

CONDITIONS OF CONTEST

1 - This tournament is run on 12x8 boards. On the first round the organization will seed the teams at its discretion. Pairings for this round are made by seeded draw. From the 2nd up to the round before the last, all pairings are made according to the Swiss principle. On the last round pairings are made according to the Danish principle (1st against 2nd, 3rd against 4th, etc.). If ahead by more than 25 VPs before the last round, the leading team will be paired against the last (non bye), the 2nd against the 3rd, and so on.

2 - In case of an odd number of teams, a bye in each round will be designated between the teams with the lowest ranking. The bye team will be assigned a total of 18 VPs for the round. For the 1st round the TD will designate the bye team. No team will be bye twice.

3 - IMP results will be converted to VP´s on the international scale. Ties for prize-winning places will be broken first by difference of IMPs for and against. If a tie remains, then IMP quotient and total IMP scores are considered. If a tie still remains, teams will share the prize(s).

5 - Systems allowed according to the EBL Policy (no yellow or brown stickers).

6 - Time of play is 7 minutes per board. Penalties for late play are assigned on a "5 min/1 VP" basis. Very slow matches may have part of the boards withdrawn. After the end of the round both teams have 8 minutes to agree on the IMP score and handle the official results form, signed by both captains, to the results' desk. Delays are *automatically* penalized on a "3 min/1 VP" basis.

7 - For seating and other procedural errors, the General Portuguese Norms apply. For the special case where two teams seat on the same line for a whole match, if there is time for a replay, it will take place and both teams are penalized 3VP. If there are no conditions for the replay, the match is scored with 10 VPs for each team.

8 - Each time that an opponent is seriously inconvenienced by an incomplete or missing convention card, the offending side will be awarded a penalty of 6 IMPs, independently of any further adjustments on the result of the board.

9 - Appeals will be judged as quickly as possible. Pending appeals will not affect the pairings for subsequent rounds. A deposit of 35 € will be required from the appealing part. The deposit will be forfeited if the appeals committee judges the appeal to be frivolous or unjustified.

10 - The Regulations inserted in the official program and the Portuguese Tournament Norms will apply as a complement to the International Code of Bridge and the present Conditions of Contest. In case of conflict, priorities are: 1) International Code ('97 edition), WBF adendas and Code of Practice; 2) These Conditions of Contest; 3) Regulations; 4) Portuguese Norms. All doubtful cases will be judged by the Tournament Direction and the Organization. The Chief TD is allowed to use 12C3 in order to restore equity, as recommended by the WBF Code of Practice

The Tournament Direction