

Minutes of the WBU Management Committee Meeting

Crossgates Community Hall, Crossgates

4th September 2018

- 1 Present: President Sarah Amos, NTO Jean Hand, Hon Treasurer Fiona Noyce, Hon Membership & Masterpoints Sec Phil Bowers, Neville Richards, Geoff Evans, Alan Screen Apologies – None

Paddy Murphy and Gareth Jones wished to join the meeting by Skype but connection issues made it impossible. PM participated by phone.

- 2 Minutes of previous meeting were approved. No matters arising that are not covered on the agenda

- 3 Treasurers Report

- Income and expenditure for April – August had been circulated
- £275 has been paid the The Pavilion, Llandrindod Wells for the Teams of 8 as agreed by Neville when booking
- Deposit £1,500 paid to Beaufort Park for Camrose 2019
- Phil Bowers to have app that allows remote banking of cheques for which there is no extra charge
- Entry fee for Area heats does not cover Master Points which are billed by PB.

NTO report

- Cambria and Welsh Cup Competitions have been completed
- NTO had not had a report from David Stevenson about numbers of entries for 18-19 competitions. NR reported that no money had come in on Paypal and FN had received money from 1 team. JH to ask DS for numbers and draw method.
- Women's Weekend organised by Gilly Clench was a great success with 9 tables of pairs and 8 teams playing. Gilly had reported that no one was interested in masterpoints and so it did not necessarily have to be a WBU event.
- MC felt that in future it should be a WBU event but would be very pleased if Gilly wished to carry on organising it.
- JH had been quoted £395 for a one-day event by the Metropole, Llandrindod Wells. NR agreed to approach the owners to see if a better price could be negotiated

Membership & Masterpoints Secretary's Report

- Membership is currently 2,300

- 1 club, Llandybie has disaffiliated and repaid matched funding
- Circa £1,000 of masterpoint payments are outstanding – this is the usual level
- Congress masterpoints are covered by the licence fee and PB needs to be informed when uploads/ spreadsheets relate to congresses
- Perry & Spickett points for 2018 have not been awarded yet. NR to action

4 Appointment of CEO

- SA had consulted HMRC, ACAS and two solicitors and it is clear that the CEO post is an employed one.
- It was agreed that the MC could not take a step that might leave the WBU open to being taken to an employment tribunal, sued or prosecuted by the HMRC
- NR proposed that the members of MC should take on more roles previously covered by the CEO. This was the original intention when the MC was set up
- WBU needs an administrative secretary who can be appointed by the MC prior to the next AGM (8.2.4 WBU Constitution)
- They will be expected to act as Secretary to the WBU, deal with correspondence etc. and should be recruited from within the membership
- The level of Honorarium was discussed, and it was agreed it should be up to £3,000
- The various roles to be covered need to be defined so that they can be shared out. Includes:
 - BGB & EBL Representative
 - Webmaster
 - Newsletter editor
 - Match manager for home internationals
- Need to appoint a Secretary should be circulated widely including the website and clubs

5 Competition Journal

SA has produced a draft updated version of the Journal

- Entry fees for WBU competitions set at £20 per player per day for 1 day events and £35 for the Webber Cup (2 days). Sim Pairs would stay at £2.50 (£3 with booklets) but we will investigate running our own event and will have a trial run in 2019. SA volunteered to compile the hands and write to commentary. AS offered to score the event
- Currently unclear how profitable Simultaneous events are - FN to calculate
- Entry fee for Welsh and Cambria £10 per player (up to 6 players per team – if 6 they must all pay on entry even if they don't ever play)
- It was agreed not to publish amounts for prize money as the prize fund depends on entries
- SA to submit sponsorship application for Champion of Champions event

- EWBA had asked if it was possible for players to change their Area allegiance during a playing year (September to August)
- MC agreed to keep to current regulations whereby a player is affiliated to the Area through which their WBU subs are paid. If a player wishes to change they can only do so at the start of a new Membership year by joining through a different club
- Changes to the regulations for the Teams of Eight were discussed GE pointed out that it had been agreed some time ago that teams could include up to 16 players. No other members of the committee remembered this happening.
- Regulations for the President's cup will be enforced in future to ensure that players who are too experienced do not take part

WBU website

- It was noted that NR has made improvements to the website
- NR Wordpress help is excellent but it takes time to learn how to manage content
- Updating is ongoing
- SA to spend some time with NR learning

Expenses for Dublin Camrose

- FN had received a claim for expenses from a member who had been in Dublin assisting Mark Roderick throughout the Camrose weekend
- FN had requested clarification of who had authorised the expenses but had not been able to find any officer who was able to confirm this
- Member had not been asked to go in an official capacity and accordingly the MC refused the claim for expenses

Patrick Jourdain's Bequest

- PD bequeathed the WBU £10,000 in his will with no restrictions as to how it is spent
- Possible award like the Dimie Fleming awarded by EBU recognising work to promote and support bridge in Wales
- Nominations could be requested from Areas and Clubs via the website and letters
- It was decided that it is not necessary to place the funds in a separate bank account but they would be ring fenced
- Awards should be made at the AGM

The meeting closed at 16:00