



Minutes of the Virtual Online Annual

General Meeting 2020

26th December at 11 a.m. via Zoom meeting

Office Bearers Present:

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| 1. Mr. S. Sundareshan, President | 2. Mr. Anand Samant, Hon. Gen. Secretary |
| 3. Mr. Nirmal Rajagopalan, Hon. Treasurer | 4. Mr. Kawaljit Singh, Vice President |
| 5. Mr. Arijit Guha, Vice President | 6. Mr. Krishan Goyal, Vice President |
| 7. Mr. Hemant Pande, Jt. Secretary | 8. Mr. TC Pant, Jt. Secretary |

Members Present:

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| 1. Mr. Jignesh Parikh(Gujarat) | 2. Mr. Arijit Guha (West Bengal) |
| 3. Mrs. Srihari Varghese (Tamilnadu) | 4. .Mr Tapas Biswal (Odisha) |
| 5. Mr. Govinder Singh (Chandigarh) | 6. Mr. Ajay Kumar Singh (Bihar) |
| 7. Mr. S Vaidyanathan (Karnataka) | 14. Mr. Shantanu Rastogi (UttarPradesh) |
| 9. Mr. Hatinder Panwar (Himachal) | 10. Mr. Sanjay Chakraborty (Jharkhand) |
| 11. Mr. Kuldeep Khana (Punjab) | 12. Mr. Mugesh Kumar (Puducherry) |
| 13. Mr. Keshav Prasad Mathur (Rajasthan) | 14. Mr. Somi Reddy (Telengana) |
| 15. Mr. Hemant Pande(Maharashtra) | 16. Mr. TC Pant (Delhi) |
| 17. Mr.A Sridhar Tamil Nadu | 17. Mr. Jitesh Agarwal (Madhya Pradesh) |

Items Discussed

The President called the meeting order. He briefed the outlook of the current year with the COVID-19 situation has been bleak on account of several restrictions in the normal routines of life. However, the bridge sport has had a soothing for its ability to be played online with several players participating regularly in online tournaments held during the pandemic.

As Bridge as been included in Asian Games, 2022, the federation will be working towards its upcoming selection policies and for coaching of the players to prepare the Indian Contingent for this event. In addition, with the financial support from the Sports Authority of India, a roadmap has been drawn for the current and next year to embark the activities to be undertaken as part of its annual training program.

He thanked the representatives of all state associations for their continuous support to the federation in promoting the sport through their regular programs as well organizing the various national tournaments.

A special round of applause was given to **Mr. Kawaljit Singh** for his long standing with the federation right from the preparations of the World Championships 2015 and towards the promotion of bridge in the women circuit. He also thanked **Mr. Devendrath** for his support in the bridge activities conducted in South India.

Finally, the President expressed his gratitude to **Mr. Nirmal Rajagoplan** who had been very instrumental in various financial affairs of the federation very meticulously and efficiently.

The Hon Secretary was requested to take over the points of the Agenda

1. Confirmation of Minutes: The previous AGM (held on 4th August at Benaras Club, Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh) Minutes that had been circulated were accepted unanimously.

2. Annual Report: The Secretary updated the committee that that BFI has witnessed a significant improvement in terms of the activities conducted domestically and internationally for the promotion of the players and sport in this calendar year. Under the dignified guidance of our esteemed President, the federation has been successful to participate our Indian teams at four major international events including some foreign exposure events and has added four coaching/selection camps to its existing calendar for training and development of the players.

It has been a success for our Indian Teams to secure medals at each senior international event as Indian Seniors Team displayed their outstanding performance at the **World Bridge Championships, Wuhan by securing Bronze medal.**

India also shined high in the **APBF Championships, Singapore** and **BFAME Championships, Jordan** where it secured **2 medals and 4 medals** respectively.

The federation has also actively planned the framework for its preparations to the next Asian Games with Sports Authority of India thereby designing its Annual Competition events to formulate a proper process to evaluate the athletes as per the SAI recommendations.

On the Juniors/Sub Juniors front, the federation had successfully conducted one national championship and coaching camp. In addition, **full financial support by the federation solely was provided for participation at 6th World Youth Bridge Championships, Croatia.**

On domestic front, the federation with assistance from SAI has conducted one senior camp and 1 junior camp as preparation for international events. Most of the camps had been productive for the athletes.

The **National Ranking Points Scheme** which was introduced from Jan 2019 has been a base tool for conducting the Selection Trials 2020 and will be reviewed further for the upcoming calendar year.

The Secretary's report approval motion was proposed by **Mr. Keshav Mathu** and seconded by **Mr. Stantanu Rastogi**

3. Treasurer's Report, Balance Sheet and Financial Statements:

The Balance Sheet and Financial Statements were circulated among the General Body. The Treasurer updated the members that the current year has witnessed a significant increase of financial activities

across the international and domestic exposures as detailed cost centre wise in its financial statements. Further with the Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) receipts received from our patrons as well the general donations, BFI has initiated a separate dedicated spending towards the development of Bridge Education Centre at Lokmanya Seva Sangh Premises, Mumbai which will be operation from January 2021 as per CSR policy.

The Financial Statements approval motion was proposed by **Mr. Hemant Pande** and seconded by **Mr. T.C. Pant**

4. To elect the Office bearers of the Federation for two years; 2020- 2022.

The President requested the Returning Officer **Mr. T.K. Banerji** to address the members on the proceedings of the elections.

Mr. T.K. Banerji informed the members that the overall process was quite satisfactory. As per the prescribed time-table, nominations were to close on 20th. December, 2020. There were eleven vacancies in all: One President, Six Vice Presidents, One Secretary, One Treasurer, and Two Joint Secretaries. There were eleven nominations – exactly one for each of these offices – received upto midnight of 20th. December 2020.

These were found to have been duly nominated, seconded, and consented to by the candidates. The list of the nominees, together with the names of their proposers and seconders, were also scrutinised by the Secretariat of the BFI to ensure that they had complied with the rules, and had fulfilled all the eligibility criteria.

Having been found to be in order, the list was circulated by the BFI to all the Member Bridge Associations, for their perusal and consideration, on 22nd. December, 2020.

None of the candidates has since withdrawn his/her consent to serve on the offices to which they have been duly nominated. As the number of candidates corresponds exactly with the number of offices to be filled, it follows that no balloting is necessary, and all candidates are to be declared to have been elected unopposed.

Thus the following are **hereby declared elected unopposed to the posts indicated against each name for the BFI Executive Committee 2020-22:**

PRESIDENT	S SUNDARESHAN (KS000900)
VICE PRESIDENTS	1. KRISHAN GOYAL (PBA00002) 2. MANEESH BAHUGUNA (D0000495) 3. SARTHAK BEHURIA (HP000049) 4. DEEN BANDHU CHAUDHARY (RJ000405) 5. ANAND KS SAMANT (BM226) 6. ARIJIT GUHA (WB3812)
Hon. GENERAL SECRETARY	CHANDRAKANTH M KULKARNI (KS0152)
Hon. TREASURER	HEMANT PANDE MN 000091

JOINT SECRETARIES

1. TRIBHUWAN CHANDRA PANT (D282)

2. MONICA JAJOO (D463)

To constitute Technical/ Development & National Laws Commission Committees for two years:

It was proposed to appoint Mr. Sudhir Aggarwal as Chairman of the National Laws Commission which was unanimously accepted by the members. With regard to the Technical Committee, it was proposed for the New Executive Committee to make the necessary appointment as deemed fit.

5. Appointment of Statutory Auditors

A resolution to appoint **Messrs. GK Choksi & Co.** based in Ahmedabad as the statutory auditor of Bridge Federation was proposed which was unanimously accepted by all members. The audit fees and other services obtained will be as per the terms of engagement.

6. Any significant matter reported by member to the Secretary or motion to be passed in AGM:

No significant matter was reported to the Secretary by any member or any motion to be passed from the issue of notice period till the commencement of AGM.

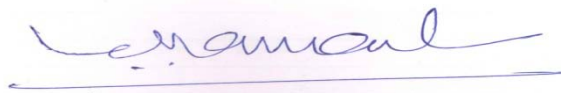
7. Other Matters

A member inquired about the current Masterpoint Scheme 2020 regarding the necessary eligibility of the new members to register for the masterpoint ID for playing at local tournaments. The Hon Secretary explained the process of the Masterpoint Scheme as well requested him to forward a detailed case to the Masterpoint Secretariat for details. Further to this, it was clarified that masterpoints fees are paid by players to be eligible to participate in BFI national tournaments.

A Bridge Curriculum as adopted by the federation was requested to be shared by the members for the promotion of Bridge in various sectors of the country. Also, a request to appoint a panel of certified coaches was suggested. To this, the Hon Secretary informed that BFI has adopted the Fred Gitelman Bridge Teaching program as part of its curriculum to start with. However, for the advanced courses, the Bridge Education and Teaching Program will provide the necessary inputs.

A member had raised a point regarding the constitutional provisions as per the current prescribed guideline of MOA of BFI for its members, executive members. In response, it was advised that as per the National Sports Code 2011, revised guidelines will be implemented by the new committee as directed by the Sports Ministry before 31st March, 2021.

The online meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the chair.



Anand Ks Samant
Honorary General Secretary