



## **BRIDGE REGULATIONS**

**Last Update 13.7.2021**

### **1. Organization**

- a. The Bridge Committee of the 21st Maccabiah will be responsible for the Bridge competitions of the 21st Maccabiah.
- b. Participation in the Bridge competitions is open to any player (male or female) who is in possession of a Participant Card, issued by the Organizing Committee of the 21st Maccabiah and registered for the Bridge competitions.
- c. Each country is authorized to enter one team consisting of minimum four (4) and no more than six (6) members and a non-playing captain (a captain can be also a member of the team, in this case, a playing captain.)
- d. The conditions of Contest herein set forth are supplemental to the General Conditions of Contest of the World Bridge Federation - [\[http://www.worldbridge.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/WBF\\_General\\_Conditions\\_of\\_Contest.pdf\]](http://www.worldbridge.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/WBF_General_Conditions_of_Contest.pdf)
- e. These supplemental Conditions of Contest and the General Conditions of Contest (where applicable) together form the set of Rules and Regulations of the Bridge Competitions of the 21st Maccabiah Games.
- f. In the event of a discrepancy between the General and Supplemental Conditions, the provisions of the Supplemental Conditions shall apply.

### **2. Venues and Times**

The Sport Department of the 21st Maccabiah will determine the venues and times of the Bridge competitions and teams will be notified accordingly.

### **3. Program and Timetable**

Day	Team	Pairs
1 <sup>st</sup> day	Captain's meeting	
	Opening Ceremony	
	Qualification	
2 <sup>nd</sup> day	Qualification	
3 <sup>rd</sup> day	Semi-Final	
4 <sup>th</sup> day	Final	Qualification
5 <sup>th</sup> day		Final
	Prize Giving	

- The top four teams in the qualification stage will qualify to the semifinal.
- The players of the teams playing in the final would qualify for the pair's final.
- The program can be change according to the registration to the event.

### **4. Systems**

The WBF's Systems Regulations and Systems Policy apply to this Championship, which is a Category 3 event. <http://www.worldbridge.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/WBFSystemsPolicy.pdf>

Each team must complete WBF Convention card for each partnership. Template of blank cards can be found in <http://www.worldbridge.org/rules-regulations/competitions/wbf-convention-card-editors/>

- a. The Competition is a System Category 3 throughout (Highly Artificial Systems and brown sticker conventions are not allowed). [\[http://www.worldbridge.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/WBFSystemsPolicy.pdf\]](http://www.worldbridge.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/WBFSystemsPolicy.pdf)
- b. Every System must be fully explained in English.

### **5. Line-Up procedure**

- a. Both captains submit their line up without knowing the line-up of their opponents. Line-ups for a round must be submitted no later than 10 minutes after the previous round ends and failure to comply will be subject to VP penalties as follows:
  - 1st occasion a written (through the communication system) warning
  - 2nd occasion ½ VP penalty
  - Subsequently 1 VP penalty for each occasion.
- b. These penalties will be applied automatically by the scoring system and can only be waived by the Championship Committee in exceptional cases.

### **6. Ties**

- a. 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:
  - 1) Victory Points earned by the tied teams in the matches they played against each other. If the tie remains, then:
  - 2) Where that match has resulted in a tie in V. Ps any difference in IMPs will decide, If the tie remains then:
  - 3) IMP quotient (total IMPs won divided by total IMPs lost) in all matches played by the tied teams. If the tie remains, then:
  - 4) One board ("sudden death") matches will determine the winner.
- b. If three or more teams are tied with the same number of Victory Points at the end of the Round Robin, ties shall be broken in the order and by the methods above eliminating teams that lose tie – breaks and applying the next method to teams that remain tied. Seating assignments for the first sudden death board will be determined by drawing lots. Thereafter, the home/visiting teams will alternate.

### **7. Substitutes**

- a. If for any reason a team is unable to produce four players, either at the start of a session or because of an emergency that develop during the session, the Tournament Director may designate a substitute to allow the match to proceed. A substitute needs to be a member of the NCBO represented by the team on which he or she substitutes; however, a substitute may not be a member of another team initially entered in the contest, nor to be ineligible.
- b. The Tournament Director, having designed a substitute, must inform the Chairman of the Tournament Appeal Committee, or his designee, as soon as practicable and shall provide him a written note of the circumstances. Whether the result of a match in which a substitute has played shall stand, whether the score(s) shall be adjusted and what penalties if any shall be imposed are decided by the Tournament Appeals Committee.

### **8. Official Language**

English is the official language of the tournament. During a match, the players may converse only in English unless both captains agree to use some other language at their own risk. If necessary, each captain is responsible for the provision of an interpreter for translation into English. No appeals due to misunderstanding in a language other than English will be heard.



## 9. Obligation to Disclose Systems and Conventions

- Players are required to make an adequate initial written disclosure of their System, and to make a full and true disclosure of the meaning of any call or play in response to a proper question at the table from an opponent.
- The onus of disclosure is on the user. When there is a claim of damage through inadequate disclosure, the Tournament Director and the Tournament Appeal Committee will give benefit of any doubt to the opponents.
- Players are reminded that 2 copies of the System Card must be brought to each match and given to the opponents.

## 10. Forfeits

If a team is unable to play, or complete a match, the Tournament Appeals Committee may find that the team to be in default and declare the match forfeited. The team in forfeit shall score zero Victory Points and zero IMPs for that match. The team winning the forfeited match shall receive 12 Victory Points, or the average number of Victory Points won by the team in all of its other matches, of the forfeiting team in matches played against that team whichever is greater (if it becomes necessary, for the tie-breaking or carry-over, to assign an IMP score, the winning team receives the average number of IMPs' earning the assigned Victory Points score).

## 11. Disqualification

In case a team is disqualified, all matches it played prior to its disqualification shall be declared void and scores earned by its opponents in those matches shall be cancelled.

## 12. Reporting of Results

- Bridge mates are used as the official score recording devices to be used at all championships.
- This recording is the responsibility of the team sitting North/South at each table. Failure to enter the score before leaving the playing room is subject to a standard penalty. The official score will be that keyed in by North/South and agreed by East/West (or the captain, coach or another designated person). Players and captains are reminded that they are responsible for the accuracy of their own scores. Recorders may assist with the data entry of scores to a device to record the bidding, play and scores. However, responsibility for the accuracy of the entered results remains with the players at the table. Violation of correct entering procedures is subject to penalties in accordance with the Supplemental Conditions of Contest.
- 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.

## 13. Substitute Boards

A "substitute board" is one introduced into play in a match to replace a board already played at one, or both tables. Depending upon the decision of the Tournament Director, the results of a substitute board may, or may not, be counted as part of the match. Substitute boards are put into play by the Tournament Director either on his own volition or by the direction of the Tournament Appeals Committee.

## 14. Penalties

Victory Point penalties, where applicable, shall be deducted from the score of the offending team at the conclusion of each round.

- Failure to submit Line-up on time If a captain fails to submit his line-ups:
  - For the first offence the Director shall issue a warning.
  - For second offence there shall be a fine of 10 \$ (in shekels).
  - For a third or subsequent offence, there shall be a fine of 15 \$ (in shekels).
- Lateness: Any team not seated and ready to play at the announced starting time of a match or segment thereof may be assessed penalties as follows:
  - During the Round Robin

0-5 minutes late: first time – Warning to captain (after the second warning the provision for 5+ minutes shall apply)  
 5-10 minutes late – One VP  
 10-15 minutes late – Two VP  
 15-20 minutes late – three VP  
 20-25 minutes late – Four VP  
 Over 25 minutes late: At the discretion of the Tournament Appeals Committee. May include forfeiture of match or recommendation to 21st Maccabiah Bridge Organizing Committee for disqualification of offending team
  - During the Knockout phase:

0-5 minutes late: first time – Warning to captain (after the first warning the provision for 5+ minutes shall apply)  
 5-25 minutes late – 1 IMP plus an additional 1 IMP for each full minute or part thereof beyond 5 minutes  
 Over 25 minutes late: minimum 30 IMPs plus 2 IMPs for every 5 minutes, but after 40 minutes the match is cancelled and considered a walk-over.  
 For the above purposes (lateness and slow play) the Round Robin phase and the knockout phase are considered to be separate events. Thus, any warnings issued during the round robin are not carried over into the knockout phase.
- Slow Play

If a team has been penalized, any fine for slow play in that portion of the match shall be based on time at which all players were seated at the table and ready to play. The imposition of the penalties, in accordance with the following charts, is automatic immediately upon expiration of the time period. There shall be no additional "grace period". The time allowed for a 20-board session shall be three hours, for 16-boards session the time shall be two hours and 25 minutes and at that rate for additional boards to break ties.

  - During the Round Robin

0-5 minutes late: 0.5 VP  
 5-10 minutes late: 1.0 VP  
 10-15 minutes late: 1.5 VP  
 15-20 minutes late: 2.0 VPs  
 20-25 minutes late: 2.5 VPs  
 Over 25 minutes late: At the discretion of Tournament Appeals Committee and may include forfeiture of match or recommendation to the Maccabiah Executive Council for disciplinary action.

If the Tournament Director judges that the delay in a match was caused by the excessive use of time by one of the teams, he may impose a penalty on that team only. When a player believes that play of an opponent is unusually slow, he should summon the Tournament Director.  
 If the Tournament Director decides that the delay in a match was caused by the excessive use of time by both teams, penalties will be assessed against the two teams in proportion to the degree of guilt shared by the two teams.



- Matches may be timed by an official designated by the Chief Tournament Director.
- 2) During the Knockout phase:  
0-25 minutes late 1 IMP for each minute or part thereof.  
Over 25 minutes late Provisions of the WBF shall apply.  
**Note:** For the above purposes (lateness and slow play) the Round Robin phase and the knockout phase are considered to be separate events. Thus, any warnings issued during the round robin are not carried over into the knockout phase.

#### 15. Fouled Board

If a board is fouled and it can be determined that one side was clearly at fault that side shall be subject to procedural penalty.

#### 16. Screens, Bidding Boxes and International Code

Screens and bidding boxes will be in use throughout, and their use is mandatory.

#### 17. Rulings and Reviews

- The directors utilize the [WBF code of practice](#) before given any ruling. Rulings are made in consultation with other Directors, senior players and other personnel as appropriate. The Code of Practice will apply. Players should note the procedures which the Code calls upon them to adopt (as, for example, that they should randomize and make unpredictable the tempo of passing the tray).
- A request for a review of a Tournament Director's ruling must be lodged within 30 minutes of the first posting of the official score for the Session in which the board was played that is the subject of the ruling or the start of a supplementary board to be played in case of tie, whichever comes first. All such requests must be lodged by the team's Captain or his designee, or by one member of the pair in the Pairs events.
- When lodging a Request for Review the appellant must make a monetary deposit with the Tournament Director. The amount of deposit required will be not less than US\$ 50 (or the equivalent in Euro/NIS), with the exact amount to be informed to the participants before the start of the event. This deposit will be refunded unless the Reviewer determines that the request was without merit, in which case the deposit will be forfeited.

#### 18. Ethics and Deportment

- Participation in these Championships is by invitation of the Maccabiah. The privilege of the representing one's country carries with it an obligation to adhere to the rules of good sportsmanship, correct deportment and, above all, irreproachable ethics. In the absence of penalties expressed in monetary fines, IMPs or VPs, and because participants no longer appear as private individuals, but are public representatives, observance of the highest standards becomes the more imperative. Players are therefore urged to familiarize themselves with the Proprieties (Laws 72-75). Players, captains and teams are expected to accept all decisions of the Tournament Appeals Committee in a sportsmanlike manner. If the captains of both teams are in the room, they shall sit on the same side of the screen. In case of dispute the Home Team captain shall decide on which side of the screen they will sit.
- Once any player at the table has withdrawn a hand from the board, and until all four players have returned their hands to the board, a non-playing captain is bound by the normal restrictions upon spectators (Law 76), except that he may intervene to restrain misbehaviour or curtail unnecessary discussion on the part of his team members and may speak to questions of fact or Law after the Tournament Director has been called to the table (but may not call the Tournament Director).
- During the time allowed for a session, whether play is actually taking place at the moment or not, a non-playing captain should not address members of his team at the table in any but the English language, or in a language understood by the opponents. If it is desired to use a language other than English, the permission of the opponents should be sought, and where reasonably possible should be given. If difficulty arises, a non-playing captain wishing to speak to his team in a language not known to the opponents should do so through an interpreter or team member who can translate for the benefit of the opponents.
- Non-playing captains are responsible for the performance of various functions detailed throughout these Conditions of Contest. While the Maccabiah recognizes the importance of other team officials (such as deputy-captain, coach, etc.), it is only the non-playing captain that they may perform some of the official functions assigned to the non-playing captain specifically. They may not enter a playing room unless the non-playing captain withdraws for the rest of these championships and then only with the permission of the Tournament Appeals Committee.

#### 19. General

- These regulations are but one part of the complete 21st Maccabiah regulations and must be read along with the instructions found in the Maccabiah Basic Regulations.
- In the event of a discrepancy between the regulations written here and those appearing in the Maccabiah Basic Regulations, the regulations written here will prevail, apply and be binding.