

MINUTES of the YCBA MANAGEMENT BOARD meeting held at the Hilton Hotel, Garforth on Tuesday 3rd September 2019 at 6.30 pm.

PRESENT: Nick Woolven (chair), Robin Jepson, Lesley Millet, Stuart Davies, David Guild, John Hayton, Pauline Stout. **In attendance:** Ron Millet.

1. Apologies for absence had been received from Julia Staniforth and Phil Godfrey, and also from invited attendees, Philip Mason and Phil Morrison. There were no declarations of interest.

2. Minutes of the meetings of the Management Board on 15 January and 8 June 2019 and the Tournament Committee on 30 April 2019 were approved and signed by the chair. Minutes of the AGM on 8 June 2019 were approved. Minutes of the meeting of the Grants Committee on 8 June and 12 July 2019 were approved and signed by NW on behalf of PG.

3. Matters arising:

Player seminars: no progress yet with arrangements for seminars to be presented by Michael Byrne and Andrew Robson. LM to liaise with the organiser, Lesley Bridson

Nominations for Dimmie Fleming awards: nomination for Janet Latham submitted; nomination for SD to be carried forward to next year – SD to produce his bridge administration CV.

EBU Score training: PG unavailable for Members' Meeting so this training to be carried forward to another occasion.

Cafe bridge event: referred to Tournament Committee for further consideration.

Co-option of additional Board member: Phil Morrison had declined invitation; it was thought desirable to have another Board member based in the south or east of the county, further consideration to be given to suitable candidates.

2019-20 competition calendar: completed apart from distribution to a few clubs; RJ dealing.

Support for County Youth Officer: PS dealing with request for a bridge teacher for Ashville College.

Play without Experts event: PS and SD to organise 2020 event.

4. Arrangements for maintenance and development of the website: Phil Morrison had reported the Beta version of Pianola was ready to run but a link is required to the Yorkshire League site. DG agreed to assist on an interim basis. RM reported that agreement has been given for Surrey to develop a learning resource using the Learn Bridge Yorkshire site as a template (Jim Edwards to assist Surrey with this).

5. Financial update: NW thanked members of the Grants Committee for their work. Publicity for the award of grants to eight affiliated clubs is to be posted on websites, by NW for the YCBA site and by RM for the EBU site. LM reported that the opening of the new account with Santander will be completed shortly.

6. The meeting of the Bridge Development Committee scheduled for 27 August has been postponed till later in September. (LM and RM left the meeting for a prior engagement).

7. NW and DG reported on EBU issues. The EBU is budgeting for a loss and main options under consideration are reductions in member services and an increase in the fees payable for universal membership. The Northern Counties are to make a submission that an alternative of reducing funding to EBED would be preferable. DG reported on the assurance initiative and kitemark proposals.

8. Programme for Members Meeting, 17 November 2019 at the Leeds Hilton: PS reported the meeting will include presentations by Kren Nielsen on Bridge Plus, James Ward on Pianola updates and Mike Ferguson on mentoring at Leeds Bridge Club. Representatives of the Manchester and North-East associations will attend.

9. Marketing of YCBA one day competitions: there have been reduced attendances at both the Mixed Pivot Teams and Yorkshire Pairs in recent years. It was thought the YP should continue to be run by the YCBA itself as the county's premier pairs event and the qualifier for the Corwen Trophy. The future of the Pivot Teams to be referred to the Tournament Committee – suggestions included making it an open, rather than mixed, event and outsourcing the organisation to an affiliated club.

10. Role and responsibilities of Membership Secretary. NW had been in touch with Ted Crebbin who was content to stand down. NW will thank Ted for his services. It was agreed that following the introduction of universal membership and changes in the way YCBA membership records are now held (derived from the EBU membership database) there is no longer a requirement for a separate membership secretary so this position would not be filled.

11. Any other business: NW reported a request for an annual friendly match with Lincolnshire and there was general support for this, the Yorkshire team to be comprised mainly of players from the south of the county. The death had been announced of Huddersfield and Bradford player Les Brown, a former editor of YCBA Bulletin / News, and NW would contact Huddersfield with a view to an obituary being posted on the website.

12. Next meeting: Tuesday 14 January 2020 at the same venue.

The meeting closed at 8.20 pm.