

WORLD BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIPS OPEN PAIRS

The first ever World Pairs Championship can be seen as the one organized by the legendary Ely Culbertson in 1932 under the name "World Bridge Olympic" which was won by the Norwegians outsider: Isak Nielsen and Otto Krefting.

In subsequent years there were various tournaments similar to a World Pairs Championships, but, unfortunately, have lost the information.




The first World Pairs Championships organized by the WBF had the characteristic of an Olympiad and was held in Cannes in 1962 for only three categories: Open and Women Pairs and Mixed Teams.



The Team Championship was repeated in 1974 and then from 1996 moved into the Olympic games.



In 1966 was Mixed Pairs was added and in 1978 the *Rosenblum Cup* was born.




In 1990 the Senior Category was introduced and in 1994 the *Mc Connell Cup* joined.

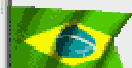



Today, each even non-leap year, the World Bridge Federation is organizing the World Pairs Championships for every category, often accompanied by ancillary events that engage players eliminated in the final stages.



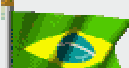

1962 - CANNES (France) - 78 pairs		
1. FRANCE		Pierre Jaïs - Roger Trèzel
2. GREAT BRITAIN		Terence Reese - Boris Schapiro
3. FRANCE		René Bacherich - Pierre Ghestem





1966 - AMSTERDAM (Netherlands) - 126 pairs		
1. NETHER- LANDS		Cornelius Slavenburg - Hans Kreijns
2. USA		John Fisher - Jim Jacoby
3. USA		B.J. Becker - Dorothy Hayden (Truscott)
23. GERMANY		Dr. John Pressburger – Dr. Klaus Thaldorf





1970 - STOCKHOLM (Sweden) - 158 pairs		
1. AUSTRIA		Fritz Babsch - Peter Manhardt
2. ITALY		Benito Garozzo - Ferdinando Mayer
3. ITALY		William Saulino - Italo Zanasi
66. GERMANY		Detlef von Gynz – Dirk Schroeder





1974 - LAS PALMAS – CANARY ISLANDS (Spain) - 192 pairs		
1. USA		Robert Hamman - Bobby Wolff
2. ITALY		Leandro Burgay - Adriano Abate
3. ITALY		Federico De Paula - Italo Zanasi

1978 - NEW ORLEANS (Louisiana - U.S.A.) - 194 pairs		
1. BRAZIL		Marcelo Branco - Gabino Cintra
2. CANADA		Eric Kokish - Peter Nagy
3. USA		Roger Bates - John Mohan
19. GERMANY		Helmut Häusler – Peter Splettstößer

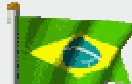

1982 - BIARRITZ (France) - 360 pairs		
1. USA		Chip Martel - Lew Stansby
2. NETHER- LANDS		Anton Maas - Max Rebattu
3. BRAZIL		Gabriel Chagas - Roberto de Mello
38. GERMANY		Hans Frerichs – Ulrich Wenning

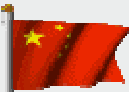



1986 - BAL HARBOUR - MIAMI BEACH (Florida - U.S.A.) - 330 pairs		
1. USA		Jeff Meckstroth - Eric Rodwell
2. AUSTRIA		Wolfgang Meisl - Heinrich Berger
3. AUSTRALIA		Stephen Burgess - Paul Marston
28. GERMANY		Helmut Häusler – Peter Splettstößer

1990 - GENEVE (Switzerland) - 538 pairs		
1. BRAZIL		Marcelo Branco - Gabriel Chagas
2. USA		Peter Nagy - Ralf Katz
3. POLAND		Cezary Balicki - Adam Żmudziński
49. GERMANY		Hans-Herman Gwinner – Dr. Andreas Pawlik

1994 - ALBUQUERQUE (New Mexico - USA) - 396 pairs		
1. POLAND		Marek Szymanowski - Marcin Lesniewski
2. USA		Bob Hamman - Michael Rosenberg
3. NETHER- LANDS		Anton Maas - Erik Kirchhoff
46. GERMANY		Andrea Rauscheid-Reim – Robert Maybach

1998 - LILLE (France) - 660 pairs		
1. POLAND		Michał Kwiecień - Jacek Pszczola
2. USA		David Berkowitz - Larry Cohen
3. SWEDEN		Magnus Lindkvist - Peter Fredin
57. GERMANY		Tomasz Gotard – Andreas Holowski

2002 - MONTREAL (Canada) - 328 pairs		
1. ITALY		Fulvio Fantoni - Claudio Nunes
2. USA		Zia Mahmood - Michael Rosenberg
3. BRAZIL		Gabriel Chagas - Diego Brenner
27. GERMANY		Tomasz Gotard – Josef Piekarek




2006 - VERONA (Italy) - 400 pairs		
1. CHINA		Zhong FU- Jie ZHAO
2. USA		Bobby Levin - Steve Weinstein
3. ITALY		Fulvio Fantoni - Claudio Nunes
25. GERMANY		Tomasz Gotard – Josef Piekarek

2010 - Philadelphia (USA) - 250 pairs		
1. USA		Bobby Levin - Steve Weinstein
2. SWEDEN		Björn Fallenius - Peter Fredin
3. GERMANY		Alexander Smirnov - Josef Piekarek



2014 (10- 25 October) - SANYA (China) – (200) pairs		
1. ISRAEL		Ehud Friedlander – Inon Liran
2. POLAND		Jacek Kalita – Michal Nowosadzki
3. FRANCE		Thomas Bessis – Cedric Lorenzini
15. GERMANY		Alexander Smirnov – Josef Piekarek

WORLD BRIDGE GAMES

In connection to the first Bermuda Bowl 1950, the Mid Atlantic Open Pairs Championships were organized with 40 pairs from the teams participating. After a qualifying round 28 pairs played in the final.

1950 (19 november) – HAMILTON (Bermuda) – 40 pairs		
1. USA		George Rapee – John Crawford
2. SWEDEN		Dr. Einar Werner – Rudolf "Putte" Kock
3. SWEDEN		Nils-Olof Lilliehöök – Jan Wohlin

For the first time 2016 players eliminated from the Team Championships in the Round of 16 and the Quarter-finals may drop-in into the Pairs Championships, in the national appropriate category.

2016 (3 – 17 september) – WROCLAW (Poland) – 210 pairs		
1./2. GERMANY NEW ZEALAND	 	Sabine Auken – Roy Welland Ashley Bach – Michael Cornell
3. INDIA		Keyzad Anklesaria – Sunit Chokshi