

MC Meeting – 18th December 2024 at 11:00am by Zoom

Present: Ceri Pierce (part), Andrea Knox, Alan Screen, Mia Deschepper, Steve Jarvis, Jean Cufley, Simon Gottschalk

Apologies: Steve Webb,

1. Minutes of Last Meeting

Amendment required for Air Ambulance amount.

2. MiniBridge Update

The minibridge session at Cardiff Bridge Club was really great. Another is bringing run on 30 December.

Agreed to ask Sophie to be Junior Co-ordinator (Under 18s)

Action CP

3. Storage

Crossgates has been cleared to a temporary home in the West. Tony H is doing an inventory. There are lots of side tables amongst other things that we need to get rid of as we cannot see that they will ever be used again. There are approx. 30 bridge tables there as well.

Once the inventory has been completed, we will contact the clubs to see if they would like any of the equipment and also Oliver Cowan.

Alan has informed Crossgates and thanked them for hosting us over the years.

Some tables have gone to Radnorshire.

4. Marketing

Andrea and Ceri have been approached by a marketing person who has put forward a proposal to increase membership. The proposal was discussed and it was decided not to proceed. Any proposal / action plan requires people on the ground to implement it – i.e. people to run taster sessions. Ceri will circulate the proposal to the Management Committee for their information.

Action CP

5. International Update

There are 16-20 Juniors playing bridge now. There will be 2 Junior Camrose teams and 1 Peggy Bayer team. The Junior Camrose is played with screens. They will need to be trained in using screens – possibly on the Friday afternoon of the Junior Camrose. Mia offered to help and will talk to Sooz. They have exams coming up and they won't have much time. Mark R now has the ability to set up

matches on RealBridge and will run some over the Christmas break. He is also hoping to set up a separate night for the newer players to practice.

Camrose 1 selection was made following the Premier League. The 2nd weekend will be selected after completion of the 1st weekend.

There are 5 tables (10 pairs) entered for the LM which will run in January.

The Teltscher team has been selected but the players have not yet been contacted as no captain has yet been identified. Ceri will contact them regardless.

6. Finance Report

This was circulated in advance.

As at 12.45 on 17 December bank balances were:

WBU	£20215.79
StepBridge	£3846.50
Mon BS	£68228.06

Jean requested a small honorarium be paid for the review of accounts and doing the corporation tax. She reported that tax is payable on interest paid by the building society for anything over £1000. If there is more than £100 due to HMRC then we must pay tax on it – so interest over £1500 is taxable. No tax is payable on membership subscriptions. Corporation tax is 25% so interest of £400 would generate corporation tax of £100

Andrea suggested that every few years we should have the accounts reviewed by a regulated organisation and will approach a colleague for an informal review.

Jean to check that we are registered as a not-for-profit organisation with HMRC. Jean is the registered contact. Andrea requested that she and Ceri see any paperwork from HMRC.

Welsh Air Ambulance has been paid £500 from the Sim Pairs.

Outstanding debts were discussed. Ceri to chase up.

Junior Camrose will cost about 6K. We are on track to break even or make a small profit.

7. Club Visits

Andrea is intending to visit all the clubs. All to email Andrea to arrange some dates. Notice to go on the website.

Action CP

8. Masterpoints and Membership

A report was circulated before the meeting.

Membership

Membership now stands at 1,263

Masterpoints

Swansea have started uploading MPs again after a break due to illness

Income is £6,400 after 11 months of this year

9. NTO Report

Email shots are being sent out monthly.

Simon is working on a Masterpoints application.

Only 5 teams have been entered so far in the Hirst/Kurbalija Teams.

Club Tickets is now live at Cardiff Bridge Club. It is available to any club. Propose a demo to the Management Committee.

10. Area Reports

West

Porthcawl made approximately 3K profit. It has been booked for 2026 on 14-16 November.

Eligibility for events – ATO has difficulty identifying if someone is an Area member.

There is interest in using teaching Kits being used for the students and for minibridge. Steve to Email Andrea an address for one to be sent to, plus a set of slides. The students use the EBU Begin Bridge course – boards can be ordered and pre-dealt for the lessons.

One or two clubs may be interested in equipment in storage.

Action SJ

11. AOB

Steve requested if the Teltscher selection has taken place. Simon confirmed that this has happened as there were not enough teams for a trial. Players will be informed.

12. Date of Next Meeting

Wednesday 22nd Jan at 10:30.