

Minutes MC Skype meeting 11.30 – 3.00 Tuesday 28th June 2016

ACTION

Present Neville Richards (NR), Phil Bowers (PB), Jean Hand JH, Fiona Noyce (FN), Paddy Murphy (PM)

1 Apologies for absence

Geoff Evans (GE)

No representative from NWBA

Gareth Jones (GJ) arrived late. (About 2.15pm)

2 Minutes of the meeting held on 17th May 2016

Approved

3 Matters arising therein (not arising elsewhere)

Ladies event ongoing with Gilly Clench mustering

GC/JH

Lady Milne to be held in Wrexham at Ramada Hotel, awaiting contract from hotel.

NR/PM/MA

Working party on future of WBU: still to be decided

NR

Suggested names: Tony Disley; Peter Milewski; Brian Quinlan
Simon Gottschalk.

4 Matters arising from the meeting of AGM 5th June 2016

Paddy brought up the membership increase to £10 as he had been approached by some members. Was this a valid change under the WBU Constitution? It was decided that this was not against the WBU constitution

5 To review WBU budget for 2016 World Bridge Games

The decision was made not to fund a team to the World Bridge Games.

6 Selectors Reports and comments

The blog and reports by Gwynn Davis was welcomed and the overall comments and conclusions were held in agreement by the committee.

The committee asked NR to write to GD and the selectors to as what would be their strategy for upcoming events based on the outcome of the Europeans.

NR/PJM

Paddy asked that the selectors be asked to send a Representative to the committee

NR

The committee asked NR/PM/GD and the selectors put forward a List of competitions which the selectors hope to select players for in the next 3-5 years in order that we might arrange suitable funding

NR/PM/GD

7 Mechanism for funding small grants to Clubs

A working group need to be established for this and a mechanism for application established, also a limit need to be set for the total annual spend. FN, PB& NR are to confer by Skype.

NR/PB/FN

8 Reports:

1) NTO

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**

It was suggested by PM that a date be put in the MC roster to discuss the upcoming years calendar and that the calendar was a focus on events for the membership of the WBU and cannot be as flexible as some would want as this causes considerable disruption to the members plans **NR/PM**

NTO raised the subject of Teams of Eight placing awards; after discussion it was agreed that it remains as first two places.

A decision was made to increase advertising to clubs Re the various competitions that are falling in numbers. This will be done via the website and Mailing lists **PM/NR**

NTO brought up a members suggestion that the finals should be represented by only players that win or come high up in the qualifiers. It was decided that this causes problems with numbers to make the Finals financially viable if the numbers are low.

A suggestion was made to make the Open Pairs direct entry. It was agreed that the NTO would talk to Mike Amos regarding numbers in the Final if this was agreed as it would possibly mean a larger venue. **JH**

2) Treasurer
Currently £53,000 at bank

Accommodation for seniors attending Teltscher Trophy in Scotland not yet submitted.

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**

Newsletter would cost £560 for 1500 copies agreed, but a recommended of a reduction in size to 32 pages for future editions. **NR**

3) Membership & Master points Secretary
Communication with members. Phil confirmed that email list were available for Club Officials. Emails for the full membership were not yet recorded and in mass emails an opt-out facility was required. Phil will supply the current lists if required.

4) CEO
No formal report and all topics raised are covered in these minutes

9 Yearbook/Calendar/Newsletter.

The yearbook is still shelved but the idea of a printed calendar was put forward by PM, however this will be only of use if we finalise dates at the MC in a meeting before the end of the playing year **PM/NR/JH**

The newsletter has gone out to print and we await issue 3.

10 Junior/youth bridge

Juniors going to Cheltenham: number keen to attend now up to 40, extra accommodation being sorted by organisers, Neville liaising with his Cheltenham contacts. If no chance of the extra accommodation would arrange for a similar event to be held in Wales. **NR/SC**

A suggestion was made that Sophie Cunningham be asked to take part in Youth bridge co-ordination in conjunction with Mark Roderick as Junior Camrose Co-ordinator. Neville to progress. **NR**

11 Webpage

NR to continue with new improved webpage

12 Teams events

1) Webber, Welsh, Cambria

PM to coordinate a strategic attempt to increase numbers by mailing and web presence and to look at the green point award **PM/JH**

2) TO8 and club teams events

A suggestion from the membership 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 **PM/JH**

13 AOB

The MC agreed to purchase potted plant for delivery to Judith Graham-Jones as a gesture of thanks for stepping in as President. **NR**

Next meeting by Skype 11.30am on the 26th July.