

India to host the 42nd World Bridge Championship in Chennai

HCL is the Title Sponsor for the first World Bridge Championship in India

August 19, 2015, New Delhi: India will play host to the biggest event of card games – **42nd World Bridge Team Championships 2015**, that will be held in **Chennai from September 26th to October 10th 2015** at the ITC Grand Chola. This is the **first time that India will be hosting** the World Bridge Championship. **HCL is the title sponsor for this tournament.**

66 Teams, 660 players from 35 countries will vie for the prestigious **Bermuda Bowl** (Open category), **Venice Cup** (Women category) and **d'Orsi Trophy** (Seniors category). The event will kick off with an opening ceremony followed by Round Robin for seven days of which Top 8 teams will qualify for the Quarter Finals/Semi Finals and Finals. In each category 22 teams out of 66 teams will vie for Bermuda Bowl, Venice Cup & d'Orsi Trophy.

As the main three events reaches the Quarter Final stage a new event called **TRANS NATIONAL** teams start with more new entries to contest for **M.N. Dastur Trophy**. 90 Indian teams have registered to participate in this event. Normally, there are 100 participating teams but this time there will be more than 150, which is going to be a record in itself. This event kickstarts on October 4, 2015 with a 15-round Swiss league played for three days followed by pre quarter finals, quarter finals and then subsequently qualifiers play for the semi-finals and finals till October 10th.

The winners will receive The Bermuda Bowl trophy for Open category, Venice cup trophy for women and D'orsi cup for senior category. Medals will be given for winners and runners up.

Making the formal announcement in New Delhi, **Mr. N.R. Kirubakaramoorthy, President, Bridge Federation of India** said, "This is a proud moment for us as India gets ready to host the 42nd World Bridge Championships. This is testimony to India's long-standing commitment to the game. Bridge, in India, dates back to early 20th century. However, the contract bridge seems to be losing popularity due to incorrect perceptions about the game. Bridge is considered to be strategic game worldwide and is championed by the likes of Bill Gates and Warren Buffet. We hope that the World Bridge Championship in India would help revive interest in the game among the youth. Chennai is the host city and we are looking forward to a lot of enthusiastic interest from players and supporters of the game."

Speaking on the occasion, **Kiran Nadar, Director, HCL Corporation and an international bridge player** said, "Bridge is the most popular card game in the world with over 100 countries as members of the World Bridge Federation. The estimated number of bridge players exceeds 60 million. The game itself is considered to be "the most mind stimulating card game ever conceived." Studies show that while people playing bridge enjoy a better mind health, children learning or playing bridge do better at school. As a knowledge-intensive organization, we believe that there is a natural fit that HCL has with the game of bridge. It is a great privilege for HCL to be associated with the 42nd World Bridge Championship as its Title Sponsor.

HCL also announced the 13th HCL Bridge Championship to be held from August 20-23, 2015 in New Delhi. Around 400 bridge players will be participating including 75-80 teams in the tournament that will span over four days and will be held at Hotel Country Inn in Sahibabad. The HCL Bridge Tournament was launched 12 years ago and currently is the largest prize money tournament in bridge in India. Total prize money for the tournament is Rs 16 lakhs across various categories. The current tournament will see participation from members of Indian contingent at the World Bridge Championship in various team games. Participating teams include **Team Formidables** captained by Mrs Kiran Nadar, **Dhampur**





Sugar Mills, Bangur Cement , Poddar Developers , Team Arun Jain and Team Aristos, among others. Teams representing India in World Bridge Championships to be held next month in Chennai and also participating in the HCL Bridge Championship are **Indian Railways team for Bermuda Bowl, Indian ladies for Venice Cup and Indian seniors for D'Orsi trophy.**

About HCL

Founded in 1976 as one of India's original IT garage start-ups, today the HCL Group has expanded to four companies in India - HCL Infosystems, HCL Technologies, HCL Healthcare and HCL TalentCare. The group generates annual revenues of over US\$ 6.5 billion with more than 105,000 employees from 100 nationalities operating across 31 countries, including over 500 points of presence in India. A pioneer of modern computing, HCL has many firsts to its credit including the introduction of the 8-bit microprocessor-based computer in 1978 well before its global peers.

HCL's technology solutions cover the entire gamut of services that include infrastructure management, application development, BPO and technology distribution. A new entrant in healthcare, HCL Healthcare in affiliation with Johns Hopkins Medicine International aims to provide innovative medical services, products and training to meet the growing demand for quality healthcare in India. HCL TalentCare is envisioned as an integrated talent solutions company addressing the entire spectrum of employability needs in India. For further information, visit www.hcl.com.

About Bridge Federation of India

Bridge Federation of India is the apex body governing and controlling the game of Contract Bridge in India. It is registered under society's registration Act, recognized by the Ministry of Sports and Youth affairs, Govt of India and also by the Indian Olympic Federation.



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