

MINUTES
THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF
THE UNITED STATES BRIDGE FEDERATION
Special Meeting
Tuesday, February 17, 2004
7:00 PM CST
Via Conference Call

Directors Present: Chris Compton, Jan Martel, Rose Meltzer Dan Morse, Marvin Comer, Sharon Osberg and Bill Pollack

Others Present: Al Levy, Joan Gerard, Jim Kirkham, Bobby Wolff, Gary Blaiss, Michael Becker, Rena Hetzer

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by President Chris Compton

II. QUORUM ESTABLISHED

The Chairman noted that at least a majority of the directors were present at the meeting, thus establishing a quorum for the purpose of transacting business by the Board.

III. EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board went into executive session to hear a report from the Federation Counsel.

IV. RESOLUTIONS

The USBF Board authorized the President, Chris Compton, to travel to France to discuss the USBF position on the 2004 Olympiad with the President of the WBF. The President is to report the results of the discussion to the Board within one week of his return from France.

Approved.

Resolutions of the United States Bridge Federation at its February 17, 2004 Special Meeting of the Board of Directors.

Whereas, on February 7, 2004 the World Bridge Federation (WBF) reconfirmed Istanbul, Turkey as the site of the 2004 World Team Olympiad;

Whereas, on November 20, 2003 the United States Department of State issued a travel advisory warning to alert U.S. citizens to defer non-essential travel to Turkey as a result of terrorist bombing in Istanbul on November 15 and November 20, 2004;

Whereas, on February 10, 2004, the USBF polled its membership and the members of the American Contract Bridge League Board of Directors to determine their position on U.S. participation in the Istanbul Olympiad;

Whereas, over a four-day period ending February 14, 2004, 70 e-mails were received by the USBF on this subject, expressing an overwhelming majority in favor of relocation of the Olympiad away from Istanbul to a location free of U.S. State Department travel advisories;

Whereas, the USBF requests that the WBF undertake such relocation and wishes to assist the WBF to such end in any way possible; and

Whereas, recognizing the difficulties imposed on the WBF as a result of such a relocation and aware of the disappointment to our friends in Turkey that such a relocation would cause, the USBF believes such action is necessary for the safety of the participants in the Olympiad.

Now therefore, the USBF passes the following resolutions:

1. If the 2004 WBF World Team Olympiad is held in Turkey, the USBF as the United States National Bridge Organization to the WBF shall not designate a team or teams to participate in the Olympiad.
(passed six for, one against, one absent)
2. The USBF shall make every effort to assist the WBF in relocation of the Olympiad to a country which is safe for participants in the Olympiad.
(passed seven for, zero against, one absent)

Blaiss notified the Board that, in accordance with the resolution approved at this meeting, ACBL Junior Coordinator will communicate to the organizers of the World University Championship that the United States Bridge Federation will not send a team to Istanbul , Turkey.