

Present Neville Richards (NR), Phil Bowers (PB), Jean Hand (JH), Fiona Noyce (FN), Paddy Murphy (PM), Gwynn Davies (GD), Paul Denning (PD)

- 1 Apologies for absence
Geoff Evans
No rep from NWBA **PJM**
- 2 Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 28th June 2016
Approved
- 3 Matters arising thereon
 - a) Ladies event ongoing with Gilly Clench mustering
Room booked and item on web
 - b) Lady Milne to be held in Wrexham at Ramada Hotel,
Room booked waiting for MA to send timetable by email MA/NR/PM
NR/PM/MA
 - c) Working party on future of WBU: still to be decided **NR**
It was decided a survey might be best and Judith might be able
to help **NR/PJM??**
 - d) Selectors material is discussed in item 10
 - e) Mechanism for funding small grants to Clubs: discussed in item 4
 - f) NTO report: see item 9
 - g) Calendar: This will be discussed In March 2017 at the MC for
finalisation before the AGM
 - h) Mailing list: Ongoing **PJM**
 - i) OPEN PAIRS JH to talk to MA **JH/MA**
 - j) Newsletter reduction in size to 32 pages for future editions. **NR**
 - k) Juniors in Cheltenham/Wales **NR**
 - l) Sophie Cunningham be asked to take part in youth bridge **NR**
- 4 Mechanism for funding small grants to Clubs
Agreed with a few modifications to be advertised to clubs **NR/PB**
- 5 Reports:
 - a) NTO
The Cambria Cup Final was won by the team captained by Filip Kurbalija beating Paddy Murphy's team.
To date I have received one entry for the Cambria/Welsh Cup, the closing date is Monday 19th September for both competitions. If there are sufficient entries there will be Tri-ellars.
Hopefully, the once popular event for our female players, namely the Ladies Welsh Cup weekend will be held on 17th/18th September in Crossgates Community Centre. I plan to have pairs on the Saturday and the Welsh Cup team event on the Sunday. I need to check on the Master Point awards for this event. The table fee will be £12 per person per day including Tea/Coffee/Biscuits. with players bringing their own food.

To8 qualifier 16th February junior Camrose weekend

I am now a member of the Selection committee.

JH reported problems with the calendar in that there was a severe clash for the usual weekend for the TO8 qualifier with the Lady Milne Currently date of the 11th December is a problem for some areas so it could possibly take place on the weekend of the Junior Camrose instead **JH**

b) Treasurers report

- i) Money in bank £52,122,
- ii) Expense claims for Europeans are being sorted.

c) Membership & Master points Secretary

- i) 1 June increase in MP tickets
- ii) PJM to sort out PS greens
- iii) Teams scorers

d) CEO Report

We are sending a group of mainly 10 year olds to a Bridge Camp in Cheltenham. Sophie Cunningham and another teacher are attending together with some parents. (NR) will attend to help with the organisation and garner information so that the WBU might in future organise similar events in Wales. Material and photographs will be obtained for publication in the Newsletter. Crib Sheets for Minibridge had been produced and printed plus further copies of the Acol Aide Memoire were now available.

Gilly Clench and Ceri Pierce are very proactive with efforts to promote women's bridge in Wales and have set up a dedicated website. Hopefully this will improve our chances of fielding two well practised teams in the Lady Milne to be held this year at The Ramada, Wrexham.

The WBU website is for everybody and positive suggestions for improvements are very welcome.

6 Yearbook/Calendar/Newsletter

- i) JG reported some problems with not enough copies of the Newsletter, some solutions were suggested

7 Junior/Youth bridge

- i) A weekend bridge club was suggested by Sophie Cunningham
- ii) Peggy Bayer competition to be discussed

8 Webpage

Several modification (pull down menu etc) have been made

9 Teams events

a) Welsh and Cambria green points

- i) These were discussed and no change was implemented But the award of quarters for the first round was to be continued.
- ii) PM to coordinate a strategic attempt to increase numbers by mailing lists

PM

b) Graded masters

A suggestion from a member to introduce a competition based on club membership was put forward but it was decided that a new approach to the regeneration of the Graded Masters might be a better idea. PM/JH to discuss a date

PM/JH

PM/JH

Structure of the competition is to take the following premise
Division of sections by WBU MASTER POINT RANKS

Section 1 Premier Grand Master, Grand Master, Senior Life Master

Section 2 Life Master, Premier Nat. Master, National Master

Section 3 Premier Reg. Master, Regional Master, Premier Master

Section 4 Tournament Master to Local Master

Section 1 played as a separate event and scored as one field with one non-flighted award

Section 2-4 played as a 2 or 3 venue simultaneous North/South event scored as a flighted event with a single field result (so a winner for each section 2, 3 and 4)

10 Selectors Reports and comments

i) As a general recommendation the selectors agreed that if a selector is a possible candidate for selection then they must stand down from the committee at the point where discussion is to be made.

GD/PD

1) Lady Milne

Arrangements are in hand

Travelling expenses (Rail, fuel, parking and other reasonable expenses) were set at £70 per person on presentation of receipts

The event will take place in Wrexham at the Ramada hotel, which is within an hour of both Manchester and Liverpool airports and on a direct rail link to Holyhead. North Wales will try to provide car ferrying services to and from the airports to help with the transportation of players

MA

2) 2018 Europeans

Planning for the Europeans is in hand and it was agreed that the selection of the team would be based on the 2017 PL result and that the team selected will be expected to take part as a team in selected premier events between the selection period and the 2108 Event.

3) Camrose

Premier league has currently 4 teams entered

MA is to direct the event at the Commodore Hotel

MA

4) Seniors Camrose

Mention was made that this event has become expensive since the Support from Bernard Teltscher was withdrawn. Selectors need to Review the situation regarding representation at this event

NR/GD/PM

- 11 Laptops*
NR to speak to MA regarding laptops **NR/MA**
- 12 EBL training
There is an EBL Directors workshop coming up and Tony Haworth who organises our Director training has volunteered to attend.
- 13 Letters to the president
Several letters were discussed and suggestions to improve the webpage were implemented. Comments on the increase of the fees were noted but it was decided that as it was voted at the AGM we were unable to overturn the vote.