

## **MINUTES OF YCBA BOARD MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 15 JANUARY 2019 AT THE HOLIDAY INN GARFORTH COMMENCING AT 7.15 PM.**

**PRESENT:** Nick Woolven (Chairman), Phil Godfrey (Vice-Chairman), Julia Staniforth (Secretary), Lesley Millet (Treasurer), Stuart Davies (Tournament Secretary), Robin Jepson (Assistant Secretary), David Guild, John Hayton and Pauline Stout (from item 2)  
**IN ATTENDANCE:** Philip Mason (YCBA President) and Ron Millet (EBU Board Member)

### **1) APOLOGIES AND DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS**

Apologies were received from invited attendee Phil Morrison.

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

### **2) MANAGEMENT BOARD MEMBERSHIP CHANGES**

The resignation of David Waxman was reported with regret. However his offer to continue to provide advice and information particularly in relation to EBED matters was welcomed. There was a need to establish whether he wished to remain a member of the Conduct Committee.

It was agreed to co-opt Pauline Stout from Wetherby BC (currently a co-opted member of the Bridge Development Committee) with immediate effect.

### **3) MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

The minutes of the Management Board held on 28 August 2018 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the chairman subject to 'now' being removed from the fourth line of item 5. The minutes of the Bridge Development Committee meeting held on 11 September and the Tournament Committee held on 24 September 2018 were agreed and duly signed. The notes of the Members Meeting held on 18 November 2018 were recommended as a correct record for submission to the next Members Meeting.

It was noted that the minute book for the period 1999 – 2006 would be stored with Stuart Davies.

### **4) MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

#### **a) Board Meeting**

##### **i) Publication of Newsletters**

Discussion took place as to whether there was a requirement to continue to provide newsletters in the format produced by the former editor and it was concluded that there had been no requests for these and that all the necessary information could be published on the website. It was agreed that a chairman's blog be introduced containing relevant news and a club focus feature.

##### **ii) Membership data and maintenance of the Pianola database**

It was concluded that the maintenance of the Pianola database for marketing purposes was too onerous to keep up to date and data records should be based on the EBU database. There was an issue that EBU database did not currently record any request for members who wished to unsubscribe to marketing information and it was agreed that David Guild ask the EBU if it would be possible to include this. It was felt that further discussion was needed regarding the roles and responsibilities of the Membership Secretary and David Guild and Ron Millet were asked to discuss this and to contact the EBU as necessary for further advice and guidance.

##### **iii) Duplimate Boards for Division 3/Administration of Simultaneous Pairs**

The work being undertaken by James Carpenter for both tasks was working well.

The Tournament Secretary reported that there had been an issue about the timing of the receipt of the hands for division one of the Yorkshire League match and it had now been arranged for the hands to be made available the previous Sunday to allow time for the duplimate to be undertaken. The Tournament Secretary and Michael Clark at the EBU had provided assistance with the simultaneous pairs events and writers for the

commentaries had been sought. It was noted that numbers participating were slightly reduced but it was still felt to be a popular event.

iv) **GDPR**

The agreement with the EBU had been signed and forwarded to the EBU. No issues had arisen since the last meeting.

v) **Response to complaint regarding selection of an NBL team**

The Chairman had written to the complainant explaining the circumstances and the matter was now fully resolved.

vi) **Dimmie Fleming Awards**

It was agreed that Janet Latham be nominated for an award and that the former chairman and secretary compile and submit the necessary information to the EBU for the next round of nominations. It was also agreed that a profile be drawn up for Stuart Davies with a view for submission subject to his eligibility being confirmed by the EBU which Ron Millet was asked to pursue.

vii) **Support for youth events**

The CYO had uploaded an amount of information on the website and created a twitter account. Information was being sought on teaching in schools which was thought to be only at QUEGS, along with a Sheffield primary school and a York school. David Guild reported that Giggleswick could be approached and the BDC could progress this. An event for juniors was being considered for April but a venue was needed.

viii) **Insurance**

It was clarified that no dual cover existed. A copy of the policy was to be forwarded from the treasurer to the secretary electronically for reference.

b) **Members Meeting**

i) **Seminars**

A seminar for intermediate players by Michael Byrne was being arranged for 17 or 28 April 2019 at Leeds BC at a cost of £10 per head. Arrangements were in hand for David Bakshi to provide a seminar for higher level players in October which would include a focus on partnerships if a separate seminar could not be arranged. The Vice-Chair was currently awaiting a reply from a leading pair regarding a seminar for partnerships.

ii) **Arrangements for future meetings**

It was agreed that the holding of the Members Meeting in conjunction with a training forum had worked well and had attracted more people. Whilst the Leeds Hilton had excellent internal facilities the issue of car parking needed to be addressed. It was agreed to obtain costings and view venues at the Garforth Holiday Inn and the Bridge Inn at Wetherby prior to the AGM.

## **5) EBU AGM AND CONSULTATIONS**

Ron Millet had been re-elected to the EBU Board for a three year term and had provided a report on the membership drive which had been very well received. A presentation had also been given from the EBED chairman. It was agreed that a Chairman's meeting would be held on 15<sup>th</sup> May 2019 and that there would be no second shareholder's meeting. There was no update on the outcome of the consultation on refusal of EBU membership and it had been agreed that the status quo should remain in relation to the Tollemache seeding arrangements for 2019/20.

## **6) FUNDING AWARDS TO CLUBS FOR TECHNOLOGY IMPROVEMENTS**

It was agreed that clubs be invited to bid for funding to provide for technological improvements such as bridgemates, duplimate equipment, television screens or server upgrades. Phil Godfrey agreed to produce an application form based on the one used by the EBU and that one application per club could be made. There would be a requirement to return any items of equipment (if requested) in the event that the club ceased to be an affiliated club. Details would be sent to club secretaries by the end of February 2019, with a reference on the website and in the Chairman's blog and a closing date of 30<sup>th</sup>

Signed:-----(Chairman)

Date:-----

June 2019. A committee comprising the vice-chair, secretary, treasurer and David Guild would oversee the arrangements.

#### **7) 2019/20 YORKSHIRE LEAGUE DATES**

The Yorkshire League match dates for 2019/20 were agreed as:

27 Oct, 10 Nov, 01 Dec 2019,  
05 Jan, 26 Jan, 16 Feb and 08 Mar 2020

#### **8) BRIDGE DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE UPDATE**

A report was circulated relating to the pilot membership campaign which commenced eighteen months ago and had generated a total of 429 new members giving a net increase of 161 at a time when most county memberships were falling. In order to continue the trend the project would continue for a further year until February 2020 with the role of the Regional Development Officer continuing on a reduced basis at a cost of £2.5k to be met from the bridge development budget.

There had been an approach to provide funding for a U3A group and it was agreed that no funding should be given to non-affiliated groups.

Other developments discussed at the meeting held on 14 January 2019 included:

- A teachers' course at Wetherby BC (four places were still available)
- A Director's course to be held – Halifax BC a possible venue
- An EBU Score course to be arranged run by Phil Godfrey
- A café bridge event at a venue to be determined

#### **9) EXPENSE RATES**

The current rate of expenses had been agreed at the February 2018 meeting with mileage rates reviewed if HMRC rates changes with effect from 1 April 2019.

#### **10) CONDUCT COMMITTEE REPORT**

The Chairman of the Conduct Committee reported that it had been necessary to investigate a complaint and a counter complaint arising from a Yorkshire league match. The complaints had been resolved and the details filed. It was felt however that it would be helpful if further guidance could be sent out outlining the procedure to be followed should a dispute arise in a Yorkshire league match. The Yorkshire League Secretary agreed to arrange this.

#### **11) FINANCIAL UPDATE**

The treasurer reported that the current balance was in the region of £53k but this included a number of entries for the forthcoming Harrogate Spring Congress event.

A question was raised relating to the surplus from Congresses administered on behalf of the EBU and it was confirmed that only the licence fee was payable to the EBU and any surplus accrued remained with YCBA.

#### **12) ANY OTHER BUSINESS/ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS**

Helen Barr had enquired as to whether a non-affiliated club could again take part in the Affiliated Teams event. It was agreed that as the competition had originally included teams from non-affiliated clubs the practice should continue.

#### **13) DATE AND TIME OF FUTURE MEETINGS**

The following meetings had been arranged:

Bridge Development Committee – 08 April 2019

Tournament Committee – 30 April 2019 at 10.30 am at the Millet's home

Selection Committee – 'A' selection on 16 January 2019 ('B/C' Selection to be arranged)

The next Board meeting' would take place on or around the day of the AGM.

Signed:-----(Chairman)

Date:-----