

WELSH BRIDGE UNION

Management Committee Meeting

Held on Tuesday, 12 January 2016 at Crossgates Community Centre, Llandrindod Wells

Judith Graham-Jones	President
Herbie Rowley	Immediate Past President
Bob Alderdice	WWBA
Phil Bowers	Masterpoint Secretary
Fiona Noyce	Treasurer
Neville Richards	Chief Executive WBU
Paddy Murphy	NWBA (Skype)
Jean Hand	NTO (Skype)
Geoff Evans	EWBA (Skype)
Margaret Richards	Minute Taker

1. Apologies	There were no apologies.	
2. Previous Minutes	The draft Minutes from the Management Committee Meeting held on 16 th November 2015 were accepted as a true and accurate record.	
3. Matters Arising	<p>Item 4. JGJ had produced a number of draft amendments to the Standing Orders but not all members had had sight of the proposals. Action: JGJ asked the CEO to recirculate the draft for members to submit comments ready for full discussion at the next meeting.</p> <p>Item 9. It was noted that teaching materials from the Scottish Bridge Union have been freely shared, providing much benefit to the WBU Education Officer. It was felt that thanks should be expressed to the SBU. CEO added that the SBU keep the material updated and automatically update the WBU accordingly.</p> <p>Item 10. It was confirmed that the proposed relocation of Brecon Club to Mid Wales area was supported by the Committee but would need to go before the full Council for approval.</p>	JGJ
4. Standing Orders	Due to the need to re-circulate the draft amendments, this item is to be deferred to the next meeting. All members to read and comment on the draft once received.	All
5. Constitution	<p>Following discussions at the previous meeting regarding membership of the WBU, a paper submitted by Patrick Jourdain highlighting the difficulties encountered by the EBU when it moved to P2P, had been received and circulated for consideration. A discussion ensued around the benefits or otherwise of the proposal that all members of affiliated WBU clubs should be members of the WBU. It was put forward that whether this was accepted or not, the way clubs dealt with membership fees should be uniform across Wales. At present some areas insist that members of affiliated clubs are also members of the WBU, whereas other areas give their members the choice of whether to join the WBU or not.</p> <p>A discrepancy between the number of WBU recorded members and the payments of membership fees received was highlighted. This</p>	

	<p>appeared to be due to Club secretaries not detailing payment sufficiently for the Treasurer to allocate the funds correctly. A query arose regarding fees to the EBL. The EBU only pay a set amount and the WBU needs to negotiate a similar arrangement. The financial implication of WBU membership versus P2P was discussed. The problem has been that WBU membership fees have remained static for some time and are remarkably cheap. If the WBU membership were to be increased in line with inflation it should be raised to £13pp.</p> <p>JGJ asked for members to vote regarding the original contention that all members of affiliated clubs should be members of the WBU. All in the room in favour JH in favour PM against</p> <p>It was suggested that the three alternative ways of dealing with the situation be set out, with the resulting financial implications detailed, and then taken to the areas for feedback.</p> <p>FN proposed that the treasurers from all areas be invited to attend a 1 hour meeting prior to the Council Meeting in order to formulate proposals to submit to the Council.</p>	PM
<p>6. Review of Honoraria</p>	<p>JGJ suggested that the discussion regarding the honoraria for the CEO could be better conducted via email.</p> <p>FN had produced a list of the Honoraria currently in place:</p> <p>Masterpoint Secretary £1500 Membership Secretary £500 NTO £675 Newsletter £150 per issue (4 issues per year) Journal £500 Education £500 Treasurer £1000</p> <p>Members considered the current level for each post and relationship to others. Also the Education Officer was looked on as an essential post. The current post holder was proving very successful and this was considered to be vital to the future of Bridge.</p> <p>FN was not present during the following discussion.</p> <p>It was proposed to increase the NTO post to £1000, the Education Office to £750 and the Treasurer post to £1500.</p> <p>Proposer: Bob Alderdice Seconder: Herbie Rowley All agreed</p> <p>JGJ confirmed that the Council would need to approve all amendments.</p>	
<p>7. Review of CEO contract</p>	<p>JGJ asked that the CEO terms and contract be emailed to all members for future discussion.</p>	CEO
<p>8. Reports</p>	<p>8.1 NTO report - Attached for information.</p> <p>8.2 Finance Report</p>	

	<p>JGJ reported that she and the CEO had been invited to attend a European Congress in Rome but due to the travel problems involved and expense to the WBU they had declined.</p> <p>When the conference Agenda has appeared a communique should be sent to the conference stating WBU current concerns.</p>							
9. Newsletter	<p>Draft copies of the new format Newsletter were distributed at the meeting. Discussion ensued regarding the printing and distribution of the Newsletter. Posting a supply to each area would not involve great cost and it was agreed that the CEO should obtain quotes for printing various quantities.</p> <p>It was agreed to give the CEO a budget of £1500 and to send the Newsletters to each Area secretary for onward circulation to the clubs.</p>	CEO						
10. Competition Journal	<p>The CEO reported that the CJ was currently available on line and updated regularly.</p> <p>The Journal is used as a calendar for events and a reference document for rules and regulations.</p> <p>There was a query regarding the publication of ranking promotions. The MP Secretary explained that it took extensive work to produce the rankings from the master points and to calculate promotions on a regular basis would be even more onerous. The current masterpoint programme does not have a facility to do this work automatically and it would cost substantial amount to commission it.</p> <p>There was discussion around putting essential information into the Newsletter.</p> <p>At Club level it is the responsibility of the club secretary to promote both the Newsletter and the Journal.</p>							
11. AOB	<p>Issues with the Lady Milne competition were discussed. It was agreed that the Selectors should seek to fill the shortfall in participants with players who are available and willing to go under the current conditions. The Selectors should research what they consider 'reasonable' expenses for competitors in the future and report back.</p>							
	<p>The meeting closed at 3.15pm</p> <p><u>Future Dates</u></p> <table> <tr> <td>Finance Meeting</td> <td>Wednesday 17th February</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Management Committee meeting</td> <td>Tuesday 23rd February</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Council meeting</td> <td>Wednesday 23rd March</td> </tr> </table>	Finance Meeting	Wednesday 17 th February	Management Committee meeting	Tuesday 23 rd February	Council meeting	Wednesday 23 rd March	
Finance Meeting	Wednesday 17 th February							
Management Committee meeting	Tuesday 23 rd February							
Council meeting	Wednesday 23 rd March							