

Draft Minutes of MC 15 March 2023 @ 10am by Zoom

Present: Jean Cufley, Simon Gottschalk, Ceri Pierce, Paddy Murphy, Steve Webb, Alan Screen, Steve Jarvis
Apologies: Gilly Clench

1. **Minutes of last meeting** - accepted

2. **Selectors' Report**

There was an exciting finish at the Camrose 2nd weekend with Wales finishing in 2nd place. The team played very well.

The Lady Milne is in April in Perth, Scotland and the Teltscher in May in the Holiday Inn, Newport where we are the hosts.

It was noted that the players have had to fly up to Scotland for the LM the day before and stay in the hotel for an extra night which has placed a substantial cost on each player. Travel costs expected to be over 160.00 plus another 70.00 for the hotel. However, the venue is within 43 miles of an airport as stipulated by BGB. CP to raise the convenience of venues with BGB.

The MC hoped that the President was not going to Perth, Australia for the Lady Milne, as this would fall outside the travel regulations.

The location of the Premier League has been discussed and has been held in Llandrindod Wells in previous years. It has been suggested that it is held in Cardiff for logistical reasons this year. North Wales was consulted and confirmed that they would be happy to hold it in Cardiff. The Selectors sought the views of the MC regarding this.

MC approved with the comment from AS that there is a danger of becoming Cardiff-centric again and we must be wary of this. Llandrindod has been a good central venue until now. It would also mean that we should move the equipment from Crossgates to Cardiff.

Agreed - the Premier League should be moved to Cardiff and the location reviewed annually

Junior Camrose - there were some behaviour problems with one team. This has been raised formally with BGB.

The formation of a Celtic Nations Union has been mooted to put to BGB in the event that a 2nd host team cannot be raised (or even a first team) and the MC approved this.

3. **CEO Report**

A report was circulated beforehand. Items not already discussed under Selectors' Report were as follows:

Club Insurance

The Club Insurance policy broker has changed and taken over from the old one. New policy details remain the same and they have been circulated to all clubs. Renewals should be sent to Ceri (we have to administer the group ourselves now) and sent off by 31 March.

Teltscher

Organisation of the Teltscher is ongoing (Holiday Inn Newport).

Stepbridge UK

A committee meeting was held - minutes have been circulated separately.

Key points :

Epko has agreed to keep the server fee at 5K for April 23 to March 24 for which we are very grateful.

Table Money to remain the same for 23-24.

From 1 April, once a month a prize will be awarded to a pair of £50 for a trial period of 4 months.

From 1 April, Masterpoints to be awarded for a trial period of 4 months. SW conformed that this was possible following discussions with Tony H. Stepbridge UK has been set up on the MP system and the admin will be as for any other club.

Tel Aviv Invitation and the Transnationals

A team has been invited to apply to play in Tel Aviv. Applications must be made via the Selectors by 31 March.

Accommodation for Marrakech transnationals - early booking rates have been published.

3. Treasurers Report

A report was circulated beforehand.

Current balance in the accounts is 85K.

Upcoming payment for 2nd weekend of the Camrose is due.

Fiona Noyce has kindly agreed to scrutinise the accounts.

Noted that HMRC have informed us that no Corporation Tax returns need be made for the next 5 years as we are considered dormant as we are unlikely to make a profit. If any changes to our constitution are made or a profit > £100 is made then the position changes.

4. Masterpoints and Membership Report

A report was circulated beforehand

50 members subscribed for 23-24 so far, 30 paid.

Masterpoints for Welsh Cup and Cambria being compiled at the moment.

5. NTO Report

Welsh and Cambria Cup - GPs have proved to be troublesome for last year and a better system is in place for this year.

Regarding the Premier League, when the kit is moved down from Mid Wales for the Teltscher, it can be left in Cardiff so that there is no need to transport it back (for now).

Teams of 8 at the Tumble - big thanks to West Wales for the organisation. In the spirit of cooperation, clubs are struggling with low numbers so AS suggested that clubs could combine as they have done in the past.

Perry Spickett is set for 8-9 July. Simon to discuss with Sophie.

6. Area Reports

Mid

A report was circulated in advance.

Requested that the AGM event runs with full green points rather than half the GP rate.

SW to consider and respond.

East

The East recently held the EW Congress which was successful, at the Gwent Bridge Academy.

West

Mixed Pairs had 8 tables. A few more events coming up.

Next meeting is tomorrow.

No feedback yet from Swansea re increase in WBU membership fees.

7. AOB

AS emphasised the need for reports to be circulated a few days in advance of meetings to enable matters to be considered beforehand.

8. Date of next meeting

Wednesday 26 April 2023 at 10am.