



ABN: 70053651666  
PO Box 397 FYSHWICK ACT 2609  
Ph: (02) 6239 2265 Fax: (02) 6239 1816

Jan Kamras  
President Elect  
World Bridge Federation  
Maison du Sport International 54 av. de Rhodanie  
1007 Lausanne  
Switzerland  
Email : jankamras@gmail.com  
Re: WBF LAUNCHING A WORLD TOUR – ‘Dry-run’ 2023

Dear Jan,

The Australian Bridge Federation is pleased to read that the World Bridge Federation is launching a World Tour in 2024. I believe we have the perfect event to launch the dry run in 2023, the Gold Coast Congress in Queensland, running from 17<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup> February.

The event has all the default requirements, is full and has a wait list as well. Unfortunately, there is no room at the venue for any additional entries. The event also has significant international participation, including the current world champion Daniella Von Arnim and of course WBF President Elect Jan Kamras. 191 New Zealand players have also entered.

Pablo LAMBARDI	Argentina
Rodrigo GARCIA DA ROSA	Argentina
Hector CAMBEROS	Argentina
Jacob FREEMAN	Canada
Pamela Nisbet	Canada
Marshall LEWIS	Croatia
Alex SMIRNOV	Germany
Daniela VON ARNIM	Germany
Florian ALTER	Germany
Sibrand VAN OOSTEN	Netherlands
Raja BAWAJEE	Singapore
Savi BAWAJEE	Singapore
Rex PERERA	Sri Lanka
Lucky FERNANDEZ	Sri Lanka
Lalith GANLATH	Sri Lanka
Enaksha PERERA	Sri Lanka
Jan KAMRAS	Sweden
Barry RIGAL	USA
Teri SMOOT	USA
Kevin ROSENBERG	USA
Alan WATSON	USA
Ti DAVIS	USA
Brenda PUGSLEY	USA
Paul PUGSLEY	USA
Amber LIN	USA
Adam KAPLAN	USA
Finn KOLESNIK	USA
Geeske JOEL (Living in NZ)	USA

The Gold Coast Congress runs for eight days.

- Pairs event: 5 sessions, Boards played = 135,
- Teams event: Qualifying: 6 sessions, Boards played = 168,
- Finals series: 4 sessions, Maximum boards played = 108,
- Swiss Pairs event: 3 sessions, Boards played = 80

The Chief Scorer, Matthew McManus will be able to furnish information on the number of boards or sessions played by a partnership in the Team events.

Although Covid impacted the number of participants in 2021 and 2022, the previous seven years are an indication of the success of the Gold Coast Congress. In 2019 the number of individual players who participated was 2,701 and in 2020 this rose to 2,766. There were 8,845 session tables in 2019 and 9,007 in 2020, an increase of 1.8%. Below are the figures for 2014-2019.

<b>EVENT</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>
<b>Gold Coast</b>						
Open Pairs	198	198	184	186	190	201
Restricted Pairs	126	108	138	140	133	163
Novice Pairs	70	100	88	80	95	92
Intermediate Pairs	116	120	126	108	118	123
Open Teams	196	208	206	214	226	212
Intermediate Teams	84	86	87	94	86	102
Restricted Teams	68	72	95	90	88	104
Novice Teams	32	34	32	44	28	28
Open Butler Pairs	260	254	210	208	236	228

The ABF is willing to work with the WBF to promote the event and will widely market and advertise the launch of the 2024 World Bridge Tour. We are committed to promoting the game we all love to play and encourage players back to face-to-face bridge.

I am extremely excited to offer Australia as the launching pad for this wonderful WBF initiative and look forward to hearing from you at your earliest convenience.

Regards,

*A. Stralow*

Allison Stralow  
 President  
 Australian Bridge Federation  
[president@abf.com.au](mailto:president@abf.com.au)