

Dear **Presidents**,

The ABF Management Team has met yesterday, on Zoom, to discuss and agree the way Zone 8 will organise its continental trials in 2021

Following responses received from our NBOs (and I thank you for it), it has become clear the only option is to hold our Trials on a Worldwide Bridge Platform via Internet. Therefore, the Management Team has decided the following :

- This event will be organised by the African Bridge Federation
- Our Chief of Operations and Chief Tournament Director is/will be : Waleed El Menyawi
- The selected Bridge platform is: RealBridge
- The dates will be from **Saturday, May 29th till Sunday, June 13th**
- One Team representing each NBO, and in each category (Open, Women, Mixed, Seniors), shall be admitted to play; therefore, we hope and expect each NBO to come up with four Teams
- As usual, should the World Bridge Teams Championships be held at the end of August, live, in Salsomaggiore, Italy, the first two teams in each category will represent Zone 8. Should the WBF decide to hold tthe World Championships on a Bridge Platform, the same will apply

Dates

- Saturday 29th and Sunday 30th => Open Pairs (3 or 4 sessions)
- From Monday, May 31st to Sunday, June 6th : Teams Competition => Open and Women
- From Monday, June 7th to Sunday, June 13th : Teams Competition => Mixed and Seniors

What is expected from players ?

Players will have to be present at the venue chosen by their NBO and will have to play on a PC/Laptop. Any other communication tool such as Mobile phones, Applewatches, I-Pads, etc will be strictly forbidden. Players have to understand that the ABF will use cameras of all sorts and will exercise its right to also share screens of their own PCs

Costs to be borne by each NBO

- The venue
- Strong and reliable Internet connectivity
- One Tournament Director/Monitor (chosen by Waleed El Menyawi in agreement with the local NBO)
- Two Cameras installed in the playing area

- ABF entry fees

Our Planning for the coming period

Before March 31st

- Our CTD to send our General Conditions of Contest (CoC) as well as the Supplemental Conditions of Contest to each NBO
- ABF to advise all NBOs about the entry fees per Team

Before April 15th

- The ABF will upload the site of the Championships so that we could visualise progress

Before April 30th

- Each NBO should send the roasters by category : players, NPC
- Each NBO to confirm the status of: Cameras, Venue, local TD Monitor, etc

Before May 15th

- Entry fees + ABF annual subscriptions (100USD) should be entirely settled
- Convention cards communicated to the CTD
- RealBridge Rehearsals organised and completed with all players (Our CTD will manage this exercise)

There are many other little details that will be addressed in the coming weeks so stay tuned in order to be well informed and prepared

Waleed El Menyawi and myself are available anytime for questions, comments, etc Please do not hesitate to ask

Thank you very much and stay safe

Kind regards

Bernard Pascal

President

Zone 8