



9th EBL NBO Officers' Seminar

The Financial Facts about the 8th Open EBL Championship

Josef Harsanyi – Treasurer of EBL





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- The EBL has the responsibility for organizing and managing the European Championships (EC) to serve the sport of bridge in EUROPE.
- These championships also support NBO development and promote the co-operation between small or large groups of NBOs within the EBL.
- **THE SUCCESS OF AN EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP IS A SUCCESS FOR EVERY EBL MEMBER – ANY DAMAGE TO AN EC HURTS THE EBL's NBO COMMUNITY.**



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The EBL and local organizer FIGB ...

- were earlier able to find ways to co-operate in the running of competitions under adequate conditions. Goodwill and keeping to the contract and any agreements are the keys to organizing attractive championships, where the players can compare their skills at international level. Good conditions are crucial for the running of good championships, and awarding International or European championship titles.



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A splendid history of EBL Championships hosted 7 times in Italy

- 1951 Venice – Team EC
- 1959 Palermo – Team EC
- 1985 Salsomaggiore – Team EC
- 1997 Montecatini – Team EC
- 2002 Salsomaggiore – Team EC
- 2009 San Remo – Open EC
- **2017 Montecatini Open EC**

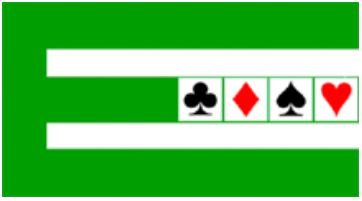


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MORE ...

Italy was the host of EBL Champions Cup on 3 occasions and
4 editions of Youth EC

- 2003 Rome EBL Champions Cup
- 2006 Rome EBL Champions Cup
- 2014 Milan EBL Champions Cup
- 1982 Salsomaggiore Youth Teams EC
- 2005 Riccione Youth Teams EC
- 2007 Jesolo Youth Teams EC
- 1997 Santa Sofia Youth Pairs EC



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More ... WBF events in Italy

- 1951 Naples, 1958 Como, 1960 Turin, 1963 St Vincent, 1974 Venice,
- 1988 Venice, 1997 Santa Sofia, 2006 Verona, 2016 Salsomaggiore
- **The fact** that the FIGB had always been a good partner of EBL
was a good reason to organize the Open EC in Italy in 2017.



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Italy –Tuscany- Montecatini attracts

- **Motivation:** Besides the beauty and great culture of the country, previous successfully organized championships were the deciding factor in organizing the 2017 Open European Championship in Italy.
- **Evidence: 1.635** participants from **57** NBOs arrived in Montecatini, playing circa **79.055** duplicated boards at the highest level, under best championship technological conditions.



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The EBL with its European Championships presents and promotes our sport of bridge, in the same way as other eminent members of the Olympic family.

- The good image of NBOs is improved in their own countries by participating at ECs, organizing ECs, publishing the news about their contribution to their citizens, especially those who could be attracted to our game and sport, or to make decisions to support bridge.
- No National government or sport authorities would recognize bridge as a sport without our International championships.



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The financial aspects of the 8th Open European Championship
2017 Montecatini

- **As usual, dual financial control was agreed:**
 - one independent for the Host (FIGB) to fulfil the obligations defined in the signed contract
 - one independent for the EBL to realize all general functions and aims of the Championship



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The EBL's balance of income and costs for the main EBL Championships has to be positive for the EBL to follow the EBL General Assembly's decision on financial policy

A surplus for the EBL is a benefit for its members – the 46 NBOs



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- The EBL realized the aims for the Championship according its budget plan without serious deviation.
- The only deviation – and this was a dramatic change – were some expenses incurred in the last weeks, due to one sided break of contract by the FIGB.



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The original budget of EC in Montecatini

Open EBL Championships Montecatini 2017 budget plan

Income	500.000 €
Expenses	-360.000 €
Net result	140.000 €

Total income: 499.703,89 EUR

	Entries	Amount in EUR
Mixed Pairs	274	110.031,23
Open Pairs	258	102.593,19
Mixed Teams	114	81.290,22
Open Teams	120	95.335,38
Women Teams	30	21.498,00
Women Pairs	77	29.852,00
Senior Pairs	68	27.192,50
Senior Teams	28	20.081,37

EBL Cup	14	1.680,00
BAM Teams II	8	630,00
Anna Maria Torlontano IMP Pairs	5	315,00
Anna Maria Torlontano MP Pairs	8	420,00
TOTAL PARTICIPATION FEE	1004	490.918,89

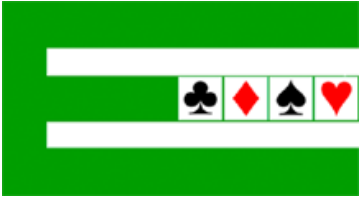
Bus Transfer	335	8.285,00
Review Fee / forfeighted	5	500,00
GRAND TOTAL		499.703,89



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The Host's (FIGB) obligations:

- Cost of venue – Palazzo di Congressi + Teatro Verdi
 - Cost and organisation of local staff
 - Defined accommodation for staff and EBL executives
 - Listed technical points
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- **“to give its support, name and goodwill to the success of the Championship, fulfilling its obligations under this Agreement”**



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The Venue:

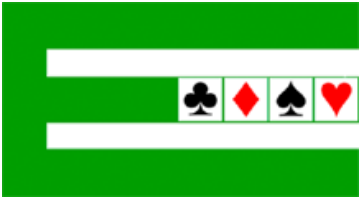
- Palazzo di Congressi + Teatro Verdi is the named place in the only valid contract from 30th January 2016 between EBL and FIGB



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The Venue:

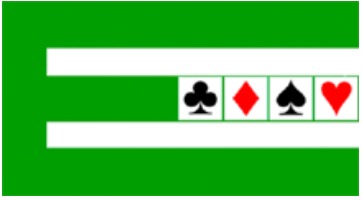
- In December 2016 FIGB and the Community of Montecatini informed the EBL that the confirmed and inspected venue - Teatro Verdi - will not be available for the EC
- Another playing space in the city centre (Sporthall Palavinci) was offered by FIGB and the Community of Montecatini to join with the Palazzo di Congressi's playing area to complete the required 3.500 m²
- After a technical visit the EBL agreed to the Sporthall Palavinci with some technical improvements to be completed.



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The Venue:

- Then, in February 2017, the newly elected FIGB President stated that the contracted venue would be not usable for the EC. Instead of the former venue, the FIGB offered a tent of 3500 m2 in a meadow, several kilometers from the city center.
- The EBL protested against this one sided breach of contract, but two and a half months before the start of the Championship we couldn't change the country and place. The EBL accepted the dictated solution **while ensuring elementary conditions for an adequate venue.**



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The Venue:

- The air conditioning, a shuttle service to and from the originally announced city centre location was declined by FIGB on 2nd of May 2017.
- The EBL had to save the championship and ordered an air conditioning and ventilation plants system. The EBL also had to manage a shuttle bus service between the city centre and Mondolandia to reduce the understandable frustration of our participants.



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The demand of EBL against FIGB

- The EBL had to repair all the shortcomings in the FIGB arrangements, because the mistakes could endanger the health of the participants or they could reduce the sports value of the championships.
- The EBL is obliged to recover those amounts, which were lost due to non performance of the contract of our partners.
- The following costs were generated by FIGB failings and therefore their recovery is demanded by EBL from FIGB:

The costs of air conditioning and Shuttle Bus Service
European Bridge League (EBL) and Mondolandia Village P.S.A (Mondolandia)

Contracted Projects	NETTO	IVA	BRUTTO
Air-conditioner tent	30.000,00 €	6.600,00 €	36.600,00 €
Montage of air-conditioner	2.400,00 €	528,00 €	2.928,00 €
Electric generator tent	4.500,00 €	1.190,00 €	5.690,00 €
Fuel for electric generators	2.675,00 €	788,50 €	3.463,50 €
Extra tent	1.200,00 €	264,00 €	1.464,00 €
BBO chambers transport montage	5.020,00 €	1.104,40 €	6.124,40 €
Forklift, Audio and extr. tent	2.150,00 €	473,00 €	2.623,00 €
Total Project Volumen			82.892,90 €

European Bridge League (EBL) and FAP S.R.L BUS TRANSPORT Shuttle service

	NETTO	IVA	BRUTTO
Prepayment	22.727,27 €	2.272,73 €	25.000,00 €
Final payment	6.109,10 €	610,90 €	6.720,00 €
Players participation			-8.285,00 €
Total Project Volumen			23.435,00 €
=====			
GRAND TOTAL			106.327,90 €



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The result of the 8th EBL Open Championships
in Montecatini of year 2017

Income

499.704 EUR

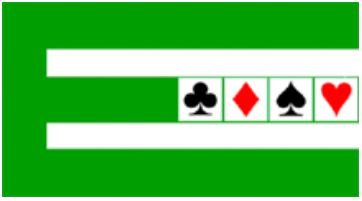
Costs

473.101 EUR

RESULT: 26.603 EUR

DEMAND FROM FIGB: 106.328 EUR

FINAL RESULT: 132.931 EUR



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- The invoice for damage due to non-fulfilment of the contract between EBL and FIGB was sent on 6th of November 2017
- The amount and detail of the invoiced 106.327,90 EUR was discussed with responsible officers of FIGB – no acceptable official answer has been received by this time.
- In the event that FIGB refuses to make payment, the EBL Executive Committee shall decide on the legal method to enforce the claim.



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- The EBL has, with its championships, throughout its history supported the relationships between NBOs, players, officers and the great community of followers of the championships. The players have subsequently reinvested the knowledge collected at ECs into their own NBOs.
- Damaging an EC means damaging a historical event and jeopardizing the future of similar championships.

The EBL has to run as perfect a championship as possible, so as not to destroy its value, developed by the participants and organizers of championships over the last 70 years of our EBL history.

