



ΚΥΠΡΙΑΚΗ ΟΜΟΣΠΟΝΔΙΑ
ΜΠΡΙΤΖ
CYPRUS BRIDGE FEDERATION

CONSTITUTION

[This is a translation from the original text which is in Greek. In case of discrepancies, the original Greek text prevails.]

(Includes the Amendment of Article 5 which
was approved on the 18.10.11)

18 OCTOBER 2011

CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE 1

A. NAME

The Federation is established by the name of **Cyprus Bridge Federation**.

B. LOCATION

The location of the Cyprus Bridge Federation is Nicosia.

C. MEMBERSHIP IN INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS

The Federation represents the game internationally, in accordance with the current regulations of the respective International Sports Federation and the International Olympic Committee.

The Federation will seek immediately to become a member of the International and the European Bridge Federations. The Federation, by a decision of the General Assembly, may seek to become a member of other International Federations with same objectives and to register or withdraw from them.

D. RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN FEDERATION AND ITS MEMBERS

It is expressly forbidden to the Federation to intervene in any manner in the administrative and financial autonomy of its Member-Associations (Clubs) or to assign whichever of its rights in favour of any other Association.

ARTICLE 2 – OBJECTIVES

- A. (a) The Federation's objectives are to promote and to implement programs for the development, the spread and furtherment of Bridge as an Olympic game, the popularization of the game, to compete nobly, to attract youth to athletics and in general, to educate youth socially and culturally through the game, as well as to develop friendship and cooperation among people in order to foster peace worldwide. To promote and implement measures for the elimination of violence from athletic grounds as well as banning the use of any method of bodily or nervous stimulation which may bring about a technical change to the natural competitive ability of the athletes.
- (b) Furthermore, the Federation will develop and implement programs for the furtherance, spread and promotion of various other forms of the above-mentioned game that are not contrary to the purposes of the Federation.
- B. The Federation operates with the objective of promoting athletics in Cyprus both within as well as outside schools. The objective of the Federation is purely athletics.

- C. (a) For the said objectives, the Federation cooperates with the competent authorities and particularly with the Ministry of Education and Culture, which is the competent Ministry for dealing with issues of athletics, with the Cyprus Athletics Organisation, with the Cyprus Olympic Committee and others.
- (b) The Federation, considering as its duty to contribute positively and essentially to the athletic planning for Cyprus, submits suggestions to the competent authorities, as well as conclusions, comments and proposals for the development, spread and promotion of the game of Bridge.

ARTICLE 3 – MEANS OF ATTAINING ITS OBJECTIVES

The Federation pursues and attains its objectives by any and all lawful means and in particular:

- (a) By supervising and inspecting the Cypriot Member-Associations of the Federation, and by communicating with organizations with similar objectives.
- (b) By cooperating on athletic matters with schools, with the armed forces and with other bodies that have a large membership.
- (c) By communicating with the International Federations, the Associations and the Organisations which have same or similar objectives and by cooperating with them for organizing athletic competitions of general importance to the game of Bridge.
- (d) By declaring, organising, carrying out and supervising the Pancyprian Championships, Cup Competitions and other high level Bridge events in Cyprus and internationally.
- (e) By publicizing and promoting the game of Bridge.
- (f) By the introduction of lessons in Bridge in the educational field at every level and sector.
- (g) By providing the training and further training of Instructors and Competition Directors and Trainers and through its participation in all matters relating to competitions and their organisation.
- (h) By issuing special publications, a yearbook, a magazine of the Federation, the publication of general and special regulations as well as publications on issues regarding Bridge, of its purposes and in general by issuing any other useful publication.
- (i) By cooperating with Cypriot or foreign Athletic Authorities and Organizations of any kind and, with Government departments.
- (j) By establishing national teams of young men, young women, men and, women.

- (ia) By organising official or friendly competitions at a local, district and pancyprian level between the Member-Associations as well as international day events.
- (ib) By creating schools for the teaching of the technique and rules of Bridge.
- (ic) By the Federation's participation and by its registration as a member in like or similar European, Mediterranean, Balkan, International and Olympic Groups, Associations or Federations and their representation by the Federation in Cyprus.
- (id) By the establishment of building facilities to serve the needs of the Cyprus Bridge Federation.
- (ie) By the formation of Technical and other committees for the promotion, development and spread of the game of Bridge.
- (if) By the establishment of schools for Umpires-Judges and Instructors, as well as by studying proposals for amendments of the Technical regulations towards their improvement. The Federation may request the Cyprus Athletics Organisation to establish an Arbitration Committee and define its competences and powers.
- (ig) By the moral and, if possible, material assistance to Member-Associations, to Athletes, Umpires and, Instructors for the purpose of promoting the game of Bridge.
- (ih) By informing the game's fans, verbally or in writing, of specific activities, by issuing instructions, circulars and regulations.
- (ii) By the participation of representative Cypriot teams in International, Balkan, Mediterranean, European, Global and Olympic Games.
- (ij) By establishing national Teams and by their participation in the relevant Championships and Conferences in Cyprus or abroad.
- (ik) By defining and verifying the necessary qualifications of the Instructors and of the Umpires.
- (il) By exercising Disciplinary powers.
- (im) By carrying out investigations on scientific or Technical issues relevant to the game and to athletics in general.
- (in) By publications and lectures for the spread of the game and the development of a friendly to the game, competitive spirit.
- (io) By discussions, by informative campaigns, seminars, exhibitions, publications, by the projection of films, excursions, announcing of competitions and awarding prizes, by establishing a library, by cooperating on an equal basis with other Federations that pursue similar objectives, by arranging social events.

ARTICLE 4 – ESTABLISHMENT OF THE FEDERATION

The Federation consists of the Cypriot Bridge Associations, which were lawfully established and operate in the Republic and which promote the game, improving education in and out of school and, athletics in general in Cyprus.

ARTICLE 5 – REGISTRATION OF MEMBERS

- A.** Members of the Federation are all the Associations, which were lawfully established and are lawfully operating in the Republic, have their location in Cyprus and promote the game of Bridge. Registration of an Association with the Federation is not permitted, if its constitution does not expressly provide for the establishment of a Bridge section and or its relevant sections have not been established in accordance with the procedure, which is expressly described in its constitution.
- B.** Registration of an Association in the ranks of the Federation is not permitted if the Association does not comply concurrently with all the following preconditions:
- (a) Does not submit a certified copy of its constitution and of any internal regulation.
 - (b) Does not submit a list of the Members of its Board giving their names, addresses and other personal details.
 - (c) Does not submit, along with its application to the Federation for registration, at least ten (10) applications of its members for the game of Bridge.
 - (d) Does not submit a formal document of authorization of a permanent representative and of one deputy representative giving full details of their personal details.
 - (e) Does not pay the annual subscription.
- C.**
- (a) The Federation's Board of Directors is obliged to notify the interested Association of its decision within thirty (30) days from the date of submission of its application, or from the date of the service of the application to the Federation.
 - (b) The interested Association may submit to the Supreme Judicial Committee of Athletics an objection against a decision of the Federation's Board of Directors to refuse registration. The interested Association can exercise the same rights in the event that there is no response to their application within the period prescribed in paragraph C(a) of the present Article.
- D** Any amendment to the constitution of an Association or in the composition of its management should be notified to the Federation within fifteen (15) days.
- E** For the purpose of facilitating the creation of Bridge Clubs in Districts and/ or areas where there are practical problems in the Formation and Registration of Clubs in accordance with the provisions of the "Registration of Associations and Institutions Act", a new class of members, "Associated Members", is hereby created.

Any groups having Bridge as their main object, may become Associated Members, after submitting a relevant application to the Federation. These Members, once approved by the Federation, will have the full support of the Federation, but will have neither the right of representation in the Board of Directors, nor the right of vote in the General Meetings of the Federation.

ARTICLE 6 – REMOVAL OF MEMBER-ASSOCIATIONS (CLUBS)

- A.** A member of the Federation may be removed from the ranks of the Federation:
- (a) By a written declaration of the Association that it wishes to withdraw.
 - (b) By reason of non-compliance with the provisions of the constitution and the internal regulations of the Federation.
 - (c) By reason of loss of its sporting identity.
 - (d) By reason of not having any activity or not having taken any part in competitions organized by the Federation over a period of two years.
 - (e) If for at least three consecutive years it does not have in a sporting activity at least ten (10) members taking part simultaneously at one official competition.
 - (f) If a Member-Association through its actions or its omissions is proven to harm the purpose and aims of the Federation.
 - (g) Through non-payment of its annual subscription to the Federation after being given written notice through registered mail.
- B.**
- (a) The Board of Directors of the Federation recommends the removal of a Member-Association by a decision, duly reasoned and, taken after the Member- Association has submitted a written or verbal explanation.
 - (b) The Board of Directors, in writing, gives the grounds for the proposed removal and invites the Member-Association to present its case The said invitation is notified to the Member-Association at least seven (7) working days before the date specified for the Association's defence. In the event that the Member- Association does not respond within the prescribed time period, the procedure continues without its defense.
 - (c) (i) The General Assembly decides whether or not a Member-Association is removed by a majority vote of three-quarters (3/4) of its members present, provided there is a quorum.
(ii) The Member-Association being proposed for removal may be present and take part in the discussion, however, it may not vote.

ARTICLE 7 – THE COMPETITIVE PARTICIPATION OF SCHOOLS AND OTHERS

- A.** Schools, public or private, of general technical or professional, secondary, higher

or university education and military as well as organisations in the public or private sector, factory units, the Armed Forces, the Cyprus Police and the Fire Service, may participate in organized groups in any form of athletic competition.

B. The above groups do not take part in the General Assemblies of the Federation.

ARTICLE 8 – FEDERATION REVENUE

The revenue of the Federation consists of:

- A.**
- (a) Regular annual and extraordinary funding by the Cyprus Athletics Organisation.
 - (b) Regular annual and extraordinary funding by the Cyprus Olympic Committee.
 - (c) Funding by Ministries, Public Organisations, local government from funds provided for the development and promotion of athletics within the territory of their supervision and responsibility.
 - (d) Funding from any other source, contributions, donations and bequests.
 - (e) The annual subscription of Member-Associations, determined by the Board of Directors of the Federation.
 - (f) The proceeds from competitions, fetes or events organized by the Federation.
 - (g) The entry fees paid by Member-Associations, specific amounts for specific events, for their participation in competitions organized with the approval and the supervision of the Federation.
 - (h) Income from grants and advertising agreements that the Board of Directors enters into with natural or legal persons, in the public or private sector of non-profit or otherwise character.
 - (l) Income from agreements for television broadcasting rights, broadcasting by electronic mass media of events and competitions of national teams or activities carried out under the auspices of the Federation.
 - (j) Income from the percentage due to the Federation resulting from granting approval for advertising at Member-Associations, public appearances of their athletes or the placing of advertisements in their competition grounds where competitions or events take place under the auspices of the Federation.
- B.** Financial and technical assistance from the Cyprus Athletics Organisation.
- (a) Every year, the Federation submits to the Cyprus Athletics Organisation its approved budget along with a Report on the athletic activity of its sections as well as any other information reasonably required in order for the Cyprus Athletics Organisation to examine and determine its grant for that year.

- (b) The Federation uses any financial or Technical support given to it by the Cyprus Athletics Organisation solely for the purpose for which it was granted. The use of the financial or technical support provided by the Cyprus Athletics Organisation for any other purposes is prohibited.
- (c) The Federation recognizes the Cyprus Athletics Organisation's authority to investigate and examine the way in which the Federation makes use of its financial and technical support and it supplies to Cyprus Athletics Organisation any information required in order to facilitate a real and complete audit.
- (d) (i) The Federation gives the Cyprus Athletics Organisation account for the amounts received.
For any project or activity financed by the Cyprus Athletics Organisation, upon its completion, the Federation submits a full account.
- (ii) At the end of each financial year the Federation prepares a balance sheet and a profit and loss account, which it may, if so requested, submit duly audited to the Cyprus Athletics Organisation.

ARTICLE 9 – SUBSCRIPTIONS

- A.** The Board of Directors of the Federation determines the annual subscriptions and other charges for the Member-Associations.
- B.** The Board of Directors determines the percentages levied on profits resulting from competitions organized with the approval and supervision of the Federation.

ARTICLE 10 – STRUCTURE OF AUTHORITY OF THE FEDERATION

The structure of the Cyprus Bridge Federation is the following:

- (a) The General Assembly
- (b) The Board of Directors
- (c) The Judicial Committee
- (d) Every Committee, administrative, financial, technical or, special as provided by this constitution or one set up by a decision of the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE 11 – THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE FEDERATION

- A.** (a) The General Assembly of the Federation is composed of the representatives of the Member-Associations of the Federation.
- (b) At a General Assembly, only Member-Associations have the right to vote, provided that they are members according to the constitution and meet the other conditions, which the internal regulations stipulate from time to time.
- B.** Every Member-Association is represented at the General Assembly by **three (3)**

representatives and an additional two (2) representatives for every forty (40) members it has on its register. These representatives should be members of their Association who on the date of their appointment through a decision of their Board of Directors or the General Assembly of their Association possess the right to elect and be elected to its management structure, proof of which being given in writing by the Member-Associations. **At the General Assembly each Member-Association has as many votes as the number of its representatives.** At the time a Member-Association nominates its representatives, it also nominates deputy representatives, who may attend the General Assembly, but shall have voting rights only when they replace the representatives.

- C. Voting rights at the General Assembly, as well as the right to be represented at the Board of Directors of the Federation (see Article 14) are limited to the founding Member-Associations of the Federation and to those Member-Associations that have completed one (1) year of membership from the date of their registration in the register of the Federation and shall have during the year proceeding the General Assembly taken part in all official competitions of the Federation with at least four (4) athletes. Participation in competitions can be proven from the official programs of events organized exclusively by the Federation or its regional committees or co-joint Member-Associations following instruction and/or approval of the Federation, or of corresponding international competitions.
- D. At a General Assembly, present as of right with voting rights are the Members of the current Board of Directors.
- E. Each regular or deputy representative may represent only one Member-Association. The appointment of a Member of the Board of Directors of a Member-Association as a representative is permitted.
- F. Within one month from the approval of this constitution, individuals that are registered as members of more than one Association should state in writing to the Federation which Association they belong to for the purposes of General Assemblies of the Federation.
- G. The General Assembly decides particularly:
 - (a) The election, termination or reinstatement of Members of the Board of Directors.
 - (b) The election of additional Members to the Board of Directors over the number specified in Article 14, so that the total number of the Members of the Board of Directors becomes nine (9).
 - (c) Amendments to the Constitution and to the Internal Regulation in accordance with what is stated elsewhere in this Constitution.
 - (d) Vote on the budget
 - (e) Approval of the Report of the Audit Committee regarding the financial management.
 - (f) Granting of credit where and when it is permitted.

- (g) Decision on any subjects referred by the Board of Directors to the General Assembly.
- (h) Approval of the actions taken by the outgoing Board and release of the outgoing Board of Directors.
- (I) Approval of the Annual Report of the Federation.

ARTICLE 12 – CONVENING OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY

- A.** The General Assembly of the members of the Federation is its highest instrument of authority and it convenes:
 - (a) **ORDINARILY:**
During the month of October of every year for the purposes of approving actions taken during the previous year and, the budget for the current year.
 - (b) **EXTRAORDINARILY:**
For the discussion and decision on certain specific subjects:
 - (I) By decision of the Board of Directors
 - (II) Compulsorily by the Board of Directors following a written request by at least one third (1/3) of its members that have voting rights.
 - (III) Particularly, General Assemblies are convened for the approval of unforeseen payments or for the supplementary election of Members of the Board or for the registration of new regular members.
 - (IV) If the request of members of the Federation who have voting rights for convening an extraordinary General Assembly is not granted, then, ten (10) days after the submission of such request they may legitimately proceed to convene an extraordinary General Assembly themselves.
- B.** (a) Invitations to convene an ordinary or extraordinary General Assembly should be notified to all Member-Associations of the Federation in writing at least fifteen (15) days in advance by registered post.
 - (b) Each invitation should state:
 - (I) The subjects for discussion on the agenda, which are the only subjects that the General Assembly shall discuss.
 - (II) The time and the place of convening the General Assembly and any follow-on meeting.
- C.** (a) The General Assembly elects its Chairman and Secretary.
 - (b) The Chairman of the Assembly decides on the order of presentations by the members of the Assembly and generally manages and directs its procedures.
 - (c) A three member Assembly Committee is elected by show of hands.

- D. (a) The Board of Directors of the Federation carries out the verification of the eligibility of the representatives of the Member-Associations as well as their right to cast a vote.
 - (b) Five (5) days prior to the General Assembly, the Federation's secretariat posts a list of the Member-Associations and their representatives who meet all the necessary requirements and are therefore eligible to participate and vote at the General Assembly.
- E. Associate members, until such time as they become full members, have no voting rights at a General Assembly. However, their athletes may take part in competitions and any other competitive events or activities.

ARTICLE 13 – GENERAL ASSEMBLY QUORUM - TAKING DECISIONS

- A. (a) The General Assembly is considered to be in quorum if at least half the number plus one ($1/2+1$) of the representatives of the Member-Associations eligible to vote is present.
 - (b) In the event that the first General Assembly cannot form a quorum, the meeting is re assembled at the date shown on the invitation to participate, that date being not more than fifteen (15) days from the date of the first meeting. Any number of members present at the second meeting are considered to form a quorum.
- B. (a) General Assembly decisions are taken by absolute majority either by show of hands or by ballot paper.
- (b) The decision as to whether the ballot is by show of hands or by ballot paper is taken by the General Assembly.
- (c) Decision taking by means of a vocal ballot is not permitted.
- (d) The General Assembly may reach decisions on personal issues through a secret ballot.
- C. Decisions on amending the constitution of the Federation are taken by the General Assembly by a majority vote of three-quarters ($3/4$) of the representatives eligible to vote present and with a quorum of at least one-half plus one ($1/2+1$) of those eligible to vote.
- D. Any decision taken on matters other than those mentioned in the relevant invitation is void even if that decision is taken by the majority of the representatives of the Member-Associations.

If, due to the late hour, decision on a certain matter becomes difficult to arrive at, the General Assembly, by a majority of three quarters ($3/4$) of the representatives present, decides the continuation of the meeting on the following day at the same venue at a specified time unless, due to a force majeure, continuation of the meeting is not possible at the above venue and time.

ARTICLE 14 – THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- A.** (a) The Board of Directors consists of nine (9) Members.
- (b) It is composed by one representative from each association and the remainder (so as to number nine (9) is elected by the General Assembly, as mentioned in Article 11.
- B.** The Term of office of the Board of Directors is three years.
- C.** (a) Any Member of the Board of Directors, who absents himself without excuse for five (5) consecutive meetings, by a decision of the Board of Directors loses his position on the Board. Regardless of cause, if a Member of the Board is absent from Board meetings for a period of over three (3) months, he loses his position and is substituted on the Board.
- (b) (i) Membership of the Board of Directors is an honorary and unpaid position.
- (ii) The Board of Directors may not enter into any contracts for work or outside services, supplies or into any other agreements with financial consideration with members of the Board of Directors, their spouses, their children, their parents or brothers or with any legal entities in which the above mentioned persons have any participation. Contravention of this prohibition will result in the loss of office for the Member of the Board, who took the relevant decision.
- (iii) The Board of Directors can extend temporary financial facilities to a Member-Association in order to meet urgent needs.
- (iv) When Members of the Board travel outside the place where they normally reside in order to offer any services to the Federation may be reimbursed traveling, accommodation and subsistence expenses.
- (c) The Board of Directors of the Federation is entitled to issue circulars determining the methods in which communication and correspondence between associations and the Federation is effected.
- (d) 1. The Board of Directors of the Federation has the exclusive right to communicate with foreign Federations.
2. Athletic meetings of Member-Associations with foreign associations or Federations are prohibited without the written permission of the Federation.

ARTICLE 15 – INSTALLATION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Within ten (10) days of the General Assembly of the Federation, the Board of Directors of the Federation meets and with the oldest in age member acting as Chairman nominates from amongst its members the President, the Vice President, the General Secretary and the Treasurer.

**ARTICLE 16 – BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
REASON BARRING APPOINTMENT TO THE BOARD**

- A.**
- (a) The Board of Directors deals with and decides upon all matters relating to the aims of the Federation and its activities in general with the exception of those matters that are in the competence of the General Assembly.
 - (b) The Board of Directors holds regular meetings at least once a month also, extraordinary meetings convened by the President whenever deemed necessary on when requested in writing by at least three (3) Members of the Board.
 - (c) A meeting of the Board of Directors is considered to be in quorum if the absolute majority of its Members are present.
 - (d) Decisions of the Board of Directors are taken by simple majority and are recorded in the Minute's Book of the Board.
 - (e) In the event that voting upon a certain matter does not produce a majority, the voting is repeated by an open or secret ballot and if this second ballot fails to produce a majority vote then, if the ballot was open, the President uses his casting vote whereas if the ballot was secret, voting is repeated until it produces a majority vote.
 - (f) A secret ballot may be taken only on matters of a personal nature or if it is so requested by at least four (4) Members.
- B.** No one may be appointed Member of the Board of Directors of the Federation if:
- (a) He has been condemned irrevocably by a Court decision for the crime of violence in athletic venues, for the use or sale of substances or methods of chemically induced stimulation, for manslaughter by intent, for spying, for robbery, for theft, for embezzlement, for smuggling, for bribery, for receiving a bribe, for falsification, for forgery, for fraud, for blackmail, for sycophantic slander, for crimes against the freedom of human reproduction and the financial exploitation of new born life, for contravening the Law on narcotics and suppliers and any person found guilty of a serious crime.
 - (b) Any member of staff of the Federation for as long as his contract of employment in whatever capacity runs and for a further one year period after the expiry of any such agreement.
 - (c) Any person under contract with the Federation for the purpose of supplying services or performing work for financial reward either as a person or as equal partners or, as managers or as Members of the Board of a limited company, for as long as the contract is in force as the work is completed and for a further one (1) year after the end, however that occurs, of the contract or the delivery of the work, respectively.
 - (d) Merchants of athletic goods as well as shareholders, partners, managers

and Members of the Board of an athletic company limited by shares and of any kind of commercial company if the subject matter of their activity is the trade or manufacture of athletic goods of any kind.

- (e) A person, for whom any of the above hindrances apply, automatically loses his membership. The expulsion is announced by the Board of Directors within fifteen (15) days from the date the Board become aware of the hindrance.

ARTICLE 17 – DUTIES OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The President of the Board of Directors:

- (a) Presides the meeting of the Board of Directors managing the order and duration of presentations by its Members.
- (b) Signs and certifies the Minutes of Board meetings.
- (c) He personally sees that decisions of the Board are implemented and that provisions of the constitution are adhered to.
- (d) Along with the Treasurer, he signs for the receipt of any moneys or other valuables.
- (e) Along with the Treasurer, he signs every withdrawal of moneys from the bank account of the Federation or from any Authority or Organisation.
- (f) Along with the Treasurer, he signs any issue or receipt or disposition of any material of any kind.
- (g) Initials all books and other documents of the Federation.
- (h) Supervises by any necessary means all the activities of the Federation, empowered to inspect any operation of the Federation, its Services and its Committees.
- (i) Along with the General Secretary, he signs the annual report of the Board and the Federation's budget, as well as any document addressed to a higher authority or to any physical or legal entity.

ARTICLE 18 – DUTIES OF THE VICE PRESIDENT

The Vice President replaces the President in all his duties in the event that the President is unable to do so or is absent.

ARTICLE 19 – DUTIES OF THE GENERAL SECRETARY

- (a) The General Secretary signs, along with the President, documents of the Federation and assists the President in the execution of his duties.
- (b) (i) The General Secretary deals with the correspondence of the Federation and he keeps the Minutes of the Meetings of the Board of Directors. In the absence or difficulty to attend by the General

Secretary, the President assigns the task of keeping concise notes of the Minutes of the Meeting (Subject, suggestion, discussion, decision and any serious disagreement that may arise and whose inclusion in the minutes is requested).

- (ii) The Minutes, after being clearly written down and developed, are signed by those present at a following Meeting of the Board of Directors within a reasonable period of time.
 - (iii) The whole of the clearly written out Minute is lodged in a specific book or file, which is signed by those present at the Meeting.
 - (iv) The relevant regulations regarding keeping Minutes of the Board Meetings apply similarly to the drafting and issuing decisions of General Assemblies and of other sections of the Federation.
- (c) The General Secretary reads out to the Board the Minutes of the previous Meeting and any incoming documents which are recorded in the primary book for incoming documents.
 - (d) The General Secretary introduces to the Board the subjects on the Agenda of the Meeting.
 - (e) The General Secretary keeps the Federation's books, documents and its Seal.
 - (f) Along with the President, the General Secretary signs certificates, proclamations and other documents of the Federation.
 - (g) The General Secretary sends to the Treasurer a copy of the section in the Minutes referring to approval of various disbursements and expenditure.
 - (h) The General Secretary is obliged to keep and maintain the following books.
 - 1. The Register of Member-Associations.
 - 2. The Register of those participating in competitions.
 - 3. The primary Book for incoming and outgoing documents.
 - 4. The Book of the Minutes of the Board Meetings.
 - 5. The Book of the Minutes of the General Assemblies.

ARTICLE 20 – DUTIES OF THE TREASURER

- A.** The Treasurer is obliged to keep and maintain the following books of the Federation:
 - (a) The Book of Income and Expenditure
 - (b) The Book of the Fixed Assets of the Federation.

- B. The Treasurer ensures the receipted collection of every entrance fee and contribution, subscription, enrollment fee, bequest, subsidy, donation and generally every payment that is due to the Federation.
- C. The Treasurer effects all payments by instructions issued as required and only if the relevant disbursement or expenditure is listed in the Minutes Book after a corresponding decision of the Board of Directors.
- D. The Treasurer maintains a Cash Book in which he records all transactions and he reports to the Board of Directors, being responsible for its management as assigned to him. Withdrawals from the Bank are effected with the signatures of the President and the Treasurer.
- E. The Treasurer deposits in favour of the Federation all moneys, except for an amount determined by the Board of Directors, and any valuables and such deposits are effected only after a relevant decision of the Board of Directors.
- F. Payments are effected by an order signed by both the President and the Treasurer.
- G. The Treasurer, who is personally responsible for the management of the Federation's assets, when absent or otherwise prevented, is substituted temporarily in his duties by the person responsible for Supplies.
- H. At the end of each financial year, the Treasurer, assisted by the General Secretary, submits a report as well as the budget of the Federation to the Board of Directors for approval.

ARTICLE 21 – REPRESENTATION OF THE FEDERATION

- A. The President of the Board represents the Federation in all its dealings with any third physical or legal person, in every Court, Governing Authority, at whatever level, in any Organisation and any legal person of a Public or Private level.
- B. By decision of the Board of Directors the President may reach settlements of any nature in and out of Court, to agree to arbitrations and to assign powers of attorney with specific instructions.

ARTICLE 22– MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS (ARBITRATORS/TRAINERS)

Members of the Board of Directors may freely act as referees in competitions taking place at home and abroad with the approval of the Federation, or with the approval of the International Federation of the Sport, as well as act as unpaid trainers.

ARTICLE 23 – THE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

- A. The Board of Directors of the Federation may appoint Technical Committees.
- B. The purpose and competence of each Technical Committee are:
 - (a) The study of any subject of the sport.
 - (b) The recommendation for amendments to specific regulations, according to

international developments.

- (c) The recommendation for forming a team to represent the Federation in international meetings.
 - (d) The recommendation for the good organization and conduct of competitions.
 - (e) The study and planning of competition and training programs, and of any subject that promotes the development of the sport.
- C.**
- (a) The Board of Directors sets up Technical Committees made up of Members of the Board, Technicians, scientific personnel, representatives of athletic bodies and supporters of the sport.
 - (b) The Technical Committees keep Minutes of their meetings, which they submit to the Board of Directors of the Federation.
 - (c) Decisions of the Technical Committees are submitted for approval to the Board of Directors, which decides accordingly and has the right to accept, amend or reject their proposals.
 - (d) The Board of Directors decides and drafts the rules regulating the operation of the Technical Committees.
- D.**
- (a) A Technical Committee is set up or disbanded by means of a Board of Directors decision. A Technical Committee should have a minimum of three (3) members and a maximum of seven (7).
 - (b) Persons put forward and elected by the Board of Directors to be members of a Technical Committee should belong to the sport promoted by the Federation.
- These persons should be:
- (i) Experienced and distinguished Bridge players known for their good character.
 - (c) The term of office of the members of a Technical Committee is the same as that of the Board of Directors.
- E.**
- (a) The President and the General Secretary of the Federation may attend meetings of the Technical Committees but have no voting rights there.
 - (b) A Technical Committee elects a Chairman and a Secretary for each of its meetings.
- F.** The Technical Committee keeps a Book of Minutes, which is signed at each meeting by those present.
- G.** Within the competence of a Technical Committee are:
- (a) The drafting of programs and the study of methods for the promotion and improvement of the sport.

- (b) The preparation of an annual program for competitions and events.
- (c) Dealing with the technical details of the various competitions organized by the Federation.
- (d) Monitoring the development of the athletes.
- (e) In cooperation with the Federation's trainers, the selection of the members of the National Teams (men- women- young men- young women) of all categories.
- (f) In cooperation with the Federation Trainers of the National Team, the establishment of the Team.
- (g) Anything concerning the technical aspect of the sport.

ARTICLE 24 – JUDICIAL COMMITTEE

- A.** The Judicial Committee of the Federation is made up of three (3) permanent and two (2) deputy members and their term of office is the same as that of the Board of Directors. The Judicial Committee is established as follows described below.
- B.**
 - (a) The Board of Directors of the Federation immediately after its formation as a body, writes to the Member-Associations requesting them to put forward in writing the name of their representative, who should preferably be of the legal profession, as a candidate for the Judicial Committee. The Chairman of the Judicial Committee must be a Lawyer.
 - (b) The Board of Directors selects the permanent and the deputy members of the Judicial Committee from those nominated.
 - (c) In the event that a Member-Association fails to nominate its representatives within a period of twenty (20) days, the Board of Directors is free to select the required number of the members to complete and form the Judicial Committee.
- C.** Immediately upon their selection and after invitation from the secretariat of the Federation, the permanent members convene in order to establish amongst themselves the Chairman, the Deputy Chairman and the Secretary of the Judicial Committee.
- D.** The duties of the Secretary are:
 - (a) To keep the Minutes of the Judicial Committee meetings
 - (b) To perform the correspondence.
 - (c) To maintain the record of decisions issued by the Judicial Committee.
 - (d) To ensure the immediate announcement of Judicial Committee decisions, which are handed over to the Federation's Secretariat for further processing.
- E.** A meeting of the Judicial Committee is considered to be valid only if attended

by all its members.

In the case where a decision is to be taken regarding a Member-Association or a person, no member of the Judicial Committee may participate in the meeting if he is a representative of the Member-Association concerned or a relative up to four times removed from the person concerned. In such an event, a Deputy Member replaces that member of the Judicial Committee.

- F.** (1) The Judicial Committee is entitled to:
- (a) Impose, alter or cancel sentences on physical or legal persons of Article 33 of this constitution that are provided for and are punishable under the Internal Disciplinary Regulation.
 - (b) Hear appeals lodged by physical or legal persons against decisions of the Board of Directors of the Associations that relate to offences in Article 33 of this constitution but were imposed according to the provisions of the constitution of the Association.
 - (c) Involve itself in (a) above only if there is a substantiated report of the breach or the accusation against a physical or legal person.
- (2) (a) An appeal in a case under (1) (a) above may be lodged by the interested party within a time period of twenty (20) days from the date the decision of the Board of Directors of the Association is served on him.
- (b) In order to lodge an appeal, the interested party deposits an amount determined by decision of the Board of Directors of the Federation and it is held by the Federation.
- (3) (a) Decisions of the Judicial Committee are binding on Associations, on physical and legal persons and on the Federation, whose Board of Directors has a duty to implement them.
- (b) Decisions of the Judicial Committee are executable and can be appealed against only at the Supreme Judicial Committee of Athletics, as provided by Law and, in the event of its abolition, at the competent by Law empowered athletic body.
- (4) Appeal to Civil Courts for the deferment of a Judicial Committee decision is not permitted.
- (5) (a) Decisions of the Judicial Committee are written out clearly and are submitted to the Board of Directors within five (5) days from the date of their issue and are binding on the Board of Directors.
- (b) The Board of Directors is obliged to confirm these by a decision and to notify the interested party by registered mail within fifteen (15) days from the date of this confirmation.

- (6) The decision of the Board of Directors of the Federation, which is sent by the General Secretary to the Judicial Committee, constitutes the Charge.

ARTICLE 25 – INCOMPATIBLE PARTICIPATION

Members of the Judicial Committee, who are also members of the governing body of the interested parties or who are related, up to four times removed, with the interested parties may not participate at meetings where the case is adjudicated.

ARTICLE 26 – APPOINTMENT OF PROSECUTION- DEFENCE

- (1) Immediately a case is presented to the Judicial Committee, its Chairman nominates one of its members to act as prosecutor.
- (2) The prosecutor investigates the case within the time period specified by the Chairman and may call any interested party.
- (3) The accused is always called to defend himself. The call to the accused is sent by registered mail or by telegram.
- (4) The prosecutor keeps a written account of his actions. In cases where persons are interrogated or the accused confesses, these persons sign the written accounts also.
- (5) After completing his investigation, the prosecutor submits a report to the Chairman who, within ten (10) days calls the Judicial Committee to hear the case.
- (6) The accused is always called at the hearing and he has full rights in defending himself.
- (7) Details of the case are given only to the interested party and to the Board of Directors of the Federation that initiated the judicial process.

ARTICLE 27- REASONED DECISIONS

- (1) Decisions of the Judicial Committee are written out, definitely including their reasoning and are entered, in summary form, in the book provided for the purpose.
- (2) Copies of the decision are sent to the accused, to the Board of Directors of the Federation and to the Association of the accused.
- (3) The penalty commences on the day the decision is posted in the book of Judicial Committee decisions.

ARTICLE 28 – SETTING UP OF OTHER COMMITTEES

- A.** The Board of Directors of the Federation may at any time set up Committees of any type under a Chairman who is preferably a Member of the Board of Directors.
- B.** The duties, the term of office of its members, their appointment and dismissal, the purpose of the committee and the time period over which they should operate, are all determined by decision of the Board of Directors of the Federation.
- C.** All decisions of Committees are submitted in the form of proposals to the Board of Directors of the Federation for discussion, after which the Board decides to approve, amend or reject them.

ARTICLE 29 AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION OF MEMBER- ASSOCIATIONS

All Member-Associations are obliged to submit to the Federation's secretariat any amendments they may make to their constitutions.

ARTICLE 30–PARTICIPATION OF MEMBER-ASSOCIATIONS IN COMPETITIONS

The Member-Associations should inform the Federation should they organize or participate in competitions whether in Cyprus or abroad, with Bridge Associations or Federations associated with the Federation.

ARTICLE 31 – HONORARY MEMBERS

- A.** (a) Honorary President and honorary members may be physical persons, who offered exceptional services furthering the aims of the Federation and Bridge in general and are appointed through a decision of the General Assembly by a majority of two-thirds (2/3) of those members eligible to vote present, following a proposal (a) of the Board of Directors or (b) one-third (1/3) of the members of the Federation eligible to vote.
- (b) The number of honorary members may not exceed the number of active Member-Associations.
- (c) Honorary members have no voting rights, nor are they obliged to enroll and pay subscriptions.
- B.** (a) Honorary Presidency of the Federation ceases by decision of the General Assembly reached by a majority as in A (a) above by reason his irrevocable conviction for a misdemeanor or crime which, under the athletic regulations at the time, bars one from membership of an Association or, if he loses his qualification as a supporter. In the event of his demise or his resignation, he automatically loses his function as honorary President of the Federation.
- (b) The honorary President may by a Board of Directors decision attend meetings of the Board and General Assemblies with the right to express opinion but with no voting right.

ARTICLE 32 – BENEFACTORS- DONORS

- A.** The Board of Directors of the Federation may proclaim as benefactors or donors, persons who offered or still offer money for the furtherance of the aims of the Federation.
- B.** The same honorary titles may be bestowed through a proposal of the Board of Directors of the Federation and after a General Assembly decision, on persons who through offering material or their good services promote the game of Bridge in any way.

ARTICLE 33 - OFFENCES

- A.** An athletic offence is any action or omission contrary to the athletic regulations

in force in Cyprus or internationally or the international code of conduct and it covers all athletic behaviour or action.

B. Indicatively, the following constitute athletic offences:

- (a) The demand or acceptance or the agreement or promise to accept or the attempt to accept or to receive property or benefit or presents or money reward or any other barter for the purpose of altering the result of a competition either in favour or against a team or Association or for the purpose of showing a bias in favour of one Association in a competition that took, is taking or is to take place.
- (b) The offer, the granting, the supply or the undertaking to offer or supply property or benefit or gift or payment or barter for the purpose of altering the result of a competition either in favour or against a team or Association or for the purpose of showing a bias in favour of one Association in a competition that took, is taking or is to take place.

The offence may occur directly or indirectly and irrespective of whether the offer, grant, supply of property, benefit or gift or payment or other barter is given, offered or made to a relative or friend or any other person if the purpose is the alteration of the result of a competition.

- (c) Encouragement or agreement to alter or attain specific competition results or competitions for any reason even if done without any financial or other barter.
- (d) The payment or the promise to pay unusual reward, gratuity, prim or other unusual barter by a Member-Association or the Federation from a member or Members of the Board of Directors or members of one Association to another Association or to an athlete or athletes of another Association for the purpose of stimulating the physical or psychological power of the athletes in order to achieve a result considered to be favourable for an Association or for the person who effects the payment or the promise for payment of reward, gratuity, prim or other barter.

However, no offence occurs when any Association or one of its members through the Board of Directors of the Association promises or pays any money, gratuity or prim to the athletes of its own Association on order to achieve favourable result for his own Association.

- (e) Actions which are likely to provoke or cause doubt or suspicion for the adjudication or generally for the organization and the way the competition is conducted or for the participation of anyone in the competition or to promote enmity feelings or bad temper between the supporters or athletes or Associations or referees or fans or other persons who have contributed or shall contribute in the execution of the competition.
- (f) Actions which attribute to a physical or legal person any athletic offence or bad intent or anti athletic conduct that causes harm in his work or his profession or exposes him to general hatred, contempt or prejudice or

ridicule.

- (g) (i) Actions or omissions that constitute anti athletic or unsuitable behaviour.
- (ii) Actions or omissions that constitute contempt or non-obedience to any order or decision of the Supreme Judicial Committee of Athletics or of the Cyprus Athletics Organisation.
- (h) Action or omission intended to discourage or is likely to discourage any person from taking part in a Supreme Judicial Committee of Athletics procedure or in any manner as defence Lawyer, witness or a party to the procedure.
- (i) Action or omission which is likely to prevent or in any way influence any procedure at the Supreme Judicial Committee of Athletics or any investigation undertaken for the purpose of commencing a procedure at the Supreme Judicial Committee of Athletics.
- (j) Actions that constitute a breach or non-compliance with the provisions of the Law “On the Cyprus Athletics Organisation” and the regulations issued by virtue of the said Law.
 - (ia) The disposal of financial and technical assistance or grant from Cyprus Athletics Organisation for a purpose other than that for which the financial and technical assistance or the grant were given.

C. Offences of the Associations, of their athletes, their members, the Members of the Board of Directors of the Assemblies, the Executive Committees and of the Federation, of the representatives, the Judges, the referees and other bodies of the Federation, and the Executive Committees that deal with breaches of the necessary good behaviour in athletic relations and their fundamental incompatibility of their actions with the principles of the athletic, sporting spirit and the noble competition, as well as the breach of the provisions of the constitution and the regulations of the Federation are adjudged and punished in the manner defined in this constitution.

ARTICLE 34 – WRITTING OFF OFFENCES

Offences are written off if not reported in writing within three (3) months from their occurrence.

Writing off does not apply to offences, which the criminal law considers as immoral offences.

ARTICLE 35 – VALIDITY OF DECISIONS

Decisions of the Board of Directors of Associations that impose punishment on their athletes according to their constitution are valid only if submitted to the Board of Directors of the Federation in writing within twenty (20) days from the date the decisions were taken.

These decisions are recorded by the General Secretary in a specific book of Transfers and Changes of every athlete, are published in the Press Announcement of the Federation and are valid when they become irrevocable.

ARTICLE 36 - PENALTIES

A. The penalties which the Judicial Committee may impose are:

- (a) To Members of Associations
 - (i) Written reprimand
 - (ii) Written reprimand and notification to all Associations.
 - (iii) Barring the entrance to competition grounds temporarily or permanently.
- (b) To Associations
 - (i) Written reprimand
 - (ii) Written reprimand and notification to all Associations
 - (iii) Fine up to £200 (€342)
 - (iv) Temporary exclusion from any official event for up to one (1) year.
- (c) To Athletes
 - (i) Written reprimand
 - (ii) Written reprimand and notification to all Associations
 - (iii) Temporary exclusion from competitions, official or otherwise, for up to two (2) years.
 - (iv) Deletion from the records of the Federation.
- (d) To Supporters
 - (i) Written reprimand
 - (ii) Written reprimand and notification to all Associations
 - (iii) Barring entrance, temporarily or permanently, to competition grounds when competitions are taking place.
- (e) The Judicial Committee may also impose on all categories of physical or legal persons the obligation to withdraw any written document considered to have an improper attitude.

B. (a) All the above penalties may be imposed with deferment, the duration of which is specified in the decision, as long as the offence is not an immoral

one according to the criminal law and which may result in prosecution.

- (b) In the event that within the deferment period, the physical or legal person commits a new offence, then he also serves the deferred punishment additionally.

ARTICLE 37 – GENERAL PROVISIONS

- 1. Participants to the Bridge competitions organized by the Federation

Or

by Member-Associations, are only the sport's athletes, as the Cyprus and International Regulations define this role for the game.

- 2. The Pancyprian Bridge Competition, as every other competition, is regulated and scheduled by the Board of Directors of the Federation.

ARTICLE 38 – COMMITTEES OF CONTEST JUDGES

- A. The Committees of Contest Judges of any type of competition have the powers vested in them by the International Regulations for the game of Bridge and the regulations issued by the Board of Directors of the Federation.
- B. Members of the Committees are appointed by decision of the Board of Directors of the Federation.

ARTICLE 39 – AMALGAMATION OF ASSOCIATIONS

- A.
 - (a) It is possible and permissible for two (2) or more Associations recognized by the Federation to amalgamate.
 - (b) The amalgamation is effected by decision of the General Assemblies of the Associations to disband and to amalgamate into a new one.
 - (c) The disbanding of one or more Assemblies followed by joining another may also effect amalgamation.
- B.
 - (a) The amalgamation comes into force as from the establishment of the new Association according to the relevant legislation.
 - (b) In order for the new Association to enjoy the rights offered by this constitution, the new Association or the Associations, which after their disbandment joint another, must be recognized by the Federation.
- C. This recognition is effected by a decision of the Board of Directors of the Federation following an application from the new Association or the Associations amalgamated. This application should be accompanied by:
 - (a) Minutes of the General Assembly of the members of the Associations accepting the disbandment.

- (b) An official copy of the constitution of the new Association resulting from the amalgamation and a certificate of its enrollment in the Register of Associations.
 - (c) An official copy of the constitution of the Association into which the other(s) were absorbed, for the case A(c) of this Article, with the amendments made to its constitution.
 - (d) A list of the athletes of the disbanded Associations and their application for enrollment in the new or the one into which they were absorbed for the issue of the relevant papers.
- D.** The Board of Directors of the Federation takes a decision within thirty (30) days from the date the application and the necessary documents were received.
- E.** Athletes of Associations disbanded in order to amalgamate into a new one or to join another, are not considered free, but are entitled to enroll automatically in the ranks of the new Association.

ARTICLE 40 – COMPETENCE TO RESOLVE DISPUTES

All Associations enlisted in the Federation agree, accept and entitle as exclusively competent for resolving all, without exception, the disputes arising between them and which relate to the application and interpretation of the Laws in force at the time, of the constitution, of the regulations of the Federation and the announcement of competitions, only the administrative bodies provided by this constitution.

ARTICLE 41 – INTERNAL REGULATION OF FEDERATION’S SERVICES - OTHER REGULATIONS

- A.** The Board of Directors of the Federation by a decision employs any type of employee, technical and other personnel to serve its purposes.
- B.** The Board of Directors by its decisions drafts, approves and amends the internal regulations on the function of its services according to current legislation, for their optimum operation.
- C.** By means of general or special regulation, voted by the General Assembly of its Member-Associations after a proposal by the Board of Directors, the rules regulating the following are put in place:
- (a) The incorporation of the Regulations regarding the control of chemical stimulants, as they are in force at any time.
 - (b) The way in which regional and local training centers for teams of all categories operate.
 - (c) The procedure for procuring supplies according to the legislation in force at any time.
 - (d) Organising the operational disposition of personnel.

- (e) All issues relating to the terms and conditions of enrollment and transfer of athletes, the time these are implemented, as well as the procedure and the relevant bodies for their approval.
 - (f) Issues relating to trainers of the game.
- D.** In drafting these Regulations, when necessary, it is obligatory to
- (a) Take into consideration International Regulations.
 - (b) If there is a need for the above Regulations to be amended as a result of changes made to such Regulations, the amendment is effected by the Board of Directors of the Federation.

ARTICLE 42 –AMENDING THE CONSTITUTION

- A.** The Constitution of the Federation may be amended by the General Assembly either after a proposal by the Board of Directors or after a written application by half (1/2) the representatives of Member-Associations at the General Assembly or by at least two (2) Member-Associations.
- B.** The amendment is decided at a General Assembly specifically called for the purpose, the absolute majority of the total number of members forming a quorum and with a majority of tree quarters (3/4) of those present voting in favour.
- C.** Along with the invitation sent to Associations to attend the General Assembly, the proposed amendments to the Constitution should also be sent.

ARTICLE 43

- A.** In the event that the Federation is disbanded, any remaining property is passed on to the Cyprus Athletics Organisation. On no account should any Federation property be distributed amongst its members after its disbandment.
- B.** Disbandment of the Federation, apart from legal circumstances, may be decided by the General Assembly, specifically called for this purpose with quorum of at least three-quarters (3/4) of the representatives of the Member-Associations eligible to vote and the relevant decisions taken by majority of three-quarters (3/4) of those present.

ARTICLE 44 – THE SEAL

The Federation has its own Seal, which on the top part bears the inscription “Cyprus Bridge Federation” in English, on the lower part the inscription is in Greek and in the center, it bears the flag of the Republic of Cyprus.

ARTICLE 45 – FINAL

This Constitution contains 45 Articles, it has been read and voted upon in its entirety at the Extraordinary General Assembly of the Federation on the 8th of November 2007.

