



**World Bridge Federation**  
an International Sports Federation (IF)  
recognized by the International Olympic Committee

Jan Kamras  
President

To the: WBF Zone Presidents  
WBF Member NBOs  
WBF Executive Council  
WBF Youth Committee

## 18<sup>th</sup> World Youth Teams Championships 2023

Dear Presidents, dear Friends

In the category “better late than never” we have the pleasure to announce that these Championships will be held at the NH Eindhoven Conference Centre Koningshof in Veldhoven, the Netherlands **July 31<sup>st</sup> to August 7<sup>th</sup>**, with Registration and Opening Ceremony on July 30<sup>th</sup>. It will be preceded by the European Youth Transnationals at the same location. We have all been waiting for the resumption of this, arguably the most important Youth Championships on the calendar, with the most recent edition having been staged as far back as 2018. We all know the reasons for the delay.

We are negotiating a discounted, full board, price at the venue hotel where it is expected that all participants and staff will stay.

In addition to the usual U26, U26 Women, U21 and U16 Categories this year will see the introduction of the new U31 Category. When introduced at the Zone 1 Championships last year it attracted the second highest participation of all the categories.

There are some very **important changes** compared to the past that we want to emphasize:

- Due to the delay caused by the pandemic, and to partly mitigate the adverse effect this has had for some players who were deprived of the possibility to represent their country at these events, we have exceptionally decided to allow a maximum of two players per team to be one year too old compared to the usual age limitations. We informed you of this already in our 1st information letter dated August 31st, 2022. It specifies the exact age restrictions that will apply for each category, and we include that letter with this communication for easy reference.
- Participation in some Categories used to be “by invitation of the WBF” rather than based on specific, pre-determined, quotas. From now on participation in all Categories will be based on pre-determined Zonal quotas, just as is the case for



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the “adult” championships. How each Zone selects the countries to fill their quota is up to them, as long as the process is fair, transparent and not in breach of WBF regulations.

- In an effort to encourage as large participation as possible in all Categories we have decided to allow **24 teams in each Category**, just as in the “adult” championships. The Zonal quotas will be as follows for each Category:

Zone 1: 8 teams; Zone 2: 3 teams; Zone 3: 2 teams; Zone 4: 1 team; Zone 5: 1 team; Zone 6: 4 teams; Zone 7: 2 teams and Zone 8: 2 teams. The host country has the right to enter a team in addition to its Zone’s quota, unless already qualified within the quota.

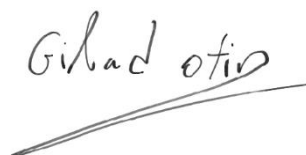
- In case a Zone is unable to fill its quota reserve spots will be allocated in the following order: Categories U26 and U21: 1-6-4-1-3-1. Categories U26W, U31 and U16: 1-6-1-1.
- In case a country has entered two teams in a Category, and they both qualify for the Quarterfinals, they must face each other in the Quarterfinal (e.g. USA).
- The format will be a 5-day full Round Robin qualification followed by a 3-day Knockout stage. Every reasonable effort will be made to maintain this even if a Category has lower participation than 24 teams, mainly by adjusting the number of boards per Round Robin match, but the WBF reserves the right to alter the format if judged necessary to ensure a fair competition.

We will provide further details and Conditions of Contest in due course.

Best regards.



**Jan Kamras**  
President



**Gilad Ofir**  
Chairman WBF Youth Committee

10<sup>th</sup> January 2023