

MC Meeting 14 June 2026

Present : Ceri Pierce, Andrea Knox, Paul Cunningham, Alan Screen, Jean Cufley, Steve Jarvis, Paddy Murphy

1. Apologies :

2. Treasurers Report and Accounts

The Treasurer's Report was distributed in advance.

Year end accounts will be finished by tomorrow and will be sent to Ceri for distribution.

3. Playing Cards and Bidding Boxes Updates

New cards are now being distributed by Andrea. 3,500 have gone out so far. Hoping that majority will be distributed at the Perry and Spickett. Approx 25 tables worth of bidding box inserts left (the big ones) as these were estimates.

Andrea will type up the list of clubs that have responded yet for the areas to check who has not yet been in touch to place orders.

We may be a few boxes short of cards – currently undergoing a count, before paying the invoice.

4. Junior Update

The junior Camrose was really great. Great camaraderie and the JC team came third by a whisker. They have been really well coached and are now the behaviour of all teams was excellent.

There is no Welsh Junior trophy currently. Andrea would like to propose an Individual competition to be launched later in the year. Age limit to be discussed. Suggested that the coaches could have honorary entry but cannot win it.

Paul queried what was going to happen in the next academic year. Cardiff Uni are now running their own Freshers Fair. Swansea may be a viable option for next year. We would need volunteers from the West to push this forward. The Cardiff juniors may be able to help with this. Lessons and coaching in the West would need to be set up. Steve to ask Swansea Bridge Club if they would be interested in supporting students.

5. Bridgesteddford

The timetable for the Bridgesteddford was discussed.

Will look at Porthcawl, Llandudno and one other to see if mixed or mens/womens

Suggested times were discussed:

Fri Speedball

Sat 12 – 7 / 7.30 Saturday

Sun 11 - 6

Agreed that we use one Trophy for photos and retain it.

6. Constitution Changes for Committees

L&E - David Stevenson has volunteered for the L&E and would make an excellent addition . Currently the L&E committee has 3 members. Andrea proposed that the constitution is be changed to increase the size of the committee to up to 5 members to allow for a spread of skills to be available – eg legal skills, bridge playing skills, bridge laws skills etc.

James Williams has volunteered to be Treasurer. Will need to check if he will be at the AGM to pass all the paperwork to him and conduct a handover.

Selection – Andrea has found the meetings quite toxic and has found some members behaviour to be rude and misogynistic, but has no problem with the actual work that they do. She outlined some of the behavioural problems that she had encountered.

EWBA has raised this at their last meeting – they thought that the selectors have done a good job and do not see the need for one selector from each area. Andrea agreed that they do a good job in selection but outlined some of the issues she has encountered with behaviours that she no longer wishes to experience. The selectors age and gender profile are not representative of the membership.

Andrea therefore asked for one selector from each area to be nominated. Nominations from the council of course are up for discussion.

A survey has been sent by Andrea to the selectors/potential selectors to help determine their terms of reference to protect the selectors in terms of transparency / conflict.

Council meeting will be held on Wednesday 13th May at 10 (note subsequently changed to 11am) by Zoom. Names of 2 council members from each area from to be sent to Ceri.

Constitutional Changes were circulated and agreed. Ceri to distribute to the members.

No NTO has been identified. The role is currently shared between Simon G, Ceri and Andrea.

7. Café Bridge

Andrea attended a café bridge drive recently. Wales used to have one in Cardiff. Noted that a large team would be required to organise them. Swansea or Cardiff would be ideal locations.

8. Trophies

There are 4 boxes of trophies now stored. They are in very poor condition and there is no or little space left for names to be engraved and some are in bits. Discussion was held regarding what to do with them.

Paddy suggested that a photographic archive is created. If any are made of silver, then sell them and use the proceeds for new trophies. A virtual presentation is better than a physical one. (Archive materials from Mike Tedd has also been received by Andrea and will be electronically archived / preserved).

Paddy volunteered to carry out this task. The MC unanimously agreed this.

Steve suggested that one trophy is used to present at **all** events and kept.

9. **BGB**

Andrea proposed that the BGB eligibility rules be changed so that under 18s are eligible to play for Wales if their grandparents and parents are eligible by residency for under 18s. Ceri did not support this change.

Alan queried whether the eligibility would be retained after this. Clarified that Welsh eligibility is retained if they have represented Wales before.

East will raise it with their committee. Mid was in favour, North and West had no strong views.

10. **Perry, Spickett and Presidents Cup**

Agreed that the Presidents Cup eligibility should be 'club standard' and 'friendly'.

Teams :

West probably have a Perry team and have a Presidents team and no women for the Spickett

East invited 3 clubs to nominate for the Presidents – expect to have 3 teams

Mid have 3 teams

North has a Presidents Cup. The others will be discussed later this week

If there are 3 teams it will be run over two days. If only 2 teams then it can be run over one day.

If there are not enough, I was agrees that there could be a 'mixed area' team.

Starting time on Saturday is 12 (Ceri to check that the website is correct)

11. **Area Reports**

East – Perry and Spickett is being sorted out. Feb congress was well attended 36 pairs and 19 teams. Flyers for next year have already been produced and will be held in Chepstow. EWBA league has gone well and is now using RealBridge. A dealing machine has been repaired and has one that is available for loan. Western League teams are doing well and the A team is lying 2nd at the moment.

Knockout teams was won by a team containing 3 juniors.

Mid – a report was circulated by email.

West – Porthcawl going ahead. Teams event was cancelled recently, considering running on BBO. Interclub teams has 8 entries – the preference was surprisingly to play face to face. There has been little uptake for online bridge from beginners. Andrea suggested Cake Club (the next one is 2pm 13th May). Hoping to start lessons in Haverfordwest and looking at providing a set of boards for this. Steve to check with Sooz. Sponsorship for EBED and TD courses has been offered. Only one has taken up the TD training. Trainee TDs could go to 6

North – Llandudno congress entry form will be online – 1st weekend in August.

12. AOB

Good luck to the Lady Milne team

13. Date of Next Meeting

13th May after the 11am Council meeting if necessary.

Ceri to update the MC with who will be attending the Council Meeting.