



## Election to the Executive Committee of the European Bridge League Opatjia – June 2014

### **Candidate: Yves Aubry (France)**

Yves AUBRY is a candidate for the Office of President of the EBL in the forthcoming elections.

Yves, 63 years old, was born on February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1951 in Brittany. He is a Doctor of Medicine and a former Director of the Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation at the hospital in Lorient. He retired in 2013 and is fully involved with his duties for the EBL as its elected President since 2010 and as a key member of the WBF Executive Council and Management Team.



### **Bridge Activities of the Candidate:**

#### *National activities*

Yves has been a member of the French Bridge Federation since 1973, rapidly taking on responsibilities in bridge administration. He is a graduate teacher of the French Bridge University and a National Tournament Director. He became President of his club in Vannes before being chosen to be the President of the Brittany Regional Committee and then a member of the FFB Management Committee in 1989.

He was elected Vice-President of the FFB in 1995, initially responsible for competitions, regulations, tournament direction and master-point ranking. In 1998 he took charge of international activities and information processing systems.

As President of FFB between 2006 and 2010, he concentrated on a number of key areas:

- The development of bridge for young people :
- The French University of Bridge
- The expansion of communication, both inside and outside the FFB, with a new magazine (free for all members), a new website, a national communication campaign in the national sport newspaper.
- The provision for clubs of modern tools on the web to facilitate management, competitions and ranking;
- New internet services for all players through the website with teaching courses, facilities for competitions, web newsletter special web mini-site for all events and new simultaneous tournament.

These initiatives were undertaken during difficult economic conditions where commercial sponsorship was minimal. The implementation of these new programmes was achieved by the imposition of rigorous financial and human management of the FFB and ensuring that resources were used wisely.

## *International activities and International championships organisation*

Since 1996 Yves attended all EBL and WBF main Championships, and since 2002 all EBL NBO Officers' Seminars, first as a participant and then as a contributor with special emphasis on youth, teaching and anti-doping. As FFB Vice-President, Yves participated in the organisation of international championships held in France: Lille in 1998, Paris in 2001 and Menton in 2003. As FFB President, Yves was in charge of the organisation of the 49<sup>th</sup> European Team Championships in Pau in June 2008 and of the 8<sup>th</sup> European Bridge Champion's Cup in Paris in October 2009.

From 2001 to 2007, Yves was honoured to have captained the French Seniors' Team in eleven EBL or WBF National Teams events. The Team won silver or bronze medals in Tenerife and in Paris in 2001, in Monte Carlo in 2003, in Malmö in 2004, in Warsaw in 2006 and gold medals in Salsomaggiore in 2002 and Menton in 2003.

## **EBL and WBF**

In 2003, the French Bridge Federation supported Yves' candidature to the election of the Executive Committee of the European Bridge League. During his first period of office, Yves was Chairman of the Medical Commission and an active member of the Anti-doping Commission, the Finance Committee, and the Internet and IT Systems Committee.

He was re-elected to the Executive Committee of the European Bridge League in 2007, and was nominated to serve as its 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President and made a delegate to the WBF. During this second period of office, Yves served as Chairman of the Credentials Committee and of the Teaching and School Committee. He was also a member of the Presidential Council, the Finance Committee and the Technological Systems Committee.

Yves was elected President of the EBL in 2010 in Ostend and has concentrated on improving a number of critical areas within the EBL:

- Development of Youth Bridge, a drive to recruit new players, mixed pair events, new EBL camps and proposed projects to utilise the Youth Fund.
- Using the latest proven technology during EBL Championships
- Reduction of the length of the championships both for Open and Youth Championships to reduce the cost for NBOs
- Recognition of Bridge within NBOs and International sport Instances
- Communication with a new EBL website and EBL Facebook pages.
- TD programs with regional and main EBL courses
- Revised format for the NBO Officers' Seminar
- New EBL Eligibility Code – Update of the Statutes
- Building relations with small Feds and supporting a decrease of EBL annual fees for them
- Controlling expenses of the EBL (Staff, Ceremony, Meetings, Travels), avoiding any increase in championships fees, and ensuring strict financial control.

Yves has been a member of the WBF Executive Council since 2007 and has served as a Chairman of the Credentials Committee and a member of the Management Committee, the Youth Committee and the Medical Commission.

## **Awards**

In 2005 Yves received the French National Silver Medal for Youth and Sport.

In 2008 he was presented with the EBL Gold Medal by Gianarrigo Rona at the European Team Championships in Pau.