

## WBU Management Committee Meeting

25<sup>th</sup> February 2020

Crossgates. 11.00

Amended

Present-David Newman, President, Fiona Noyes, Treasurer, Neville Richards, Alan Screen (MWBA). Geoff Evans (EWBA, minutes), Paddy Murphy (NWBA-speakerphone), Paul Denning (Chairman Selectors) Tony Disley (selector)

1. Apologies for absence-Jean Hand, NTO, Gareth Jones-(WWBA), Steve Webb (Memsec)
2. Minutes of last meeting. Matters arising.  
Under correspondence delete second paragraph replace with : -  
The selectors will be requested to attend the next meeting.  
Under Lady Milne delete second paragraph  
With these minutes were approved.
3. Report on the Junior Camrose held in Newport 14<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> February, which was a very successful event  
President's Report and latest financial spreadsheet attached.  
Financial spreadsheet did not include cost of shirts for the competitors. The gratuity to the restaurant was paid on the night by the president. Fiona estimates that the cost to the WBU of entering the event will be approximately £3500. No assessment of the cost to WBU of general insurance for the event was estimated-would be covered by our general insurance. Although the original spread sheets had been sent out early no one mentioned and missing items like uniforms and Central administration costs although the Treasurers knew nothing of the latter. Wi-Fi at the playing venue caused initial problems for BBO. University firewall caused difficulties which the resident technician was unable to sort, so he went home! Simon Richards eventually signed in on a 'Guest Account,' which worked well apart from one glitch that was sorted.
4. Selection issues.  
Paul Denning disputed the minutes of the previous meeting. For the Lady Milne trials in 2019, a 2-day trial was planned. 4 pairs had entered,

comprising 7 players from the South and Andrea, who was prepared to travel to South Wales for a one-day trial, but that would have to be a Saturday. Gilly, who had been asked by the selectors in December 2018 if she could find more pairs, had not responded. Then on January 9<sup>th</sup>, less than 2 weeks from the advertised trial, she announced that she had found up to 6 extra pairs but the selectors said that there was now insufficient time to re-organise. The original 4 pairs had been told that the trial would be one day, in South Wales. For a two-day trial, all would have to revert to Crossgates, but some of the original trialists had made alternative arrangements by then.

Four pairs played a pairs trial teamed with each of the other pairs. The selectors deemed this a very disappointing trial. The selectors said that they would not hold another 2-table trial.

In 2020, again, only 4 pairs entered. The cut off date was extended by 2 weeks, but only one more pair applied. The choice was thus to select from those 5 pairs.

Tony Disley, last year's Lady Milne NPC, had assumed that Gilly would continue to play with Sue, and that Ceri and Mieke would hope to play together after this year. Sue later stated that she was going to enter with Charlotte.

The selectors had little hope of running a successful trial after the 2019 effort, so decided to pick the team from the 5 pairs who had entered. Jean and her partner, the 5<sup>th</sup> pair, may have dropped out by this time.

A suggestion was made (GE) that there might be a bigger turn out for the ladies' trials if they were to pick their own selectors, as some ladies seem to have issues with some selectors. AS thought that the WBU only needed one selection committee; currently, 5/7 positions are filled on this committee; the selectors have the power to co-opt two more. Jean Hand had resigned as a selector, late in 2019, and Sarah Amos was asked to join, which she accepted. Diane Kurbalija had submitted a very thoughtful paper on the responsibilities of selectors; both selectors present were very impressed by this and, following discussions with the other selectors, if they agreed, then to offer Diane the chance to be a selector.

PM said that a transparent set of regulations was needed for Trials ANS Selections. However, PD said that there will always be exceptions to the rules!

The selectors then turned to the Open Team for Madeira. One team of four had entered and two pairs. Mike Tedd asked the team of 4 who they would prefer as teammates. He had analysed the Premier League results and adjusted the cross-imps. This was taken into account as well. All was very close. Cabinet responsibility had to rule. There was a split decision on the choice, but a joint decision was made. It would have been easy to argue either way who should have been picked; another selection team might easily have gone the other way. It was certainly not chosen on favouritism. Another issue was how the team chosen might get on/gel, a minor factor but definitely a factor. The decision was made in good faith.

It was hoped that Wales might send a Seniors team to Madeira, but that idea fell on stony ground. Some felt that a Mixed team might be possible, but nothing has emerged. AS thanked Paul and Tony for attending. Paul offered to attend MC meetings every three months if that would help.

5 Lisvane Bridge Club. The Treasurer feels that we are running down our resources quite quickly enough at the moment, and the feeling was that we do not wish to accelerate this process.

6 Officer's Reports.

NTO 39 pairs had taken part in the National Mixed Pairs. There was no heat in Mid Wales. So far, 15 pairs had entered the Champion of Champions event. She was expecting the entry to grow.

Treasurer's Report. Attached.

Memsec Report. Attached

Report from Selectors-Attached

7. Report on Working Party. There will be a meeting next Wednesday (4<sup>th</sup> March) Tony Disley has been co-opted.

8. Lady Milne and Camrose-not discussed.

9. Junior European event in Antwerp in April.

Melanie Thomas likely to drive a minibus over. NB. Students must take out their own insurance for laptops, cameras, phones etc as not covered by WBU

10. The selectors were in favour of restarting the Juniors Cup after many years. Possibly a one-day event with, eg Julian Pottage running a training session beforehand.

11. Website. No comments.

12. Publicity. On Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March, our President is due to give a cheque for £2200 to the Welsh Air Ambulance Service.

13. AOB. People are still sending out emails contravening the requirements of the GDPR . Fines of up to £20.000 can be levied for this. The WBU subscribes to the MailChimp service for mass mailing which ensures our compliance.

It was proposed by AS and seconded by FN that NR be reinstated as acting CEO and passed.

14. Date of Next Meeting.

Management Committee 14<sup>th</sup> April

Council meeting 21<sup>st</sup> or 28<sup>th</sup> April

The meeting closed at 3.25.