

Minutes of the YCBA Management Board meeting held on Friday 10TH June 2016 commencing after the Annual General Meeting at Doncaster Bridge Club

PRESENT: P Godfrey (Vice- Chairman), J A Staniforth (Secretary), J Latham (Assistant Secretary), S V Davies(Tournament Secretary), R Jepson, J O'Sullivan and D Waxman.

1) Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from N Woolven (Chairman), L Millet (Secretary) and M Bratley (County Youth Officer).

2) Attendance at Board Meetings

It was agreed that:

- a) The YCBA President be invited to attend any meeting of the Management Board in view of his experience and continuing contribution to the Yorkshire League and competitions generally as an elected member of the EBU Tournament Committee.
- b) Where no member of the Management Board is elected or co-opted to the EBU Board of Directors any YCBA member who is elected/co-opted to the EBU Board shall be entitled to attend Management Board meetings primarily as an observer but to provide advice and guidance on national matters and any other matter as felt appropriate.
- c) Officers appointed by the Management Board who are not members of the Board shall be invited by the Chairman (in consultation with the Secretary) to any Board meeting as is felt appropriate.

3) Minutes of the Previous Meetings

- a)The minutes of the Management Board meeting held on 9th February 2016 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Vice-Chairman.
- b) The minutes of the Tournament Committee meetings held on 22 February and 15 March 2016 were agreed as correct records subject to Stuart Davis being amended to Stuart Davies in the Tournament Committee minutes dated 15 March 2015.

4) Matters arising from the minutes.

a) Management Board – 9 February 2016

i) Item 3b) - Presidents Cup

This was to be held on 18/19 June 2016 at Bradford Bridge Club.

ii) Item 4 – Financial Matters

The issue of the proposed auditor/accountant being a member of the same affiliated club as the Treasurer was raised and consideration was given to whether any other suitably qualified YCBA member could carry out the role. It was agreed that D Waxman approach K Cornish.

iii) Item 5 – Bridge Development

It was confirmed that there would be no EBU Junior Teach-In this year and whilst a northern event was being considered it was known that there would be two events in the south and it was therefore more cost effective for YCBA to contribute towards the cost of attendance at one of the two southern teach-ins.

iv) Item 14 - Correspondence from Leeds Bridge Club

A response had been sent by the Chairman and the matter was now resolved.

v) Item 15a) – Adjacent county enquiry regarding entry to the Yorkshire League

The Secretary had outlined the implications for a club in a neighbouring county competing in the Yorkshire League and no further approach had been received.

b) Tournament Committee – 22 February 2016

Page 2 – Affiliated Teams Event

The Monk Fryston venue had met with a mixed response the lighting was poor and the playing area restrictive with just twelve teams and it was proposed to return to Tickton

Grange for a further year and evaluate support from clubs to the east of the county for 2017.

c) Tournament Committee – 15 March 2016

i) 2016/17 Calendar of Events

S Davies reported that the former West Yorkshire Swiss Teams event would now be known as Bradford Swiss Pairs.

ii) EBU Spring Congress

The Cairn had been chosen as the most appropriate venue and there would be no room hire costs if a minimum of 60 bedrooms were booked and paid for.

5) To consider issues arising from the 2016 AGM

Item 5 - Request for a Partner Finding Facility

The Pianola system was used very successfully at Leeds and Harrogate bridge clubs and it was agreed that this should be introduced in the autumn linked from the YCBA website. It was suggested that James Ward be invited to meet with members prior to the next Board meeting to progress the issue.

Item 8 - Membership Issues

It was noted that two large clubs Leeds and York had been unwilling to supply membership information and the secretary agreed to contact Leeds membership secretary to discuss this further. It was hoped a new EBU database would address the problems currently faced with trying to manage membership data.

Item 11 - Mothering Sunday

It was agreed to avoid scheduling events on Mothering Sunday as far as practicably possible.

6) Appointments of County Youth Officer and Membership Secretary

Mark Bratley and Ted Crebbin were re-appointed as County Youth Officer and Membership Secretary respectively.

7) Review of committees, membership of committees and terms of reference

The following amendments were agreed.

P G Mason to be co-opted to the Tournament Committee

I Johns and A Kimberley to be co-opted to the Bridge Development Committee

P Godfrey to be appointed to the 'A' Selection Committee

8) EBU Shareholders

The existing shareholders of N Woolven, J Staniforth, J Latham and L Millet were confirmed.

9) Calendar of events 2016/2017

This would be finalised by the Tournament Secretary

10) Cheque Signatories

P G Mason to be replaced by N Woolven and P Godfrey.

11) Review of Easter Festival and YCBA Congress

The entry numbers for the Easter Festival were slightly reduced from the previous year and it was felt the service from the hotel was not as good as the previous year due to new management and therefore there was a need to ensure effective communication of requirements for the 2017 event.

Entries for the YCBA Congress were also reduced particularly on the Friday and it was likely that a financial loss would be incurred. Whilst there was much positive feedback there had been some complaints relating to the hotel meal times and the main pairs final had not been

an all play all which would now be enacted for 2017. It was realised that entry forms needed to be available earlier and more marketing was needed.

12) EBU Publication: 'Best Practice for County Association's' Document

It was agreed to consider the document at the next Board meeting.

13) Any Other Business

a) YCBA Newsletter

The Editor outlined that it was felt appropriate to review the publication of the newsletter as it had now been produced for over 12 months and evidence was needed that the publication was valued by the membership. It was suggested that a communication three or four times a year was probably sufficient to keep members informed but ultimately most information could be accessed via the website. The issue would be raised at the next Members Meeting in November 2016.

b) Advertising Neighbouring County Events

A request had been received from Nottinghamshire to promote their one day county green point events. It was agreed to do so if a reciprocal arrangement could be enacted.

c) Correspondence relating to the West Yorkshire Swiss Teams Event

Stuart Davies and John O'Sullivan withdrew from the meeting during consideration of this item.

Two participants in the West Yorkshire Swiss Teams event had written to the Chairman regarding the final round assignments which were believed to advantage a team to the detriment of other teams. The matter had been raised with the EBU who had declined to comment.

It was agreed that as the competition was organised and administered by Bradford Bridge Club the matter should be addressed by the club in conjunction with the Director of the event.

14) Date and Time of Next Meeting.

Tuesday September 13th , Holiday Inn, Garforth, commencing at 7.15 pm.