

October 11th, 2023

To:

Mr. Eric Laurant, President of EBL
EBL Executive Committee Members.

Re: Horrific Terror Attack Against Israeli Civilians

Dear Eric,

On Saturday morning at 6:30 the gates of hell opened upon us. The horrific, large-scale, ISIS-style terrorist attack perpetrated by Hamas against Israeli civilians and soldiers, killing more than 1,200 people and kidnapping more than 150, including women, children, babies and elderly has been widely reported around the globe by the news media companies.

We are sure you have read, seen and heard the gruesome articles, disheartening images and videos of absolute disregard to the dead and basic human decency, how bodies were savagely mutilated, to the laughter of the attackers.

Those blood-thirsty terrorist took pride in capturing their hideous actions on cellphones and immediately putting them on social media.

We, Israeli society in general and its bridge community specifically, will stand back on our feet, because that is who we are and what we are made of as Israelis and sport people.

Still, your support is needed.

We ask you to stand by our side and show your support openly.

Spread this letter to all Bridge organization members of the WBF and ask them to do the same and spread this to their bridge players and clubs.

Let them know what was done to our people.

Sincerely,

Gil Feldboy – Chairman

Israel Bridge Federation

Barri Avnerre – President

Israel Bridge Federation

Oryah Meir – CEO

Israel Bridge Federation

On Saturday morning at 6:30 The gates of hell opened upon us.

Following a barrage of rockets aimed at large parts of Israel, hundreds of Hamas terrorists crossed the international border and entered Israel on ISIS-style pickup trucks, motorcycles and para-gliders. They hurried to peaceful towns and villages, and immediately started shooting in the streets, murdering in execution-style families, children, elderly people, shooting at Police cars and emergency vehicles that rushed in to the rescue. Hundreds that were enjoying an outdoor music festival near Kibbutz Re'im were shot while trying to flee the hordes of gunmen - the estimate is more than 240 people there alone. Many soldiers were also killed, and in an absolute disregard to the dead and basic human decency, their bodies were savagely mutilated, to the laughter of the attackers. Those blood-thirsty terrorist took pride in capturing their hideous actions on cellphones and immediately putting them on social media.

On top of that, a large number of civilians (the estimates are more than 150) - men, women, children, babies(!) and elderly were taken as. Many bodies of the slain were taken by the terrorists back to be dragged in the streets of Gaza, again mutilated and photographed to the apparent joy of the population. The terrorists held several villages and went house-to-house to murder everyone. It took the Military long hours to take control back, free hostages and secure the remaining civilians.

The sights the military saw (and we begin to see) are visions of a nightmare, never seen since the darkest hour on Humanity, 88 years ago. We are now counting our dead. Over 1200 civilians and by the hour the numbers increase. Dozens of first responders and military personnel killed. More than 2600 injured, hundreds of them in very serious or critical condition.

All along, in the time since Saturday morning, rocket alarms are heard.

The numbers are beyond belief, the pictures are unbearable and the mind cannot believe. We are living a nightmare and our hearts are broken. We will stand back on our feet, because that is who we are and what we are made from, Jews, Israelis and people of Sports. Still, your support is needed. Many of you, our friends in the International Sports bodies, had already reached out to some of us and we thank you for that. We now reach to you as a group - we the leaders of the Israeli Bridge Federation.

We ask from you, to stand by our side.