

MINUTES OF THE YCBA MANAGEMENT BOARD MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 28 AUGUST 2018 AT THE GARFORTH HOLIDAY INN COMMENCING AT 7.15 PM.

PRESENT: Nick Woolven (Chairman), Phil Godfrey (Vice-Chairman), Julia Staniforth (Secretary), Lesley Millet (Treasurer), Robin Jepson (Assistant Secretary), David Guild John Hayton and David Waxman.

In attendance: Philip Mason (YCBA President) and Ron Millet (EBU Board Member).

1) APOLOGIES AND DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

Apologies were received from Stuart Davies and invited attendee Phil Morrison.

There were no declarations of interests in respect of any agenda items.

2) MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

The minutes of the Management Board held on 2 June were agreed as a correct record and signed by the chairman. The minutes of the AGM held on 2 June 2018 were recommended as a correct record for presentation to the next AGM subject to the second sentence of paragraph three of item three being amended to read; 'It was explained that EBED was a distinct organisation providing a national network for bridge teachers to support the teaching of bridge'.

3) MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

a) Annual General Meeting

i) Future publications of Yorkshire News

No volunteer had been forthcoming to take on the role of editor and discussion took place whether further publications were in fact necessary when all competitions details and news items were posted on the website. Printed copies had ceased to be produced since the newly formatted document had been produced. It was agreed that the chairman would forward a written newsletter for circulation via club secretaries as and when required.

ii) Implementation of revised membership criteria

Discussions had taken place with the owner of Pianola who had agreed to download the EBU membership data on a six monthly basis at no extra cost which would initially provide an up to date membership list of members with Yorkshire as their county of allegiance. It was thought there were a small number of members who were not members of a YCBA affiliated club and these could be deleted and around two hundred members whose county of allegiance was not Yorkshire but who were members of a YCBA affiliated club. It was agreed that the downloading should be undertaken onto the Pianola database and to update membership records with known information. David Guild agreed to contact Ted Crebbin to progress this. It was clarified that the Pianola database had two purposes, one to hold membership data and the second for marketing events to both YCBA members and those that had attended competitions. The issue of collecting data from those deemed to members under the revised criteria could be considered when the Pianola database was fully operational.

iii) Arrangements for the 2018 Members Meeting/training event

It was agreed that the Members Meeting would be held on Sunday 18 November 2018 at the Leeds Hilton Hotel over the lunchtime period with seminars to be agreed by the Bridge Development committee possibly with a session on ethics. Initial proposed timings of a light buffet lunch served at noon with the meeting commencing at 12.15 pm until 1.30 pm. The chair of the BDC was requested to arrange the booking of the Leeds Hilton for the event.

b) Board Meeting

i) Co-option of Board member to the remaining vacancy

In order to share the workload and responsibilities it was agreed that an appointment to the remaining vacancy would be beneficial and that ideally a member of large bridge club not currently represented on the Board would be preferential.

ii) Review of committee membership

Philip Mason was appointed as Chair of the Yorkshire League committee, and Robin Jepson would substitute for the secretary at meetings of the Tournament Committee.

iii) Appointment of a Fourth Shareholder

David Guild had received a shareholder certificate and it was assumed that Janet Latham had returned her certificate following her retirement from the Board. The secretary reported it was necessary to ensure that the proposed shareholder was eligible in view of his current consultancy role as Regional Development Officer. The secretary agreed to contact the EBU and clarify the issue.

iv) Duplimate boards for division three of the Yorkshire League

Robin Jepson reported that no teams in Division 3 had objected to the introduction of duplimate boards and the following arrangements would be instigated. James Carpenter had volunteered to collate the Butler scores with Robin providing support. Jim Edwards currently arranged the files for division one and two and James would need to contact Jim for the information. Phil Godfrey would arrange for the duplimate of the Boards with the same security provisos as currently existed for divisions one and two.

4) GDPR UPDATE/EBU DATA PROCESSING AGREEMENT

John Hayton reported that the necessary privacy notices had been published and there had been no issues or concerns arising to date but this may change when marketing using the Pianola database commences.

The EBU had issued a formal agreement document outlining the arrangements for the sharing and transfer of data between the county and the EBU. It was agreed that the document be signed and the secretary was to complete.

5) NORTHERN BRIDGE LEAGUE - COMPLAINT REGARDING SELECTION

Correspondence had been received relating to the selection of reserves for the A2 team and subsequent selection of one of the reserve pairs for the B team for the second match of the 2018 competition. Information had also been requested on selection criteria and it had been explained that this was published on the website. The Chairman explained the issue had resulted from one of the A2 pairs being unsure whether they could play and the withdrawal of a second pair and the necessity of arrange reserves. It was accepted that the communication of the final selection could have been improved to better explain the circumstances that had arisen. The Chairman was asked to respond to the complaint apologising for the perceived lack of communication and that every effort would be made in future to ensure clarity with the selection of reserves.

6) SIMULTANEOUS PAIRS ADMINISTRATION

James Carpenter had volunteered to administer the four events with the EBU compiling and publishing the results. James would liaise with the clubs and arrange to upload a word document of the hand records with a commentary produced by Alan Hayward which James would forward to clubs. The Chairman agreed to contact James and discuss with Stuart Davies the actual details of how the hand records would be compiled and distributed. The Vice- Chair would liaise with James on technical matters.

It was noted that complaints had been received following the last event as no hand records were available immediately after the event for players to take away and it was accepted that this needed to be rectified in order for clubs to continue to take part in the event. The Vice-Chair had agreed with clubs to refund 50% of the entry fee in lieu of the lack of hand records immediately after the event.

A question was asked relating to simultaneous pairs events administered by EBED and David Waxman explained these were for raising funds and it was thought may be open open to non-affiliated clubs to encourage participation in bridge events.

7) REPORT ON REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT PILOT PROJECT

Signed:-----(Chairman)

Date:-----

A meeting had been arranged but had been deferred due to unforeseen and unavoidable circumstances. The Regional Development Officer outlined that the main focus of the project was to support clubs through intervention to initiate recruitment of new members. Twenty two of the thirty four clubs had been visited and it was felt that the initial task will have been accomplished by the end of 2018. The initiative was now being rolled out nationally with all counties being encouraged to take part and to engage in recruitment of new members. Statistics continued to be produced denoting an increase in the average age of bridge players which needed to be rectified. The EBU had identified that approximately 11.5 bridge players could be expected from every 100,000 of population and YCBA membership should be approximately double based on this statistic. However it was accepted that bridge was not suitable for all and a more targeted approach was needed.

A message of thanks was extended to David Guild for his role which had resulted in an increased membership which was now reflected in an increase in the number of teams competing in the Yorkshire League for the past two seasons. As a result of the pilot the EBU had created a new national post to extend the work started by David.

8) EBU'S PROPOSAL TO CEASE THE SECOND SHAREHOLDER MEETING

Notification had been received from the EBU requesting that consideration be given to a proposal that holding of a second shareholder meeting be revised as follows:

- a) To no longer be scheduled and only convened at the requisition of the required number of shareholders
- b) To take place every other year with a Chairman's meeting held alternate years.
- c) To continue until further notice

Shareholders reported that often there was little business transacted and there would be a saving of around £400 over the two years.

It was agreed that option b) was acceptable and the Chairman would notify the EBU.

9) FINANCIAL UPDATE AND ISSUES ARISING FROM THE 2017/18 ACCOUNTS

The treasurer reported that the current balance was in the region of £44k but this included a number of entries for the forthcoming Great Northern Swiss Pairs event. The YCBA Congress had made a surplus of around £1k which whilst broadly in line with the previous year but reflected a slight reduction over the two days as the previous Friday event had incurred a loss.

An enquiry was made regarding the amount of competition income reflected in the income section of the 2017/2018 accounts and it was explained the figure was the surplus of income over expenditure.

10) DIMMIE FLEMING AWARD NOMINATIONS

The closing date for the receipt of 2018 nominations had now elapsed but it was felt appropriate to consider whether any retiring members of the Board should be considered and the Secretary was asked to contact the EBU to ascertain if a late nomination could be accepted. In the event that nominations could not be accepted it was agreed that further consideration be given to the matter at the next meeting and further information compiled.

11) SUCCESSION PLANNING AND FUTURE ORGANISATIONAL ARRANGEMENTS

The following additional support was noted and particularly welcomed:

- Mike Jackson was now compiling the Yorkshire League fixtures
- James Carpenter was to undertake the administration of the Simultaneous Pairs
- Jim Edwards had assumed responsibility for 'improvers events'

The Chairman agreed to contact the recently appointed County Youth Officer to ascertain if any support with the role was required.

Club liaison would to be discussed at the next Bridge Development Committee meeting.

12) ANY OTHER BUSINESS/ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

Signed:-----(Chairman)

Date:-----

a) Insurance provision

The Vice-Chairman raised the issue of insurance cover and there was a need to ensure adequate cover was in place. The treasurer reported that the current insurance was arranged through the EBU and the EBU's own insurance covered counties and officers as a constituent member. The Treasurer was asked to contact the EBU to obtain details of exactly what was covered.

b) EBU website

It was noted that the EBU had compiled a directory of bridge teachers and tournament directors and David Waxman reported that this would be updated in the future.

c) Marketing

This was to be discussed at the next Bridge Development committee would include progression of the usage of the Pianola database as a marketing tool for congress events.

13) DATE AND TIME OF FUTURE MEETINGS

The following meetings had now been arranged:

Bridge Development Committee – 11 September 2018

Tournament Committee - 24 September 2018

The next Board meeting would take place on the day of the Members Meeting if time permits and would be determined by the chairman and secretary when the proposed programme for the training event/members meeting had been agreed by the Bridge Development Committee.

J A Staniforth
YCBA Secretary

Signed:-----(Chairman)

Date:-----