

**Minutes of the WBF Laws Committee Meeting  
Istanbul, Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> October 2004 at 14.15h**

Attending members and 'kibitzers'

Ton Kooijman	Chairman
Max Bavin	Chief Tournament Director
Ralph Cohen	
Joan Gerard	
Alvin Levy	
Antonio Riccardi	
William Schoder	
Jeanne van den Meiracker	
John Wignall	

Observer: Tadayoshi Nakatani (Japan)

### **1. Opening**

The Chairman welcomed everybody and reminded members that the secretary of the committee: Grattan Endicott was taken to hospital for surgery. His condition at the moment was quite satisfactory.

### **2. Law 16C**

A question has arisen concerning withdrawn calls not substituted. L16C seems to say that it only applies when there is a substituted call. The committee decided that the words 'may be' in the first sentence of L16C should also apply for the substituted call.

### **3. The drafting committee for the new laws**

John Wignall shortly reported about the progress made in this committee. He expects to have a version which can be presented and discussed in a broader setting in the spring of next year.

### **4. Several items have come from the drafting committee required the LC to give an advice**

- a) Treatment of average plus/minus in pairs scoring.  
What score should be given if a pair can't play more than a few boards in one or more sessions? The common feeling was that giving 60% in some cases is too generous. One idea was to only give a pair average plus when at the beginning of the session it is supposed to play the board and for some reason isn't able to do so. Some felt that the average plus score should be taken away completely and the score be based on the boards the pair did play. The majority felt that a pair is entitled to average plus for a board it was supposed to play at the beginning of a session, but for a maximum of 1 or 2 boards. The general feeling was that the sponsoring organization needs to describe the desired conditions, with the laws giving a useful default description.

The award in teams of four play when giving average plus should stay as 3 imps. But in other imp scoring events the SO should be able to deviate from this. When a pair receives average minus and average plus scores in a session the average minus score should be included in the session score before deciding whether a pair is entitled to a higher score than 60%. And vice versa.

- b) The question was asked whether a penalty for a revoke could be given by a score adjustment instead of penalty tricks. The general feeling was that such a solution is only reasonable if other irregularities get the same approach.
  - c) The feeling was that the present laws deal well with played cards and that a more detailed description of default meanings of flawed announcement is not necessary.
5. There not being other issues raised the meeting ended at 15.30h.