (Belgium); Treasurer: Richard Solomon (New Zealand). - Elected

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 2019: Jan van Cleeff (Netherlands), Brent Manley (USA), Tadashi Yoshida (Japan) - elected

There is a vacancy among the executive members that were elected until 2017. Two candidates were proposed by the floor: Marek Wojcicki (Poland) and Liz McGowan (Scotland). Marek Wojcicki is elected to the executive.

8. **The IBPA Annual Awards**

Barry Rigal presented the awards,

9. **Any other competent business**

There is a reminder to attend, that evening, the fare well party for Patrick.

As a suggestion from the floor, it is questioned whether the book of the year warrants a monetary award, since being named as such carries its own reward. The Chairman and the Award's Chairman both stress that the award is sponsored, and that it is our custom to keep half of the sponsorship but pay out the other half to the recipient(s).

List of attendees to the AGM

Phillip Alder, John Carruthers, Mirek Cichocki, Herman De Wael, Nicolas Hammond, David Harris, Josef Harsanyi, Maureen Hiron, Britt Jannersten, Per Jannersten, Ron Klinger, Fernando Lema, Jerry Li, Brent Manley, Micke Melander, Jean Paul Meyer, George Retek, Barry Rigal, David Stern, Jan Swaan, Ron Tacchi, Katie Thorpe, GeO Tislevoll, Jan van Cleeff, Elisabeth van Ettinger, Marek Wojcicki (26)

Reports to the AGM

Wrocław, 10th September, 2016

IBPA President's Report 2016

The report comes at a tragic moment for IBPA, when we lost our sitting President Patrick Jourdain and our immediate past treasurer, Mario Dix, in quick succession.

Since Patrick's sudden demise, our Executive Vice President, Jan van Cleeff was to take over the reins until a new President was constitutionally appointed. Jan's health came in the way of his ability to perform the President's duties. Thus the job came to me, the Organizational Vice President.

Immediately after Patrick passed away, the immediate jobs on hand were:

- 1) Set up the AGM as is traditionally held at every World Championship, agenda, time, venue. This was done with the support of Per Jannersten, John Carruthers, Barry Rigal and Herman De Wael.
- 2) Retrieving the bank account, presently with HSBC Malta, which was primarily operated electronically, with Richard Solomon (Treasurer) setting up the transfers and Patrick approving. This remains an onerous task and efforts are on to find a way to move the funds into a new account. With the passing away of Mario Dix (whose address was used to open the account) it is going to be an uphill task. Per Jannersten, Richard Solomon and yours truly will work as a team to retrieve the account funds into a new account.
- 3) Obituaries for members deceased: Patrick Jourdain and Mario Dix.
- 4) Liaison with Treasurer and Chairman to get the accounts finalized and put up for approval; follow up on awards sponsorship collection; follow up on members' renewals as per list prepared by Herman; the last one is an ongoing activity.
- 5) Lastly, my apologies for my absence at this world championship due to reasons beyond my control, (my passport held up at the embassy due to new regulations for visa issue).

Patrick Jourdain, our longest reigning President, passed away on July 28, 2016, at his home, after a brief battle with cancer of the pancreas, detected too late, for possible remedial measures. Patrick was playing at the European Championships for Wales, when the symptoms surfaced and subsequent tests revealed that he was left with very little time to live. He wrote his own obituary (August 2016 IBPA Bulletin) and his last days were peaceful as life ebbed away in front of his own eyes. IBPA has lost a giant of a journalist and a good human being. We all pray for his soul to rest in peace.

Mario Dix, our past treasurer and membership Secretary (September 2016 IBPA Bulletin) passed away on August 19, 2016, at Mater Dei Hospital, Malta, with his family around him and at peace with himself. Mario was labeled as an Independent Recreational Facilities and Services Professional, running a successful business, selling leisure yachts among several recreational gadgets. His services to the IBPA were invaluable; we all pray for his soul to rest in peace.

Chairman's Report 2016

The bottom line of my reports the last four years has been that we need to renew ourselves.

That is becoming increasingly urgent as the years pass by. So, once again I remind members that they have both a duty and self interest to recruit new members.

Patrick Jourdain's demise came as an unpleasant surprise at a time when the AGM agenda and nominations should have been ready for publication. The nomination committee, which I chair, had to propose a new President (and board) in just six days.

We are very grateful to Barry that he accepted to take a turn at the helm. I hurry to add that Barry will be happy to be released from the duty as soon as we have found a better solution.

Members are reminded that suggestions on board members are welcome - more welcome the earlier they come because it takes time to investigate and evaluate suggestions.

Per Jannersten

Secretary's Report 2016

My duties as Secretary are mostly just administrative, as such, there is not much to report to the AGM. I have also taken over the tasks of Membership Secretary, with a separate report below.

Herman De Wael

Editor's Report 2016

Despite the momentous events in the bridge world which occurred over the past year and the recent deaths of our President, Patrick Jourdain, and our former Membership Secretary and Treasurer, Mario Dix, it was business as usual for the Bulletin. I was once again ably assisted by and am indebted to Katie Thorpe, PO Sundelin and Phillip Alder. Most submissions to the Bulletin came from the usual sources, Barry Rigal, Ron Klinger, Tim Bourke, Mark Horton and Brent Manley being foremost among them. As always, material from every member and suggestions for improvement will be welcomed.

John Carruthers

Membership Secretary's Report 2016

At the 2015 AGM we reported 246 members. After the AGM, we had two more late payments (Onno Eskes, Michael Gibson) and seven new members (Michael Byrne, Dolores Gilliland, Oren Kriegel, Subbaroyan Rajasekhar, Jerry Clerkin, Hema Deora, ST Venugopal) bringing the total membership at the end of 2015 to 255.

During 2016, we received 17 new or rejoining members (10 new: Katie Thorpe, Fu Qiang, Stefan Ralescu, Chip Dombrowski, Piet Spruit, Dominik Filipowicz, Koos Vrieze, Philippe Banchereau, Constance MacAvoy, Hans Secelle and 7 rejoining: Al Levy, Margaret Parnis-England, Sten Bjertnes, Philippe Cronier, Bep Vriend, Wubbo De Boer, Lars Blakset). 5 members decided to resign (Simon Cope, Jeremy Dhondy, Ed Franken, Anna Gudge, Elena Jeronimidis) and 28 have so far failed to renew their membership (Thorvald Aagaard, Ehsan Abbasi, Michel Abecassis, Azwer Ul Haque, Chu David Yi-Jen, Denis Cimon, Rob Clark, Donna Compton, Neville Eber, Valentin Foncez, Bettina Frerichs, Ghassen Ghanem, Bob Hamman, Sartaj Hans, William Haughie, Bill Jacobs, Zbigniew Janicki, Steven Kipperman, Allan Livgard, Marek Malysa, Magdy Mesdary, Prakash Paranjape, Laura Porro, Roman Smolski, Alan Sontag, Rene Stienen, David Turner, Tracey Yarbrow)

That brings the current membership number to 239. Sadly, this includes one deceased member (Patrick)

Membership table

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Members start year	292	282	270	277	255
Of whom Printed Copies	37	27	21	17	11
New or rejoining	20	25	42	25	17
Resigned or not renewed	30	37	28	47	33
Membership at end year or AGM	282	270	277	255	239

Accounts for 2015 (excerpt)

INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE PRESS ASSOCIATION INCOME STATEMENT

For the year ended 31 December 2015

2014		2015	2015	2016
Actual	Income	Actual	Budget	Budget
10188	Subscriptions Email \$42 see note	8697	11760	10500
1035	Subscriptions Printing \$45 see note	645	1080	900
2480	WBF Grant	2500	2500	2500
7000	Award Sponsors	4875	5000	5000
46	Interest Received	29	60	100
0	Surplus on Exchange	0	0	0
20749	Total Income	16746	20400	19000
	Expenditure			
9000	Bulletin Editor's Fee	9000	9000	9000
1000	Bulletin Editor's Allowance	1000	1000	1000
600	Bulletin Editor's Travel	1200	1200	1200
900	Bulletin Hands Columnist	960	1000	1000
1242	Bulletin Printing and Postage	949	1100	900
500	President's Allowance	500	500	500
1200	President's Travel	1200	1200	1000
445	Treasurer's Allowance	500	500	500
0	Treasurer's Travel	0	1000	1000
	Member Advertising	400	0	0
500	Membership Secretary Allowance	1000	500	500
1700	IBPA Award Prizes	1776	2400	2400
600	IBPA Award Costs	174	200	200
449	Credit Card Charges	329	500	500
457	Bank Charges	374	500	500
123	Miscellaneous Costs	0	400	400
4638	Loss on Exchange	3459	0	0
23354	Total Expenses	22821	21000	20600
-2605	Excess Income (Expenditure)for the year.	-6075	-600	-1600

NoteSubscriptions

5652	Subscriptions due	5001
810	Subscriptions due (printing)	495
4536	Subs. Paid in advance see note I	3696
225	Subs paid in advance (printing) see note I	150
11223	Total	9342
10188	Subscriptions Email	8697
1035	Subscriptions Printing	645

BALANCE SHEET as at 31 December 2015

	2014	2015
Assets	\$	\$
Current Assets		
Payment in Advance	0	0
Cash and cash equivalents	<u>72566</u>	<u>67056</u>
Total Assets	72566	67056
Current Liabilities		
Award money in advance	2000	1000
Trade and other payables	250	1815
Total Current Liabilities	<u>2250</u>	<u>2815</u>
Net Assets	70316	64241
Reserves		
Retained profit brought forward	72921	70316
Profit and Loss Account	<u>-2605</u>	<u>-6075</u>
Total Reserves	70316	64241

CASH FLOW STATEMENT for the year ended 31st December 2015 \$

Cash Funds as at 1st January 2015	75013	72566
Net Inflow of Cash during the year	2191	-2051
Exchange Gain / (-Loss) in Euro account	-4638	-3459
Cash Funds as at 31st December 2015	72566	67056

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the year ended 31st December 2015

1 Subscriptions paid in advance

Subscriptions paid in advance according to the income statement confirm a liability for the year ended 31 December 2015 to the extent of \$4451.

2 Assets

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

3 Cash Funds 31st December 2015

	US\$	US\$
HSBC Euro Account (Euro)	27833€=33688	27767€=30150
HSBC US\$ Account	35745	27039
Paypal	3133	9867
Per Balance Sheet	72566	67056

Auditor's Report

I have audited the accompanying balance sheet of the International Bridge Press Association ("the Association") as of December 31, 2015 and the related statements of income, retained earnings, and cash flows for the year then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Association's management. My responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on my audit.

Scope

I conducted my audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United Kingdom. Those standards require that I plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance

about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. I believe that my audit provides a reasonable basis for my opinion.

Qualification

In common with similar organisations, it is not feasible for the association to institute accounting controls over cash collection from donations, subscriptions and fund raising prior to initial entry of the collections in the accounting records. Accordingly, it was impracticable for me to extend my examination beyond the receipts actually recorded.

Subscriptions in advance are shown as income in the profit and loss account which is necessary for US reporting, but is not consistent with UK GAAP. The details are contained in note 1.

Qualified Audit Opinion

In my opinion, except for the effect on the financial statements of the matter referred to in the preceding paragraph, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Association as at December 31, 2015, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

Richard Fleet 25 June 2016