



EUROPEAN BRIDGE LEAGUE

## **Election to the Presidency of the European Bridge League**

Antalya –June 2007

### **Candidate: Gianarrigo Rona**

Born in Rome on 18th November 1940 and currently living in Pavia. Married to Cippi; two grown-up children from previous marriage.

A practising lawyer (the fourth in a family of lawyers, now in its fifth generation) until 2002, for twenty years he was a Board Member of the Order of Lawyers, for six (1991-96) years member of the Board of the National Lawyers' Pension Fund and for two years (97-99) President Vicarious.

Member of the Association of Lawyers of Italy and America.



### **Sporting Career**

Played basketball in the Italian First Division.

Member of the Technical Commission for the Italian Motorboat Federation (1982-83).

Member of the National Council of the Italian National Olympic Committee since 2001.

### **Bridge Activities of the candidate**

Played bridge at international level and classified in highest Italian category.

Elected Member of the Board of FIGB in 1979, NPC of the Italian Open Team from 1984 to 1986, became President in 1986. During his Presidency FIGB moved from 9.000 to more than 30.000 members and in 1993 was recognised by the Italian National Olympic Committee; in 1993 FIGB signed a protocol with the Italian Ministry of Education to officially teach Bridge in the schools.

Chairman of the Organising Committee of EUBL Championships in '79 and '98, the European Open Pairs Championships in '89, '91, '95 and '01, the European Mixed Championships 2000, the European Teams Championship '85, '02, the European Junior Teams Championship in '82, of the European Open and Women's Teams in '85, '02, of the World Olympiads '88, '92, the Generali Master '04 and the World Championships '06.

Elected Member of the EBL Executive Committee in 1995, Acting Treasurer from 1997 to 1999, became President in June 1999, when he also became Member of the Executive Council and Management Committee of the WBF of which became

First Vice-President in 2006. In 2004 was elected member of the WBF Honour Committee

Under his Presidency, the EBL reached the number of 48 affiliated NBOs and the affiliation of the Former Yugoslavia Republic of Macedonia – FYROM – is under completion. Of all the European countries, only Andorra, Azerbaijan and Moldova are now missing.

EBL has been recognised by the European Olympic Committee (presentation at the EOC Congress in Warsaw 2000 and attendance by invitation to all the annual EOC Congresses and Sport – including Antodiping – Seminars) and by the European Communities (presentation at the European Parliament in Brussels 2005 and attendance by invitation to all the sport seminars, conferences and congresses).

New Statutes have been adopted and the Disciplinary Code and the TDs Official Register have been instituted. The EBL School Teaching Programme is near to be completed. An official bridge presentation DVD has been made. Since 2004 all the EBL Championships are played with the help of a new technology and the bridgemates are used. Complete softwares to manage the pairs and teams competitions and vu-graph are being completed. These programmes will be free for all the NBOs.

In 2003 the European Open Bridge Championship has been instituted.

The following events have been organized:

- 2000 - Presentation of Bridge at the EOC Congress in Warsaw
- 2000, 02, 05, 07 - NBO Officers Seminar
- 2001, 04, 06 - Tournaments Directors Seminar & Courses
- 2004 - Chief of Mission Seminar
- 2005 - Teaching and Youth Officers Seminars
- 2005 - Presentation of the Bridge teaching programme at the European Parliament

### **Awards**

- 2001 IOC Diploma
- 2003 IBPA Personality of the Year
- 2006 CONI Gold Medal