



***BRIDGE FEDERATION OF ASIA & THE MIDDLE EAST***

**23<sup>rd</sup> ASIA & THE MIDDLE EAST BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIPS 2025**

**DUBAI, UNITED ARAB EMIRATES**

**Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> April – 18<sup>th</sup> April, 2025**

**SUPPLEMENTAL CONDITIONS OF CONTEST**

***(Issued under Article 10 of the BFAME Constitution)***

## 1 PREAMBLE

The Conditions of Contest herein set forth are supplemental to the General Conditions of Contest for Asia and Middle East Bridge Championships, as issued by the Bridge Federation of Asia & the Middle East and are specific for the 23rd Asia & Middle East Bridge Championship to be played in Dubai, United Arab Emirates from Thursday day 10<sup>th</sup> April to 18<sup>th</sup> April, 2025. These Supplemental Conditions of Contest and the General Conditions of Contest together form the set of Rules and Regulations governing the 23<sup>rd</sup> BFAME Championships -2025

## 2 DEFINITIONS

Unless repugnant to the context or obvious meaning, all terms defined in the General Conditions of Contest shall have the same meaning for purpose of these Supplemental Conditions of Contest and, in addition, the following expressions used in these Conditions of Contest shall have the following meanings:

### 2.1 *"BFAME Championships"*

mean the 2025 Asia and Middle East Bridge Championships comprising Open, Women, Seniors, and Mixed Teams Championships along with Friendship Open Pairs, and conducted under the auspices of the BFAME from 10<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> April, 2025 in Dubai, UAE, or at such other time and place as the BFAME may determine.

### 2.2 *"these Championships"*

mean the 2025 BFAME Championships and "championship event" means any of the events referred to in Section 2.1.

### 2.3 *"these Conditions of Contest"*

mean these Supplemental Conditions of Contest for the 2025 BFAME Championships.

### 2.4 *"General Conditions of Contest"*

mean the General Conditions of Contest issued by the Bridge Federation of Asia & Middle East for the BFAME Championships.

### 2.5 *"Open Teams Championship"*

mean the BFAME Open Teams Championship for Zakaria Adamji Memorial Trophy contested biennially (in the odd-numbered years) by teams from eligible BFAME member NBOs.



## **2.6 "Women Teams Championship"**

means the BFAME Women's Teams Championship for Vinodini Goenka Trophy contested biennially (in the odd-numbered years) by teams from eligible BFAME-member NBOs.

## **2.7 "Seniors Teams Championship"**

means the BFAME Seniors Teams Championship, for Nawzad Shaker Trophy.

## **2.8 "Mixed Teams Championship"**

Means the BFAME Mixed Team Championship for Mazhar Jafri mixed Trophy contested biennially (in odd-numbered years) by teams from eligible BFAME member NBOs.

All the Four above Championship will be played simultaneously, for qualifying from Zone 4-BFAME representative contested biennially (in odd-numbered years) by teams from eligible BFAME member NBOs teams means for participation in **47<sup>th</sup> World Bridge teams Championships, Bermuda Bowl, Venice Cup, d'Orsi Senior Trophy, Wuhan Cup, at Herning, Denmark from 20<sup>th</sup> August to 31<sup>st</sup> August, 2025**

## **2.9 "Friendship Open Pairs"**

mean the BFAME Open Pairs contested biennially (in the odd-numbered years) by Pairs from BFAME member NBO, participating in the other championship events of the 2025 BFAME Championships, and additional Pairs representing the local players of host NBO and accompanying officials.

## **2.10 "World Standard Card"**

means the Card referred to in Section 11.2, copies of which will be available at a BFAME Championship.

## **2.11 "Convention Card Desk"**

means the facility set by at the site of these championships for filing and other services pertaining to Systems.

## **2.12 "Table Result Card"**

means the Card referred to in Section 18.

## **2.13 "Open and Closed Rooms"**

for any match or segment or session of a match shall be those rooms so designated by the Tournament Director.

Expressions used in these Conditions of Contest and not defined shall have their ordinary meaning in the contract bridge terminology (which may



include expressions defined in the International Code). In the event of any doubt or dispute as to such meaning, the decision of the BFAME President, in consultation with the Head Tournament Director, shall be final and conclusive. The singular shall include the plural and vice-versa and reference to one gender shall include the other gender.

### **3 CONDITIONS OF ENTRY**

See also Section 3 of the General Conditions of Contest.

#### **3.1 *Submission of Entries***

Each member NBO, in good standing of Zone 4/BFAME, shall be entitled to nominate one team for the Open Team Championship and/or one team for the Women Team Championship and/or one team for the Seniors Teams Championship and/or one team for the Mixed Teams Championship, should be sent before, January 31<sup>st</sup> 2025.

The names of the non-playing Captain and the players in each team, submitted in accordance with the conditions of entry established in Section 3 of the General Conditions of Contest, together with passport size photograph of each, should be sent, before March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2025 to:

**Ihsan Qadir, Waleed El Menyawi and Raad Etoom**

[ihsanqadir@implk.com](mailto:ihsanqadir@implk.com)  
[raad.otoom@hotmail.com](mailto:raad.otoom@hotmail.com)

[waleed.elmenyawi@gmail.com](mailto:waleed.elmenyawi@gmail.com);

#### **3.2 *Team Members***

In addition to a non-playing captain, each team may have four, five or six members. If an NBO wishes to replace a team member, or members, or a fewer than six players were submitted for invitation, such replacement or increase [each must be from the NBO submitting the team] may be added prior to the start of the 1st Session of play with the permission of the BFAME President or his designated member of the Credentials Committee. However, the BFAME Council reserves the right, following such approval by the President or his designee to place any restrictions on that team if it deems proper.

#### **3.3 *Penalty for non-participation***

In the event a previously entered team in these championships determines its inability to participate, the BFAME shall be notified at least 48 hours prior to the scheduled Captains' meeting for these Championships. Failure to so notify the BFAME of non-participation shall result in the imposition of a US\$



500 penalty, payable by the NBO. Further, an additional disciplinary penalty may be assessed if the BFAME deems appropriate.

#### **4 ELIGIBILITY FOR AWARDS**

BFAME Master Points may be awarded for the Open Teams Championship, Women Teams Championship, Seniors Teams Championship and Mixed in accordance with the BFAME Master Points Plan as and when such plan comes into force.

#### **5 CONVERSION SCALES**

The difference in IMPs earned by the two opposing teams shall be converted into Victory Points according to the new official WBF Continuous VP scales of 20-0 involving decimal places. [See Section 22 of these Conditions of Contest].

#### **6 TYPE OF CONTEST**

Participating teams will compete in accordance with schedule drawn up independently for the Open, Women, Seniors and Mixed Teams Championships (Please see Appendix-A and Appendix-A1). These conditions are written with the expectation that entries in Open and in the Women/Seniors/Mixed Teams Championship between 5-6 If entries in any aforesaid championship event fall outside these limits, the BFAME President may, in consultation with Head Tournament Director, make such changes to these Conditions of Contest as he deems appropriate, including the number of boards to be played in matches of any championship event.

##### **A) The Open Teams Championship:**

The competing teams expected to be 5 or 6 will play a complete triple round robin of 16 board matches (15 matches) straight through, for 5 days, during April 11<sup>th</sup> to April 15<sup>th</sup>, 25. The top four teams will play Semi Final in six segments of 16 Board Matches on April 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>. The Two top teams will qualify for the final to be played in 2 segments of 16 Board Matches on April 18<sup>th</sup>. The winner shall be declared the Champions of the 23<sup>rd</sup> BFAME Open Teams Championship 2025 and awarded Zakaria Adamji Trophy. Both the finalists will qualify, and be eligible to represent Zone 4/BFAME at the 47<sup>th</sup> World Bridge Teams Championships (Bermuda Bowl) in Herning, Denmark in August 2025. However, in the event of one, or both, of the finalist teams' ineligibility to participate due to eligibility requirements of the WBF, replacement will be suitably made from the remaining spots, being so eligible.

##### **B) The Women Teams Championship:**

The competing teams expected to be 5 or 6 would follow the same program as the Open team. The winners of the final shall be declared the Champions and winners of the 23<sup>rd</sup> BFAME Women Teams Championship 2025 for the Vinodini Goenka Trophy. . Both the finalists will qualify, and be eligible to represent Zone



4/BFAME at the 47<sup>th</sup> World Bridge Teams Championships (Bermuda Bowl) in Herning, Denmark in August 2025. However, in the event of the teams' inability to participate due to eligibility requirements of the WBF, replacement will be suitably made from the remaining spots, being so eligible.

**C) Seniors Teams Championship:**

The competing teams expected to be 5 or 6 would follow the same program as the Open team. The winners of the final shall be declared the Champion and winners of the 23<sup>rd</sup> BFAME for Nawzad Shaker trophy. Two top teams will represent the Zone at the 47<sup>th</sup> World Bridge Teams Championships (Bermuda Bowl) in Herning, Denmark in August 2025. Due to eligibility requirements of the WBF, replacement will be suitably made from the remaining spots, being so eligible.

**(Note:** According to WBF regulations a "Senior" in 2025 is a person whose 64<sup>th</sup> birthday falls during the 2025 calendar year. ( Born on 1961 or earlier )

**D) Mixed Team Championship:**

The competing teams expected to be 5 or 6 would follow the same program as the Open team Two top teams will represent the Zone at the 47<sup>th</sup> World Bridge Teams Championships (Bermuda Bowl) in Herning, Denmark in August 2025. The Winner will be awarded Mazhar Jafri Trophy. Due to eligibility requirements of the WBF, replacement will be suitably made from the remaining spots, being so eligible.

**E) The Friendship Open Pairs:**

This will comprise of only one sessions, to be played on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> April,2025 after the Opening Ceremony and shall be open to all including local players and officials. Entry Fee is US\$ 20/- per pair for foreigners and AED 50- for locals.

**7 PROGRAMME & TIME SCHEDULE:**

OPEN, WOMEN AND SENIOR TEAMS CHAMPIONSHIP MATCHES, IN COMPLETE TRIPLE ROUND-ROBINS, WILL BE PLAYED DURING 11<sup>th</sup> April to 15<sup>th</sup> April,2025 in accordance to the schedule as per appendix A.

<b>DAY - 1</b>	<b>THURSDAY 10<sup>th</sup> APRIL'25</b>
10h00	Busses leave to Opening ceremony's venue
11h00	Opening Ceremony followed by Cocktail
14h00	BFAME council meeting
15h00	Friendship Pairs
20h00	Captains Meeting



**DAY - 2      FRIDAY 11th APRIL'25**

10h00 – 12h20      ROUND # 1

14h00 – 16h20      ROUND # 2

16h50 – 19h10      ROUND # 3

**DAY – 3      SATURDAY 12<sup>th</sup> APRIL'25**

10h00 – 12h20      ROUND # 4

14h00 – 16h20      ROUND # 5

16h50 – 19h10      ROUND # 6

**DAY – 4      SUNDAY 13<sup>th</sup> APRIL'25**

10h00 – 12h20      ROUND # 7

14h00 – 16h20      ROUND # 8

16h50 – 19h10      ROUND # 9

**DAY – 5      MONDAY 14<sup>th</sup> APRIL'25**

10h00 – 12h20      ROUND # 10

14h00 – 16h20      ROUND # 11

16h50 – 19h10      ROUND # 12

**DAY – 6      TUESDAY 15<sup>th</sup> APRIL' 25**

10h00 – 12h20      ROUND # 13

14h00 – 16h20      ROUND # 14

16h50 – 19h10      ROUND # 15

**DAY - 7      WEDNESDAY 16<sup>th</sup> APRIL'25**

10h00 – 12h20      SEMIFINAL 1<sup>st</sup> SEG

14h00 – 16h20      SEMIFINAL 2<sup>nd</sup> SEG

16h50 – 19h10      SEMIFINAL 3<sup>rd</sup> SEG

**DAY – 8      THURSDAY 17TH APRIL'25**

10h00 – 12h20      SEMIFINAL 4<sup>th</sup> SEG

14h00 – 16h20      SEMIFINAL 5<sup>th</sup> SEG

16h50 – 19h10      SEMIFINAL 6<sup>th</sup> SEG

**DAY - 9      FRIDAY 18TH APRIL'25**

10h00 – 12h20      FINALS 1<sup>st</sup> SEGMENT

14h00 – 16h20      FINALS 2<sup>ND</sup> SEGMENT

19h00                      PRIZE GIVING & VICTORY BANQUET

**IMPORTANT:** All time schedules in this section are subject to change, before or during these championships, at the discretion of the BFAME President, in consultation with the Head Tournament Director.

## 8 LINE UPS

The Line-ups must be submitted electronically in accordance with directions given at the Captains' Meeting on site. Failure of a captain to submit his line-up in a timely fashion shall result in penalties in accordance with Section 16 in this CoC. The time of the Line-Up will be recorded automatically by the system, and penalties



for late lineups will be mandatory. If a partnership that has not registered a specific System Card is to play, they should indicate on the line-up form which of the registered System Cards will be used.

Line-ups are to be submitted at the place designated by the Head/Chief Tournament Director.

Since Line-ups will have to be submitted through a computer input or smart phones, separate instructions are at the end of this. It would also be printed in the bulletin and help would be available at the Line Up desk.

## **9 DESIGNATION OF MATCHES**

### ***9.1 Responsibility for the Draw and Allocation of Team Numbers.***

The BFAME President will allocate team numbers, 1 to 6 and 1 to 4, or as the case may be, to the participating teams. The teams shall retain their allocated team numbers in the 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> round-robin of Open, Women, Seniors and Mixed Teams Championship. However, in the 3<sup>rd</sup> round-robin the position of finish/standing at preceding round-robin's close shall be the team's new number/allocation. All matches will be played in accordance with the stipulations of Appendix-"A". In case of semifinals of the Open Teams, the qualified teams shall be numbered according to their position of finish in the qualifying round-robin.

### ***9.2 Home and Away Teams***

In each session of play in the first two round-robins, one team shall be "Home Team" [the team with the seating rights] of the other team shall be "Visiting or Away Team" [the team which posts its line-up First]. Subject to always to the over-riding provisions of Section 12.3, the procedure for determining Home Team and Visiting Team in each match or session of play shall be as follows:

#### **Round Robin Stage**

The first mentioned team in the matches as shown in the schedule of Open, Women, Seniors and Mixed, is the home team.

#### **Knock Out Stage**

There shall be a coin toss to determine the "Home Team" rights in the finals. When there are odd number of sessions, the winner of the toss gets the first choice for the session to be home or visiting team, then the opponents get the second choice and so on. When there are even number of sessions the winner chooses the seating rights in any of the two session portions and the opponents choose thereafter for the remaining portion.

[Note: in all cases regulations for the teams that include partnerships using HUM Systems will apply - See Section 12.3].





## **10 CARRY-OVER**

There will be no carry over to any knockout phase (but see section 14.4 below).

## **11 DISCLOSURE OF SYSTEMS AND CONVENTIONS**

### ***11.1 WBF Systems Policy***

The WBF Systems Policy forms part of four Conditions of Contest. The BFAME Open, Women, Mixed and Seniors Teams Championships are Category 2 events. In Category 2 events. The use of HUM systems is prohibited.

### ***11.2 Submission of Systems***

Each team captain is responsible for mailing to

**ihсанqadir@implk.com;**  
**raad.otoom@hotmail.com**

**waleed.elmenyaw@gmail.com;**

as soon as possible, but in any event before March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2025 for every partnership that will play in these Championships, their Systems described on the official WBF Convention Card, completed in accordance with the Guide to Completion, preferably using the CCE - Convention Card Editor (which is available to all NBOs) and accurately and legibly typed, plus Supplementary Sheets, also typed, as necessary to describe conventional sequences in detail (if typing is not feasible, printing by hand may be used, but legibility is essential). Penalties for failure to submit Conventions Cards and Supplementary Sheets so as to permit satisfactory photocopying, in time are (in addition to Section 11.2.1) specified in Section 16.1.

11.2.1 Any partnership who's duly completed original Card and Supplementary Sheets have not reached the organizers in accordance with these Conditions of Contest shall (in addition to the penalties referred to in Section 16.1) be required by the Championship Committee (unless it rules otherwise) to use the system described on the World Standard Card for not less than 3 matches in the first round-robin.

### ***11.3 Supplementary Sheets***

Where a conventional sequence cannot be described adequately in the space provided on the WBF Convention Card, a reference number should be placed prominently at the appropriate place on the Card; a Supplementary Sheet bearing that reference number, and containing the complete explanation must be submitted along with the Card.



#### **11.4 Changes to Cards/Supplementary Sheets**

- a. Any changes to the duly submitted (as per section 11.2) Card and/or Supplementary Sheets must be submitted in official form (see (d) below) as early as possible for everyone's benefit, but in any event not later than March 25<sup>th</sup>,2025. These changes (which may be clarifications amendments, minor additions, and/or cosmetic revisions) must be first approved by the BFAME President or his designee.  
On-site, changes to systems will be approved only with the permission of Head Tournament Director
- b. In order for a change to be implemented, it must be duly approved, signed, and dated by the Head / Chief Tournament Director, and then circulated to all relevant teams in timely fashion. Such circulation may be done by mailing by the BFAME, or by posting to the BFAME website. In order for a change to be approved before arrival in Dubai, must reach Ihsan Qadir and Waleed El Menyawi, by March 25<sup>th</sup>,2025. Otherwise, official approval will be given only on site.
- c. Approval for a change may be given or refused in whole or part by the BFAME and may be given subject to conditions. One such condition will usually be that any such change cannot be implemented in the course of a particular round robin or in the course of a particular stage of the event, with possible prejudice to unprepared opponents being a particularly important negative factor. Clarifications and improvements to presentation will not be considered as substantives changes.
  - i. A new page of the Convention Card/Supplementary Sheet that reflects the proposed change.
  - ii. A separate printed/legible hand written in BLOCK LETTERS/ typed sheet describing completely the proposed change and referring to the place(s) on the new pages where they can be found and any cross-references to Supplementary Sheet notes.
  - iii. Two e-mail addresses for communication should this be necessary. (Phone numbers only for emergencies).

#### **11.5 Special Responsibility for HUM, RED and BROWN STICKER**

With regard to HUM, RED and BROWN STICKER systems/conventions, there is a special responsibility for users to explain their methods in sufficient detail (as per the Guide to Completion and the CCE), the first time that Cards are submitted. If these submissions are inadequate, the pair may be barred from using those inadequately described methods for the entire tournament



and for at least the first-round robin. These penalties are quite severe, but with the duly executed distribution of these Conditions and all significant materials by the BFAME, no pair will be permitted to claim ignorance of this special responsibility. The NBO, the Captains and the players are jointly responsible for contacting the BFAME, should there be any problems in obtaining the necessary tournament information in timely fashion. If these materials are received late, it is the responsibility of both parties concerned to so inform the BFAME as soon as possible.

## **12 SPECIAL REGULATIONS FOR TEAMS USING HUM SYSTEMS**

### ***12.1 Highly Unusual Methods***

Highly Unusual Methods are utilized in any System which exhibits one or more of the following features as a matter of partnership agreement:

- a. A pass in the opening position promises the values generally accepted for an opening bid of one, and the player who passes may hold a queen or more above average hand strength (i.e., an average hand contains 10 high card points).
- b. By partnership agreement an opening bid at the one level may be weaker than pass.
- c. By partnership agreement an opening bid at the one level may be made with values of a king or more below average strength.
- d. By partnership agreement an opening bid at the one level shows either length or shortage in a specified suit; or either length in a specified suit or length elsewhere.

### ***12.2 Submission of HUM Systems***

HUM Systems and brown stickers ( max 3 per pair ) are allowed only in the KO stage.

The team captain of any team containing one or more pairs intending to use a HUM System shall send a full copy of any HUM System in English, together with the Convention Card and Supplementary Sheets, to Waleed El Menyawi, the Head TD by March 1<sup>st</sup> 25. Failure to comply with this regulation or poor presentation of the System may result in such pair or pairs not being permitted to use HUM System, as the Championship Committee shall in its discretion determine. In making any such determination, the Championship Committee may apply Section 11.2.1. It is highly recommended that a full copy of a HUM System, in English, also be filed at the Convention Card Desk, at the Championship site, by the time of the captains' meeting on Thursday 10th April'25.



### **12.3 Regulations for Pairs using HUM Systems**

If a team includes any pair using a HUM System, it will be subject to the following regulations:

- a. The pairs using HUM Systems should be available at least 15 minutes before the scheduled beginning of matches or sessions, to supply any information and clarification that may be requested by the opponents.
- b. When a team that includes a pair using a HUM System (whether or not such pair will play) is opposing a team that has no such pair, the HUM System team will always be the Visiting Team. No special seating rights or line-up restrictions shall apply when two teams containing pairs using HUM Systems (regardless of line-up) oppose one another.
- c. The team opposing a team which includes one or more pairs using a HUM System will submit three copies (clearly legible) of their defenses (if any) to the HUM System in writing, at line-up time for the match; these defenses shall be filed at the Convention Card Desk and supplied by the captain to the captain of the opposing team. In preparing these defenses pairs using Green, Blue or Red Systems are allowed to change their systems including opening calls. Pairs using HUM Systems are not allowed to change their opening calls.
- d. The pair using a HUM System must inform the opponents in writing (hand-written, 2 clearly legible copies) about their counter-defense at the table, prior to the start of the session. In preparing their counter-defense, the pair using the HUM System is not permitted to change any of the highly artificial aspects of its system.

### **12.4 Written Defences**

- a. Notes on the defense against HUM Systems and on defense against the defenses are deemed to be part of the opponents' Systems and may be used by both pairs at the table, during the period when the aperture of the screen is closed and, also, for the purpose only of responding to a question, when the screen is open. See also Section 16 of the General Conditions of Contest for BFAME Championships.
- b. A pair may prepare written defenses against the artificial elements of a Red System or the Brown Stickers elements of any system (See the WBF System Policy, attached). Also, these defenses are deemed to be part of the opponents' Systems.



## 13 LENGTH OF MATCHES

**13.1** Each 16 board matches in the qualifying round-robin will be played straight through and will be completed giving 8 ½ minutes playing time with screens, within (2) two hours and (20) twenty minutes, and the same would apply to each of the 16 board segment of Semi-Finals and Finals; after that, teams judged guilty of slow play will be subject to penalty (see section 16). Additional time will not be allowed for teams playing on Vu-Graph; neither will extra time be granted because of the use of bidding boxes, screens, discussions of systems or for other similar reasons. Vu-Graph presentation for any match or sessions will not start until The Head / Chief Tournament Director notifies the Chief Commentator or his designee.

### 13.2 Slow Play

The time allowed for each match or session is computed from the time play is started by a Tournament Director. A Tournament Director who judges that a match will be so late that it disturbs the start of the next round may truncate the match by removing boards. Law 86 may apply.

## 14 TIE-BREAKING PROCEDURES

### 14.1 Two Teams

If two teams are tied with the same number of Victory Points at the end of the round-robin, the tie shall be broken as follows (in the sequence shown):

- a. Victory Points earned by the tied teams in the combined matches they played against each other, in that particular event. If the tie remains, then:
- b. IMPs earned by the tied teams in the combined matches they played against each other. If the tie remains, then:
- c. IMP quotient (total IMPs won divided by total IMPs lost) in all matches played by the tied teams in that particular event. If the tie remains, then:
- d. Total IMPs earned by the tied teams in all matches played, then:
- e. One board (“sudden death”) match will determine the winner.

### 14.2 Three Teams:

If three teams are tied with the same number of Victory Points at the end of the round-robin, the tie shall be broken according to the following.

- a. If one of the teams earned more VPs against each of the other two in the matches it played against them in that particular event, it shall be declared winner and, if necessary, the tie between the remaining two teams shall be broken in accordance with Sub-section 14.1. If the three teams remain tied, then:



- b. If one of the teams earned more VPs against one of the remaining teams and tied with the other in the matches it played between them in that particular event, it shall be declared winner and the tie between the remaining teams shall be broken, if necessary, in accordance to Sub-section 14.1.
- c. If one team has been beaten by the other two teams in matches it played against them in that particular event, it shall be ranked third in the tied positions and the tie between the remaining teams shall be broken in accordance with sub-section 14.1.
- d. Highest net total IMPs earned by the tied teams in the matches they played against each other. If one tie still remains it may be broken in accordance with Sub-section 14.1. If the three teams remain tied, then:
- e. IMP quotient in all matches played by the tied teams in that particular event. If one tie still remains it shall be broken in accordance to Sub-section 14.1. If the three teams remain tied, then:
- f. One-board (“sudden death”) matches will determine the winner.

### **14.3 Four Teams:**

If four or more teams are tied with same number of Victory Points at the end of the round-robin, the tie shall be broken according to the following.

- a. IMP quotient in all matches played by the tied teams in that particular event, shall govern. Any ties remaining will be broken in accordance with Sub-section 14.1 and 14.2, if appropriate. If there are more that three teams that remain tied after use of IMP quotients, then:
- b. If one of the teams earned more VPs against each of the remaining tied teams in that particular event or if it has, uniquely, tied one and defeated the other tied teams, it shall be declared winner and the ties for the remaining teams will be broken in accordance with Sub-section 14.2, if appropriate. If there are more than three teams that remain tied, then:
- c. Total points quotient in all matches played by the tied teams in that particular event, shall govern. Any ties remaining will be broken in accordance with Sub-section 14.1 and 14.2, if appropriate. If there are more that three teams that remain tied after the application of total points quotient, then:
- d. One-board (“sudden death”) matches will determine the winner.

### **14.4 Finals**

In the event of the head-to-head match being a tie the higher ranked team at the end of the round robin stage will be declared the winner.



## 15 DISQUALIFICATION

In the case of a team being disqualified, all matches it played prior to its disqualification may in the discretion of the BFAME Council be declared void and the scores earned by its opponents in those matches be cancelled or varied.

## 16 PENALTIES

The schedule of penalties which follows is supplemental to the International Code. All infringements of the International Code will be dealt with in accordance with the International Code. Monetary fines shall be paid in US Dollars, or the equivalent in local currency. Monies assessed shall be turned over to the Tournament Director for transmittal to the Chairman of the Tournament Appeals Committee. Upon publication of these Conditions of Contest no further warning is required (whether from the Director or otherwise) prior to the application of any penalty under the provision of the International Code or of these Conditions of Contest.

Victory Point penalties, where applicable, shall be deducted from the score of the offending team at the conclusion of the Round-Robins. The VP penalties shall not affect individual matches for purposes of tie-breaking procedures in any manner, but may determine a team's ranking and affect carry-over. Penalties assessed in IMPs shall be deducted from the score of the offending team at the conclusion of the match during which the penalty was imposed, before its VP score is calculated. However, the score of the non-offending team shall not be affected, except in the knockout semifinals and final matches.

### ***16.1 Failure to File Systems in a Timely Fashion.***

Any team containing a partnership that, for any reason, has failed to comply with the time requirements of Section 11.2 shall (in addition to the requirements of Section 11.2.1):

- a. be subject to a decision of the Championship Committee who may forbid the team to use specific conventional understandings not submitted in accordance with these Conditions of Contest. If a disallowed convention is used, the Tournament Reviewer may impose penalties at its discretion;
- b. and be fined US\$ 100.00 to be paid prior to the commencement of the Tournament.

### ***16.2 Failure to Submit Line-up on Time***

If a Captain fails to submit line-ups in accordance with Section 8:

- a. for the first such offence a warning shall be issued by the Tournament Director;



- b. for the second offence there shall be a fine of US\$ 10; and ½ VP.
- c. for the third offence there shall be a fine of US\$ 20 and 1 VP
- d. for each subsequent offence there shall be a fine of US\$ 30; 2 VPs
- e. penalties are cumulative.

When failure to provide the line-up in a timely fashion is due to late filing by the captain of the opposing team, penalties under this Section shall be imposed only on the captain of the team whose duty it was to file line-up first. The captain of the other team shall have five minutes after the filing by the offending team's line-up to file his own. If, after filing of the line-up by the offending team, the captain of the non-offending team exceeds the filing deadline, or the extra five minutes allocated in the foregoing, whichever is later, this captain too is deemed guilty of late line-up filing and is subject to penalty under this Section.

**16.3 Lateness**

Any team not seated and ready to play at the announced starting time of a match or a session of a match will be assessed a penalty according to the following scale;

**During the Round-Robins**

0+	-05	Minutes late	warning to captain(s) (after the second warning the provision for 5+ minutes shall apply ).
5+	-10	Minutes late	1 VP
10+	-15	Minutes late	2 VPs
15+	-20	Minutes late	3 VPs
20+	-25	Minutes late	4 VPS
Over 25		Minutes late	at the Discretion of the Head Tournament Director; may include recommendation of forfeit of match or more severe action by the BFAME Council.

**During the Finals**

0+	-05	Minutes late	warning to captain(s) (after the second warning the provision for 5+ minutes late shall apply)
5+	-25	Minutes late	1 IMP plus an additional 1 IMP for each full minute or part there beyond 5 minutes.
Over 25		Minutes late	30 IMPs plus 2 IMPs for each minute thereafter, but after 40 minutes the round is cancelled. At the discretion of the Head Tournament Director may include recommendation of forfeit of the match or more severe action by the Championship Committee.





## 16.4 Slow Play

The time allowed for each match or session shall be computed from the time play in such match or session is started by a Tournament Director. If play continues after the time allowed by Section 13 ( also see 13.2 ) of these Conditions, then either or both of the pairs shall be subjected to penalty, according to the amount of delay for which such pair was judged responsible, as follows:

### 16.4.1 Excess time apportioned to a pair in the Round-Robin

0+	-05	Minutes late	1 VP
5+	-10	Minutes late	1 ½ VPs
10+	-15	Minutes late	2 VPs
15+	-20	Minutes late	2 ½ VPs
20+	-25	Minutes late	3 VPS

5 VPs plus 1VP for each additional 5 minutes and the Head Tournament Director will impose disciplinary penalties on the pair and/or on the team. After 40 minutes the match will be truncated by removing unplayed boards; if this happens the match will be scored only with the boards played at both tables, with the same conversion scale as for completed matches. At the discretion of the Head Tournament Director this may include recommendation of forfeit of a match or more severe action by the Championship Committee.

Over 25 Minutes late

**Example:** If a 16-board match or session took 2 hours and 20 minutes (excess of 15 minutes) and pair A is held responsible for 9 extra minutes and pair B for 6 extra minutes, the total penalty will be 2 VPs; pair A receiving 1.2 VPs penalty and pair B 0.8 VP penalty.

### 16.4.2 Excess time apportioned to a pair during the Finals:

0+	-25	Minutes late	1 IMP for each minute or part thereof.
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30 IMPs plus 2 IMPs for each minute thereafter and the Head Tournament Director will impose disciplinary penalties on the pair and/or on the team.

5+	-25	Minutes late	After 40 minutes, the match will be truncated by removing unplayed boards. At the discretion of the Head Tournament Director this may include recommendation of forfeit of match or more severe action by the Executive Council.
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A Tournament Director or an official appointed by the President will determine responsibility for slow play. A partnership that considers the opponents are playing slowly must inform the Tournament Director and a monitor may be appointed to the table; the partnership is only protected from the time the Tournament Director is informed. A Director may install a monitor without request of the players.

### **16.5 Fouled Board**

See Section 13 of the General Conditions of Contest for explanation. If a board is fouled and it can be determined that one side is clearly at fault that side shall be subject to procedural penalty.

### **16.6 Frivolous Review**

Forfeiture of the deposit of US\$ 100 if the Reviewing Officer determine the appeal to be without merit (frivolous). See Section 18 of the General Conditions of Contest.

## **17 VERIFICATION OF SCORES**

The correction period in Law 79C expires upon the commencement of the next match or segment (including supplementary board/s to be played in case of tie) or – in respect of the final match or segment of any phase of the event only (each KO match being a phase in its own right for this purpose) – 30 minutes after the first posting of scores or the start of a playoff, whichever comes first, and thereafter, the results will be final, with the following exceptions:

- awaiting a review;
- completion of play or a replay of boards where such replay has been directed by the Tournament Authorities.

### **17.1 Score Corrections**

Score corrections may be made as sanctioned in Law 79 and in Laws 69 and 71. An agreed-upon score that is proven to be erroneous to the complete satisfaction of the Head Tournament Director may be corrected up to thirty minutes after the posting of scores at the end of play on each day. Only the results of boards played that day are subject to correction

## **18 DUPLICATED BOARDS**

Duplicated boards will be used throughout these Championships, whenever possible.

## **19 ATTENDANCE IN PLAYING ROOMS**

Subject to any supplementary regulations made by the BFAME Council before these Championships begin, except by special permission of the President, only the following are permitted to enter the playing rooms:



- a. participants assigned to play in that room;
- b. Tournament Directors;
- c. personnel needed to operate these Championships, including assigned recorders, scorers, timers, caddies and Vu-Graph personnel;
- d. the President;
- e. Tournament Reviewer;
- f. other members so appointed to assist the Tournament Reviewer who are on duty;
- g. staff personnel for provision of refreshment and room cleaning, if necessary;
- h. "Officials on duty" appointed for a specific session or sessions by the President.
- i. a maximum of two members of the Daily Bulletin staff to be named by its Editor.

## 20 **SMOKING PROHIBITED**

Smoking in the playing area and toilets is strictly prohibited. Teams of players offending this regulation will be penalized with 0.5 VP for each such violation. In addition, Monetary penalty will be imposed.

## 21 **Electronic Communication Devices (ECDs)**

Electronic Communication Devices (ECDs) include, but are not limited to:

- Mobile Phones
- Personal laptops or tablets
- Headphones or earbuds
- Wearable technologies such as smartwatches, fitness bands, or rings

Spectators may not bring ECDs into the playing area at any time.

Players who bring ECDs into the playing area must place them at the side table besides the player. The devices must remain there until the end of play at the table. They must be completely switched off, not merely turned to silent or flight mode. If a player leaves the playing area with an ECD, he may not return until the next round.

Any participant or other team supporter/spectator bringing an ECD into the playing area and not complying with the above regulations will cause their team to be fined:

- 3 VPs in a Round Robin.
- 8 IMPs in a KO match

The fine for a subsequent offence during the tournament will be:

- 8 VPs in a Round Robin.
- 20 IMPs in a KO match

A third offence will result in the individual's expulsion from the tournament.



After any offence, the TD will search the participant's partner and teammates. If any also has an ECD:

- First offence : The match will be cancelled and the team will receive zero VPs in this match and the opposing team will receive 12 VPs or the team average in this RR or the opposing team average in this RR whichever is higher, and the matter will be referred to the investigations committee.
- Second offence: the team will be expelled from the tournament.

The Head Tournament Director will arrange for random checks of participants to ensure compliance with these prohibitions. Refusal to submit to these checks will result in the same penalty as if an ECD had been discovered, and the individual concerned will be barred from the playing area for the duration of the match or until the Head Tournament Director, in consultation with the Championship Committee, shall decide.

Anyone entering the playing area must comply with procedures put in place by the BFAME for the detection of such electronic equipment. Players and spectators must register medical devices with the TD to request an exception to this policy.

## 22 Dress Code

### 1. Introduction

The BFAME requires that participants dress appropriately. Participants might be photographed at any time, and it is important to make a good impression on any corporate or government sponsors who come across pictures from any of the BFAME events in news coverage.

**2. All teams / pairs**, including captains and coaches, must adopt the following dress code:

\* Formal Occasions: The BFAME encourages NBOs to provide teams that participate with uniforms incorporating a badge or emblem identifying the country the players represent. This uniform or at least the playing uniform must be worn during the Closing and Medal Ceremonies. Failure to comply will mean that they are not allowed on the podium.

\* Playing rooms: Everyone entering the playing rooms is obliged to wear the official identification badge provided by the organisation. In case of loss, the organisation will provide a duplicate badge at a cost of US\$ 5. All players, captains and coaches of participating teams must wear T-shirts, polo/pique shirts, shirts or blouses of the same colour and design and contain the Federation's logo and / or the name of the country. The same applies if sweaters, cardigans, jackets or similar are worn.

\* All players must follow the instructions given by the TD.

**3. The team** uniform may contain discreet sponsor logos.

**4. Violations** Any player, captain or coach not respecting the dress code in the playing area will receive a warning on the first occasion. A subsequent breach will result in the offender being suspended from playing until they comply



## 23. Review procedures

At BFAME events, appeals of a tournament director's ruling will be heard by a "Reviewer" appointed by the Championship Committee in accordance with law 80B2(k).

When the tournament director notifies players of a decision, they will be told of their right to seek a review and the possible grounds for such a review. In a team event the team captain must concur. Unless specified otherwise, the time limit for seeking a review is in accordance with Law 92B.

The tournament director will fill in details of the decision on the relevant form prescribed by the WBF for requesting reviews. Then, the player will complete the form stating his reasons for asking for a review and hand it to the tournament director, who will arrange for the review.

A monetary deposit of US \$ 100 must accompany the form.

The Reviewer will check that the tournament director has gathered the necessary evidence of what occurred when the infraction arose. The Reviewer must then be satisfied that the correct law was applied and that other tournament directors were consulted where appropriate. In matters involving the judgement exercised by a player following unauthorised information, incorrect explanation, or failure to alert, the Reviewer will clarify that suitable players have been asked appropriate questions to enable a judgmental view to be obtained.

Finally, the Reviewer will check that the ruling that was issued based upon all the information available to the tournament directors was within the bounds of reasonableness. The fact that the Reviewer might have determined a slightly different ruling would not be a good reason to vary the ruling. If the process had not been followed properly in some material way, the Reviewer will ask the Head tournament director to correct the failings and issue a new ruling.

If, in the opinion of the Reviewer, there is insufficient basis for requesting the review, one or both of the following sanctions may be applied:

- (i) Forfeiture of the monetary deposit.
- (ii) A Sanction quantified in IMPs, VPs, as appropriate to the type of event being played.

If there is a conflict of law interpretation between the reviewer and the Head TD the matter is referred to members of the BFAME Laws Committee present or reachable, otherwise the reviewer's decision is final, but Law 93 C2 may apply.

## 24. Committees

### 23.1 Championship Committee

Mr. Bahjat Al Majali	President
Mr. Waleed El Menyawi	Head TD – Member
Mr. Ihsan Qadir	BFAME Secretary – Member
Mr. Amr Mekky	Local OC – Member
Mr. Raad Darwish	BFAME Admin Manager – Member



### **23.2 Reviewer**

Mr. TC Pant & or Mr. Bahjat Al Majali

### **23.3 TDs & Operation Committee**

Mr. Waleed El Menyawi	Head TD, Director of Operation
Mr. Ihsan Qadir	Chief TD
Mr. Sudhir Gopal Aggarwal	TD
Mr. Raad Etoom	TD
Mr. Abdelrahim Mehilba	BBO Chief
Mr. Tarek Abdelrahman	Operation

### **25. Appendixes**

1. (A) : Play format, Pre-determined RR team schedule
2. (C) : BFAME Alert Policy
3. (D) : BFAME System Policy
4. (B) : WBF/BFAME IMP to VP Conversion Scale

### **26. Contact Adresses**

#### **1. The BFAME President**

Mr. Bahjat Al Majali                      bahjatmj@yahoo.com

#### **2. The BFAME Secretary**

Mr. Ihsan Qadir                              ihsanqadir@imlpk.com

#### **3. The Head TD & Operation Manager**

Mr. Waleed El Menywi                      waleed.elmenyawi@gmail.com

#### **4. The Local organizer**

Mr. Amr Mekky                                amr.mekky@hotmail.com

### **27. Agreement to the conditions of contest**

Entering or being accredited to attend BFAME Championship means that everybody concerned with such entry knows and agrees to abide by these Conditions of Contest.

### **28. Entry Fees & subscription fees.**

Entry Fees shall be:

One team	2000 US\$
Two teams	3500 US\$
Three teams	5000 US\$
Four teams	6500 US\$

The subscription towards BFAME is US\$ 300/- per year has to be paid in cash. Similarly, entry fees are also to be paid in cash so as to avoid bank collection delays and other problems. Furthermore, BFAME is consistently following: "No pay, No Play" policy.



## **Appendix 'A'**

OPEN, WOMEN , SENIORS AND TEAMS CHAMPIONSHIPS

NUMBER OF PARTICIPATING TEAMS: FIVE OR SIX

Pre-determined RR Schedule

5 – 6 Teams				
Match 1	Match 2	Match 3	Match 4	Match 5
1 v 6	2 v 5	6 v 4	1 v 5	4 v 2
5 v 4	6 v 3	1 v 2	3 v 4	5 v 6
3 v 2	4 v 1	5 v 3	2 v 6	3 v 1

7 – 8 Teams						
Match 1	Match 2	Match 3	Match 4	Match 5	Match 6	Match 7
1 v 6	3 v 2	6 v 4	7 v 5	2 v 6	4 v 8	1 v 2
4 v 7	8 v 5	1 v 7	8 v 6	7 v 3	5 v 1	3 v 4
2 v 5	4 v 1	5 v 3	4 v 2	1 v 8	2 v 7	6 v 5
3 v 8	7 v 6	2 v 8	3 v 1	5 v 4	6 v 3	8 v 7

## **Appendix 'B' : BFAME Alerting Policy**

### 1. Preamble

- 1.1. The objective is to have a uniform BFAME policy which is applied to all BFAME events.
- 1.2. It is not intended that this should over-ride Alerting Policies developed by the NBOs.
- 1.3. Full disclosure is vital. However, players who participate in BFAME events are expected to protect themselves to a large extent. They are also expected to observe the spirit of the Laws as well as the letter.
- 1.4. The Policy has been made as simple as possible. Players are, however, expected to alert whenever there is doubt. (N.B. Where screens are in use, an alert on one side but not on the other does not necessarily imply an infraction.)

### 2. Policy

The following classes of calls should be alerted:

- i Artificial bids should be alerted, natural bids should not.
- ii Those calls (i.e., bids, passes, doubles or redoubles) which have special meanings or which are based on or lead to special understandings between the partners. (A player may not make a call or play based on a special partnership understanding unless an opposing pair may reasonably be expected to understand its meaning, or unless his side discloses the use of such call or play in accordance with the regulations of the Regulating Authority). See also Law 40B.
- iii Non-forcing jump changes of suit responses to opening bids or overcalls, and non-forcing new suit responses by an unpassed hand to opening bids of one of a suit.

Players must also respect the spirit of the Policy as well as the letter.



## Appendix 'C' : BFAME System Policy

### 1. Preamble

#### 1.1. The objectives of this policy are:

- to ensure that BFAME Championships can be properly operated and adequately administered, while at the same time affording proper consideration to progress and innovation;
- to provide the opportunity to play against different systems without material disadvantage relative to pairs with a greater familiarity of the said methods;
- to ensure that players are in no doubt as to what is expected of them with regard to the preparation and filing of systems material for each BFAME category of event.

#### 1.2. Additions or amendments to this policy will normally be put into effect only after four months' notice.

#### 1.3. References to High Card Points in this document are Milton Work Points (A=4, K=3, Q=2, J=1).

#### 1.4. In this document 'Weak' means 9 points or less and 'Strong' means 16 points or more.

### 2. Policy and Classification of Systems

#### 2.1. Classification Policy

2.1.1. *Players should classify their own systems in accordance with this system policy.*

2.1.2. *Where players are unsure, they should consult the 'Guide to Completion of the BFAME System Card'.*

2.1.3. *They may also request advice on classification from the BFAME Systems Committee Chairman, however this should occur prior to the deadline specified in the Supplementary Conditions of Contest for submission of system cards.*

#### 2.2. System Classifications

In order to facilitate recognition and handling, systems material will be identified by one or more of the following:

- the appropriate named colour (hand printed or typed);
- a check mark on a system card next to the appropriate colour - in keeping with the following descriptions:

**GREEN:** Systems where one-level opening bids are natural and non-forcing. 2024 BFAME Systems Policy Page | 2

**BLUE:** This category includes Strong Club/Strong Diamond systems that satisfy all of the following criteria:

- Either one club or one diamond is artificial, shows a hand with 13 high card points or more, and is always forcing.
- One of a major and 1NT are both natural and non-forcing.
- The one-level opening in the other minor may be artificial with various possibilities not covered by the other opening bids.

**RED:** This is a 'warning' that these systems contain artificial elements that may need advance preparation by opponents or explanations by the user of the system. This includes:

- All systems that utilise artificial one-level openings that do not fall under the definition of Yellow (HUM) systems, other than Strong Club/Strong Diamond (Blue) systems.
- Any system in which the basic 1-level opening structure (other than the length of natural suit bids or the point range of openings) varies according to position and/or vulnerability.





**YELLOW:** Highly Unusual Methods ('HUM') as defined below.

### 2.3. HUM Systems

2.3.1. *For the purpose of this Policy, a Highly Unusual Method (HUM) means any System that exhibits one or more of the following features.*

- By partnership agreement an opening call of Pass that shows at least the values generally accepted for an opening bid of one, even if there are alternative weak possibilities
- By partnership agreement an opening bid at the one level that may be weaker than Pass.
- By partnership agreement an opening bid at the one level in either 1st or 2nd seat that may be made with 7 high card points or less.
- By partnership agreement an opening bid at the one level that shows either specified length (three cards or more) or specified shortage (one card or less) in a known suit, whilst excluding other intermediate lengths in that same suit.
- By partnership agreement an opening bid at the one level that shows either three cards or more in a specified major or three cards or more in another specified suit.

2.3.2. *In addition, the BFAME Systems Committee may at its discretion, designate any specific system as a Highly Unusual Method.*

### 2.4. Review of Classification

#### 2.4.1. *During BFAME Events*

The BFAME On-site Systems Manager may review the classifications made by players and, if necessary, reclassify any system. They may take into account any other features and structures of such a system which in his/her opinion are such as to make it unreasonably difficult for opponents to devise and implement, in a timely manner, adequate defensive methods.

The Systems Manager may also restrict the use of specific partnership agreements in certain short-encounter format events (e.g., BAM Teams or Pairs). 2024 BFAME Systems Policy Page | 3

#### 2.4.2. *Between BFAME Events*

Any player/pair/team may seek a review of the classification of any system, or of any decision made by the BFAME On-site Systems Manager at an event to allow, re-classify, restrict or prohibit use of a system or any specific partnership agreement. The BFAME Systems Committee will undertake such a review. The determination of the Systems Committee will not retrospectively affect the results of any decisions made by the On-site Systems Manager at an event.

#### 2.4.3. *Recording of Decisions*

Decisions made following application of 2.4.1 and 2.4.2 above, and the determination of certain aspects of a system to be HUM (See 2.3.2 below) will be recorded so that further questions of a similar nature are handled in a like manner. This will be done through a regularly updated document that will list all such decisions available for both future reference and general player understanding.

### 2.5. Brown Sticker Methods

The following are categorised as 'Brown Sticker':

- Any opening bid of two clubs through three spades that could be made on 9 high card points or less, AND does not promise at least four cards in a known suit.

**EXCEPTION:** The bid always shows at least four cards in a known suit if it is weak. If the bid does not show a known four card suit it must show a hand with 13 high card points or more. (Explanation: Where all the weak meanings show at least four cards in one known suit, and the strong meanings show a hand with 13 high card points or more, it is not a



Brown Sticker Method.)

**EXCEPTION:** a two-level opening bid in a minor, showing a weak two in either major, whether with or without the option of strong hand types containing 16 high card points or more, or with equivalent values.

- An overcall that does not promise at least four cards in a known suit, over a natural opening bid of one of a suit.

**EXCEPTION:** An overcall in no trumps which is natural or has the meaning of a take-out double.

**EXCEPTION:** any cue bid in a suit that shows a strong hand.

**EXCEPTION:** a cue bid in opponent's known suit that asks partner to bid NT with a stopper in that suit.

- Any 'weak' two-suited overcalls or openings at the two or three level that may by agreement be made with three cards or fewer in one of the suits.

### Notes

I None of the foregoing restrictions (a-c) pertain to any defences against forcing, artificial opening bids or defences against 'Brown Sticker' or HUM methods.

II Restriction (b) also applies to overcalls after an opening bid of one of a minor which is ostensibly natural and non-forcing, even if it might be made on a doubleton or a singleton.

III Additional to the classification of systems in 2.2 above, any partnership using one or more 'Brown Sticker' methods must indicate this alongside its system classification.

## 2.6. Card Play Signals

Partnerships should possess agreements as to the meaning of the cards played when following suit and when discarding (i.e., the use of undefined signalling methods is prohibited).

Players may not use signalling methods by which the message or messages conveyed by the signals are hidden from the declarer because of some key available only to the defenders (e.g., encrypted signals are not allowed).

## 2.7. Random Openings

It is forbidden to open hands which, by agreement, may contain fewer than 8 high card points and for which no further definition is provided. Pairs employing HUM methods may however open hands at the one-level that conform to Section 2.3.1(c) criteria.

## 3. Systems allowed at BFAME Championships

**Category 2:** Zonal Championships or stages of BFAME events defined as Category 2 by the WBF Rules and Regulations Committee.

### 1. The use of HUM systems is prohibited.

2. Up to three 'Brown Sticker' methods per partnership will be permitted in KO Stages, subject to adequate disclosure, but players using them must submit their Systems Cards & Brown Sticker Announcement Forms in advance in accordance with the Conditions of Contest. At the same time a viable suggested defense to any Brown Sticker method must be filed. This will be deemed to be a part of the System Card and may be referred to by the opponents at the table.

## 4. Systems Material

For all Category 1 Teams events, where Yellow (HUM) systems are permitted, any pair using a HUM system is required (in addition to the normal timely filing of the System card and Supplementary Sheets) to submit **the full system** in English in advance before the



beginning of the Championship in accordance with the Conditions of Contest. In decisions taken by Tournament Directors and by the Championship Committee, a pair who has submitted their full system will be given the benefit of any support that their system notes provide for an explanation given at the table.

## 5. System Cards/Supplementary Sheets

The principle of adequate disclosure requires that competitors fully disclose all agreements and treatments requiring defensive preparation. In addition to the System cards, pairs should use Supplementary Sheets to achieve this objective.

Competitors should make use of the Guide to Completion of the BFAME Convention Cards when completing their system cards.

Unless otherwise specified in the Conditions of Contest a partnership may use a maximum of six Supplementary Sheets, provided that the entries are properly numbered to correspond to appropriately cross-referenced numbers on the System card itself. The sheets must include the pair names, be readily legible and numbered entries must be clearly separated. While brevity is encouraged, particularly for Category 2 and Category 3 events, full disclosure must not be prejudiced in any way as a result.

All systems and treatments requiring defensive preparation must be listed on the front right part of the BFAME Card. They must be explained and fully developed (including competitive agreements) either in the appropriate section on the front or inside of the card, or, where there is inadequate space there, in the first numbered entries on the Supplementary Sheets.

The front right part of the System Card must include:

- i All artificial openings (except strong one club/two club openings)
- ii Responses to natural suit openings which are weak or artificial.
- iii All artificial defensive bids used over natural openings of one of a suit (making sure that all two-suited intervention is detailed precisely; the best way to do this is to write: 'Two-Suiters' and include a reference to the left column or a reference number supplementary Sheet entry).

If a pair uses any bid which should have been listed as above, but which has been left out, and their opponents do not get to their best contract, there will be a strong presumption that the opponents have been damaged by not being able to prepare a defence. The offending pair may also be liable to incur a procedural penalty.

Any pair playing a HUM system or 'Brown Sticker' method has a special obligation to present a complete description of both their bids and subsequent developments (especially competitive developments). If a pair uses a method that is not adequately described, then the same presumption of lack of advance notice (with adjustments and penalties as described in the preceding paragraph) shall apply.

For each tournament, the Conditions of Contest will state the date by which systems material and System Cards (together with email addresses of the individuals best equipped to deal with queries regarding the system) must be received. The onus is jointly on the pair, the non-playing captain (where relevant), the NBO and the Zonal Organisation to obtain the information required to meet this deadline. Failure to meet this deadline will result in automatic penalties, which will be fully 2024 BFAME Systems Policy Page | 6

described in the Conditions of Contest. Problems with systems should be referred to the Chairman of the Systems Committee or his nominee in accordance with details given in the Conditions of Contest.

After the closing date for submission of systems, the following will be the policy governing



any changes to the System Card and Supplementary Sheets:

Deletion of an item or a statement will be permitted upon application to the Chairman of the Systems Committee or his nominee. The insertion of additional clarificatory statements will also normally be permitted.

A change replacing an agreement with another or to introduce a fresh agreement, where the new material is not Brown Sticker, will normally be permitted. The permission to use the new agreement will operate at the discretion of the Chairman, but will normally be from the morning of the second day after notification of the change is issued to other contestants.

Neither the replacement of a Brown Sticker method with another Brown Sticker method, nor the introduction of a new Brown Sticker method will be permitted.

It is strongly emphasised, and all contestants must note, that the policy stated above will be rigorously applied.

## 6. Defence against Yellow (HUM) Systems and Brown Sticker Methods

The following regulations will apply to defensive measures against HUM systems.

A pair opposing a HUM system pair will submit two (clearly legible) copies of their defence to the HUM system at an appropriate time and place prior to the start of that segment, to be specified in the Conditions of Contest. Such defences are deemed to be part of the opponents' system card.

In preparing the defence against a HUM system, pairs using Green, Blue or Red systems are allowed to change their systems, including opening calls (but not to openings which are themselves HUM or 'Brown Sticker'). Pairs using a HUM system are not allowed to change their opening calls.

The pair using a HUM system must inform the opponents in writing (two clearly legible copies) about their counter-defence at the table prior to the start of the session. In preparing their counter-defence, the pair using a HUM system is not permitted to change any of the highly artificial aspects of its system.

HUM systems that are to be played only as a defence against other HUM systems must be lodged prior to the deadline specified in the Supplementary Conditions of Contest for the submission of system cards.

The following regulations will apply in relation to defensive measures against Brown Sticker methods:

A pair may prepare written defences against the 'Brown Sticker' elements of any system. Such defences will have to be given to the opponents (two clearly legible copies) at an appropriate time and place specified in the Conditions of Contest prior to the start of that segment for team events, or prior to that round for pairs events. Written defences against Brown Sticker methods are deemed to be part of the opponents' system card. 2024

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## 7. Number of systems allowed per team

For Category 1 events, a maximum number of four Red or Yellow (HUM) Systems, of which only three may be Yellow, will be permitted for each participating team. A System, for the purpose of this section, may include different methods for different seats and/or vulnerabilities.

Both members of the partnership must agree to use the same methods of bidding and card play.

**Published by the Systems Committee of the World Bridge Federation November 2024**



### **Appendix 'D' – WBF/BFAME IMP to VP Conversion Scale**

This scale will be used in BFAME/ WBF Championships and should be used for major team Tournaments

IMPS	6	7	8	9	10	12	14	16	20	32
0	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00
1	10.50	10.47	10.44	10.41	10.39	10.36	10.33	10.31	10.28	10.22
2	10.99	10.92	10.86	10.81	10.77	10.71	10.66	10.61	10.55	10.44
3	11.46	11.35	11.27	11.20	11.14	11.05	10.97	10.91	10.82	10.65
4	11.90	11.77	11.67	11.58	11.50	11.38	11.28	11.20	11.08	10.86
5	12.33	12.18	12.05	11.94	11.85	11.70	11.58	11.48	11.34	11.07
6	12.75	12.57	12.42	12.29	12.18	12.01	11.87	11.76	11.59	11.27
7	13.15	12.94	12.77	12.63	12.51	12.31	12.16	12.03	11.83	11.47
8	13.53	13.31	13.12	12.96	12.83	12.61	12.44	12.29	12.07	11.67
9	13.90	13.65	13.45	13.28	13.14	12.90	12.71	12.55	12.30	11.86
10	14.25	13.99	13.78	13.59	13.43	13.18	12.97	12.80	12.53	12.05
11	14.59	14.32	14.09	13.89	13.72	13.45	13.23	13.04	12.76	12.24
12	14.92	14.63	14.39	14.18	14.00	13.71	13.48	13.28	12.98	12.42
13	15.24	14.93	14.68	14.46	14.28	13.97	13.72	13.52	13.20	12.60
14	15.54	15.22	14.96	14.74	14.54	14.22	13.96	13.75	13.41	12.78
15	15.83	15.50	15.23	15.00	14.80	14.46	14.19	13.97	13.61	12.95
16	16.11	15.78	15.50	15.26	15.05	14.70	14.42	14.18	13.81	13.12
17	16.38	16.04	15.75	15.50	15.29	14.93	14.64	14.39	14.01	13.29
18	16.64	16.29	16.00	15.74	15.52	15.15	14.85	14.60	14.20	13.46
19	16.89	16.53	16.23	15.97	15.75	15.37	15.06	14.80	14.39	13.62
20	17.12	16.77	16.46	16.20	15.97	15.58	15.26	15.00	14.58	13.78
21	17.35	16.99	16.68	16.42	16.18	15.79	15.46	15.19	14.76	13.94
22	17.58	17.21	16.90	16.63	16.39	15.99	15.66	15.38	14.94	14.09
23	17.79	17.42	17.11	16.83	16.59	16.18	15.85	15.56	15.11	14.24
24	17.99	17.62	17.31	17.03	16.78	16.37	16.03	15.74	15.28	14.39
25	18.19	17.82	17.50	17.22	16.97	16.55	16.21	15.92	15.45	14.54
26	18.38	18.01	17.69	17.41	17.16	16.73	16.38	16.09	15.61	14.68
27	18.56	18.19	17.87	17.59	17.34	16.91	16.55	16.26	15.77	14.82
28	18.73	18.36	18.04	17.76	17.51	17.08	16.72	16.42	15.93	14.96
29	18.90	18.53	18.21	17.93	17.68	17.24	16.88	16.58	16.08	15.10
30	19.06	18.69	18.37	18.09	17.84	17.40	17.04	16.73	16.23	15.24
31	19.22	18.85	18.53	18.25	18.00	17.56	17.19	16.88	16.38	15.37
32	19.37	19.00	18.68	18.40	18.15	17.71	17.34	17.03	16.52	15.50
33	19.51	19.15	18.83	18.55	18.30	17.86	17.49	17.17	16.66	15.63
34	19.65	19.29	18.97	18.69	18.44	18.00	17.63	17.31	16.80	15.76
35	19.78	19.43	19.11	18.83	18.58	18.14	17.77	17.45	16.93	15.88
36	19.91	19.56	19.24	18.97	18.71	18.28	17.91	17.59	17.06	16.00
37	20.00	19.68	19.37	19.10	18.84	18.41	18.04	17.72	17.19	16.12
38		19.80	19.50	19.22	18.97	18.54	18.17	17.85	17.32	16.24
39		19.92	19.62	19.34	19.10	18.66	18.29	17.97	17.44	16.35
40		20.00	19.74	19.46	19.22	18.78	18.41	18.09	17.56	16.46
41			19.85	19.58	19.33	18.90	18.53	18.21	17.68	16.57
42			19.95	19.69	19.44	19.02	18.65	18.33	17.79	16.68

