



WORLD MIND SPORT GAMES

GENERAL CONDITIONS OF CONTEST For All Championships & Tournaments Held Under The Auspices Of the International Mind Sports Association

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1. Preamble

These Conditions of Contest are the standard regulations which apply to all disciplines held at the World Mind Sport Games, namely Bridge, Chess, Go and Draughts and, if applicable, Chinese Chess.

The individual disciplines may also issue Supplemental Conditions of Contest further to regulate particular World Championships in accordance with their characteristics.

In the event of any inconsistency between these Conditions of Contest and any Supplemental Conditions of Contest, the Supplemental Conditions of Contest shall prevail.

Expressions used in these Conditions of Contest and not defined shall have their ordinary meaning in the terminology of the relevant discipline). In the event of any doubt or dispute as to such meaning, the decision of the Tournament Rules and Regulations Committee for the discipline concerned shall be final and conclusive. The singular shall include the plural and vice-versa and reference to one gender shall include the other.

2. Definitions For The General Conditions Of Contest

Unless repugnant to the context or obvious meaning, the following expressions where used in these Conditions of Contest shall have the following meanings:

2.1 *IMSA*

Means the International Mind Sports Association, uniting the four Federations for the traditional Mind Sports :

- The World Bridge Federation (WBF)
- The World Chess Federation (FIDE)
- The World Draughts Federation (FMJD)
- The International GO Federation (IGF)

The International Mind Sports Association was created in April 2005 under the aegis of the General Association of International Sports Federations (GAISF)

2.2 *Overall Co-ordinator*

Means the co-ordinator who will oversee the organisation of all the disciplines played in the World Mind Sport Games. His responsibilities include ensuring that the common needs and goals of all disciplines are met.

2.3 *Chief Tournament Directors / Referees / Arbiters and Assistant Chief Tournament Directors /Referees / Arbiters*

mean the respective Directors, Referees or Arbiters so designated by the discipline concerned for a World Championship.

2.4 Director / Referee / Arbiters or Tournament Director / Tournament Referee/ Tournament Arbiters

means a Director or Referee or Arbiters as defined in the Regulations or Laws of the individual disciplines, appointed for a World Championship.

2.5 Executive & Organising Committee

means the Executive & Organising Committees IMSA established under the Constitution of IMSA and also the local Organising Committees.

2.6 Host Organisation

means the Organisation which hosts a World Mind Sport Games.

2.7 Playing Area

the area defined by IMSA which may include the lobby in the immediate vicinity of the actual playing rooms, the toilets adjoining the playing rooms which are designated for the use of the players and any other rooms/lobby areas to be decided on site. Such areas will be identified to the participants through the Daily News and information bulletins at the Championships.

2.8 President

means the President of the IMSA.

2.9 Schedule of Play

means the schedule for the play for the World Mind Sport Games, either as contained in the Supplemental Conditions of Contest for the individual disciplines, or as subsequently determined by the organising committees of the disciplines.

2.10 Session

means a segment of play (as prescribed by the relevant Schedule of Play) after which scores or results are computed.

2.11 Supplemental Conditions of Contest

means the additional Conditions of Contest issued from time to time by the individual disciplines for the further regulation of the World Mind Sport Games

2.12 these Conditions of Contest

means these General Conditions of Contest.

2.13 Tournament Appeals Committees

- **"Committee"** means the Tournament Appeals Committees appointed for the World Mind Sport Games by the Presidents of the relevant disciplines.
- **"Chairman"** means the Chairman of the relevant Tournament Appeals Committee or his designee

2.14 *Tournament Rules and Regulations Committee, Tournament Appeals Committee and Credentials Committee*

mean the respective committees constituted either generally or specifically for the World Mind Sport Games.

2.15 *World Mind Sport Games*

means any event so designated by IMSA from time to time and if the context permits, also means the totality of such events scheduled for play at a particular site. The disciplines concerned are: Bridge, Chess, Draughts and GO. Chinese Chess (Xianggi) may also be included.

3. Conditions Of Entry

3.1 *General*

The World Mind Sport Games are conducted under the auspices of IMSA and all events within the Games shall be played in accordance with the current Laws or Regulations for that specific discipline.

These Conditions of Contest, and any Supplemental Conditions of Contest, supplement any such Laws and Regulations.

3.2 *Media*

By participating in the World Mind Sport Games, each National Organisation and its contestants agree that all or part of any event may be filmed, recorded, or otherwise documented or publicized at the discretion of the governing body for that sport.

3.3 *Competition Requirement*

Each National Organisation agrees that in the interest of promoting goodwill in the world, and for the proper conduct of the World Mind Sport Games, it shall instruct its contestants that they must compete against all other contestants. Entry in the World Mind Sport Games and subsequent refusal to play against any other team or contestant as required by the Schedule of Play shall result in immediate disqualification of any team, pair or individual refusing to play. Such disqualification shall extend for the balance of the World Mind Sport Games. Furthermore, the offending contestant(s) and their National Organisation shall be subject to suspension from participation in any future event conducted under the auspices of the IMSA (including future World Mind Sport Games) for such period as IMSA in its discretion shall determine. The governing body for the contestant's discipline may also in its discretion suspend the contestant and their National Organisation from participation in any future event conducted under its auspices.

3.4 *Political Statements*

Each National Organisation further agrees that for the proper conduct of the World Mind Sport Games it shall also instruct its competitors that at no time may they make any form of public political statement or comment, either at or in relation to the event. Any contestant(s)

making such a statement may be disqualified from the event or events in which they participated or intend to participate and shall be subject to suspension from participation in any future event conducted under the auspices of IMSA, for such period as IMSA in its discretion shall determine. The governing body for the contestant's discipline may also in its discretion suspend the contestant and their National Organisation from participation in any future event conducted under its auspices.

3.5 Invitation to Participate

Participation in a World Mind Sport Games is by invitation from the governing body relating to that discipline only. Furthermore, no player shall be eligible to compete unless his name has been submitted in writing by his National Authority for invitation by the governing body for his discipline - see also Section 4.

4. Eligibility

4.1 General

To be eligible for participation in the World Mind Sport Games a competitor must comply with the Olympic Charter as well as with the rules of the governing body for his discipline, and must be entered by his National Organisation. He must notably respect the spirit of fair play and ethics, and behave accordingly.

4.2 Eligibility (or Credentials) Committees

It is expected that the Supplemental Conditions of Contest for each individual sport will contain details of the procedures to be followed by the Eligibility (or Credentials) Committee for that discipline, which will also include confirmation that the eligibility requirements (see also 4.3 below) for the sport in question are adhered to.

4.3 Eligibility Requirements

The Credentials Committee must ensure that each nominated contestant satisfies the birth and residence requirements of the overall Governing Organisation to which the National Organisation nominating him belongs and also satisfies the eligibility requirements of any by-laws or statutes laid down by such Organisation.

4.4 Over-Riding Eligibility Regulations:

The Supplemental Conditions for a specific event may specify over-riding Eligibility Regulations based on residency qualifications which prevail for that particular championship. In this event players should be fully aware that by competing for a country other than that of their nationality (i.e. for which they hold a passport), they may jeopardise their eligibility to participate in a subsequent Olympic Event or Olympic Qualifier.

5. Official Language

English is the official language of the World Mind Sport Games. During a match the players may converse only in English unless both captains (in team games) or all four players at the table (in pairs events) agree to use some other common language at their own risk. If necessary, each captain is responsible for the provision of an interpreter for translation into English. Chinese may be used by players participating in the Chinese Chess Tournaments.

6. Ethics And Deportment

All contestants in the World Mind Sport Games are required to conform at all times to the highest standards of ethics and deportment. IMSA expects all teams and partnerships to play to win at all times and in all circumstances. All contestants (including non-playing captains) are also expected to accept the decisions of their Tournament Appeals Committee in a sportsmanlike manner.

7. Anti-Doping Regulations

It is mandatory for all participants to follow the Anti-Doping Regulations pertaining to their discipline, details of which will be published by the governing body.

8. Dress Code

National Organisations are asked to take note of the recognition of Mind Sports by the IOC and requests that players should, at all times, be dressed appropriately; this is particularly the case at the Opening Ceremony and at the Prize Giving Ceremony or Victory Banquet, when it is expected that teams should at least be uniformly dressed even if a team uniform is not available and that individual players should be smartly dressed, with a jacket and tie for men and an appropriate equivalent style of dress for women. During play appropriate dress would, for example, be an open-necked shirt, or a smart polo or sweatshirt worn with trousers or skirt as appropriate.

9. Restrictions

The following restrictions apply to the playing areas (see definition of these areas in Section 2.7)

9.1 Smoking and Alcohol

Smoking and the consumption of alcoholic beverages of any nature in the playing area is prohibited. No player may leave the playing area in order to smoke or consume alcohol before the end of his match.

Any player or team official smoking or consuming alcohol before, during or after the session in these areas will result in his team being fined in accordance with the regulations laid down by the individual disciplines. Constant violation of this regulation will result in the player being prohibited from playing and in the team official not being admitted into the playing area.

9.2 Mobile Phones, Pagers and other electronic equipment

Mobile telephones, pagers or other electronic equipment may not be brought into the playing area. Any player or team official bringing such an item into these areas will be fined in accordance with the regulations laid down by the individual discipline. Any such penalties are mandatory. Constant violation of this regulation will result in the player being prohibited from playing and in the team official not being admitted into the playing area..

The Chief Tournament Director, Referee or Arbiter for the discipline in question may, at his discretion, prohibit a player from bringing other equipment into the playing area.

Anyone entering the playing area for any of the participating disciplines, for whatever reason, may be required to comply with procedures put in place by IMSA for the detection of such electronic equipment.

See also Section 0 for restrictions pertaining to spectators.

10. Disqualification from any WMSG Championship event or Tournament

Should a team, pair or individual player be disqualified as a result of a decision made by any person or committee with the authority to do so, no refund of the entry fees, either in part or in whole, will be made.

11. Media Presentation

Players are required to participate in any public presentation of matches, interviews etc arranged by IMSA, including video, Internet, TV, radio or any other media presentation.

12. Forfeits In Team Tournaments

If a team is unable to play or complete a match, the relevant Committee for the discipline may find that team to be in default and declare the match forfeited. The team in forfeit shall score zero for that match. The team winning the forfeited match shall be credited with whatever score the relevant Committee shall consider to be equitable in all the circumstances.

13. Attendance In Playing Rooms

Subject to any supplementary regulations made by IMSA or special permission of the President of the relevant discipline, only the following are permitted to enter the playing rooms:

- a) participants assigned to play in that room;
- b) Tournament Directors, Referees or Arbiters;
- c) personnel needed to operate the Championships, including assigned recorders, scorers, timers, caddies and other personnel required by the discipline;
- d) the President of IMSA and the Presidents of the disciplines governing bodies;
- e) Chairmen of the other Committees directly associated with the organisation of the sport being played;

- f) members of any other Committees 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 or any of the Organising Committees of the participating disciplines;
- i) a maximum of two members of the Daily Bulletin staff for each discipline, to be named by the Editor of that section of the Bulletin;
- j) a maximum of eight approved journalists for each discipline who have been accredited by the President (or his designee) of the relevant Press Association and ratified by the Chairman of the WBF Credentials Committee or his designee;
- k) one member of the World Championship Book staff for each discipline to be named by its Editor.

The above may only enter the playing area for the discipline in which they are directly involved.

The IMSA Executive Committee or the Executive Committees or Councils for the relevant disciplines may increase the number of the approved journalists specified in (j) above if the space available and the security conditions permit.

Subject to conditions of play, the President of IMSA or the President of the relevant discipline may permit spectators to watch matches in the playing rooms, in accordance with any regulations specified by the discipline concerned.
Restrictions

The following restrictions apply to the playing areas (see definition of these areas in Section 2.7)

Spectators are not permitted to smoke or consume any alcoholic drinks these areas, nor may they bring mobile telephones, pagers or any other electronic equipment or device into these areas. Spectators contravening any of these regulations will be required to leave the playing area immediately and will not be permitted to return for the remainder of the Championship without specific permission from the Chief Tournament Director, Referee or Arbiter.

The Chief Tournament Director, Referee or Arbiter may, at his discretion, prohibit a spectator from bringing other equipment into the playing area.

Anyone entering the playing area may be required to comply with procedures put in place by IMSA for the detection of such electronic equipment.

14. Appeals Of These Conditions Of Contest

An appeal on an interpretation of these Conditions of Contest or any Supplemental Conditions of Contest or any technical operation of the World Mind Sport Games shall be made in writing by Team Captain, (or designee) or players in a pairs event. Such appeal shall be turned over to the Tournament Director , Referee or Arbiter who will then file the appeal with the Chairman of the Tournament Rules and Regulations Committee or the President of the relevant discipline. Unless the Chairman and the President are of joint opinion (which shall be final) that the appeal has no merit, the appeal shall be heard by the members of the IMSA Executive Committee and the members of the Tournament Rules and Regulations Committee for the discipline present at the site of the World

Championship, sitting as a single body. The President shall preside over this meeting and decisions reached shall be final.

15. Eligibility For Awards

Gold, Silver and Bronze Medals will normally be awarded for the WMSG Championships. Each discipline has the right to establish its own scale of awards (as, for example, Master Point or similar awards) in addition to this, in accordance with its own Awards plans.

In all teams events, the winning team in the final will be awarded the Gold Medal and/or Trophy. The losing finalists will be awarded the Silver Medal and the Bronze Medal will either be awarded to the best ranking team in a Swiss event or there may be a play off where a Knock Out format is used (details of which will be given in the Supplemental Conditions of Contest for the relevant discipline) for the Bronze Medal, together with any other methods that may be used to determine these awards.

In all pairs and individual events, the winning pair or individual shall be awarded the Gold Medal and/or Trophy or prize, the second placed pair or individual shall be awarded the Silver Medal and the third placed pair or individual the Bronze Medal. In the event of any different methods of determining these awards, they shall be detailed in the Supplemental Conditions of Contest for the relevant discipline.

16. Trophies

An overall Trophy will be awarded to the country with the greatest number of Gold Medals in all disciplines.

In addition Individual Sports Trophies will be awarded to the country with the greatest number of Gold Medals in each discipline.

In the event of a tie for any of the above Trophies, the number of silver medals will also be taken into account, and if there is still a tie, the number of bronze medals.

17. Authority of the IMSA Executive Committee

The IMSA Executive Committee reserves the authority to modify or supplement these Conditions of Contest at any time.

18. Responsibility of IMSA

IMSA schedules a World Mind Sport Games to occur at a particular time and place. However, IMSA makes no warranty to any participating country, team, pair or person, that any particular World Mind Sport Games will take place as scheduled and accepts no responsibility for any loss or expense should it not do so.

In accordance the IMSA Constitution, the Conditions of Contest, together with any other Conditions published by IMSA, are governed by Swiss Law. Any claim may be arbitrated at the sole discretion of IMSA in the Court of Arbitration under the Laws of Switzerland.

19. Appendix 7 – Contact Addresses and Websites

19.1 The IMSA President – Mr José Damiani

International Mind Sports Association
40, Rue François 1er.
75008 - Paris, France
Fax: +33 1 40 70 14 51
Email: jdamiani@worldbridgefed.com

19.2 IMSA Executive and Organizing Committee:

José Damiani - President - WBF President
George Makropoulos - Deputy President - FIDE Deputy President
David Jarrett – Treasurer - FIDE Executive Director
Erik Puyt - General Secretary - IGF Vice President
Jean-Claude Schupp - Honorary Secretary
Patrick Choy – Vice president - WBF Vice President
Valery Zakoptelov – Marketing Vice President

19.3 The WBF President – Mr José Damiani

(see address above)

19.4 The FIDE President

His Excellency Kirsan Ilyumzhinov
c/o FIDE Secretariat
9 Siggrou Avenue
Athens, Greece 11743
Phone: (30)210-921 20 47
Fax(30)210-921 28 59
Email: office@fide.com

19.5 The FMJD President

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19.6 The IGF President

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E-mail: igf@nihonkiin.or.jp (General Secretary - SHIGENO Yuki)

19.7 Websites:

The WBF Website: www.worldbridge.org

The FIDE Website: www.fide.com

The FMJD Website: www.fmjd.org

The IGF Website: www.intergofed.org

The official Website of the Olympic Movement:

www.olympic.org

The official Website of the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA)

www.wada-ama.org/