

**Minutes of the YCBA Tournament Committee meeting held on Tuesday 17th September 2024 at 4.30 pm by Zoom video conference.**

**PRESENT:** Nick Woolven (Tournament Chair), Lesley Millet (Treasurer), Robin Jepson (Assistant Secretary), Ron Millet, Pauline Stout and Stuart Davies.

**1) Apologies for absence and declarations of interest**

None

**2) and 3) Minutes of previous meeting on 20th August 2024 and matters arising**

The minutes were approved. Matters arising:

- Trophies - agreed that YCBA will accept the offer from a relative of George Nelson, one of the founders of YCBA, to donate the 1946 Trophy, which will be used for the Yorkshire Championship Pairs, the previous trophy having gone missing several years ago. **Open.**
- Stuart Davies will deliver all the trophies still in his possession to the York Bridge Club repository at the earliest convenient opportunity. **Open.**
- Jim Edwards has uploaded the list of competition winners onto the website. **Closed**
- RM to draft a response to the correspondence received from Tom Gisborne, for approval by NW, **Closed.**

**4) Report of the Congresses Sub-committee.**

- NW reported on ongoing discussions with Oliver Cowan on the 2025 Yorkshire Congress. Hotel venue still to be decided, and OC working on costings. The Congress will be a two day event with Pairs, Teams and Nine High competitions. OCs remuneration still to be decided, likely to be a base fee plus a percentage of the entry fees. OC to publicise the Congress via his database and newsletter but YCBA will take the entries. OC has agreed these arrangements will be documented in a written contract. NW to arrange for the Congress to be included in the EBU Calendar. **Open.**
- Arrangements for the Great Northern Swiss Pairs are proceeding; 30 entries received to date for the main event, and 8 for the Nine High. NW will ask OC to promote this competition as well, and offer him a free entry in return. At the request of PS, it was agreed that the main event and Nine High will be publicised in the same leaflet. **Open.**
- Harrogate Spring Congress. LM to produce a leaflet and RM to work on costings. **Open.**

**5) Review of competitions played since the last meeting**

None

**6) Arrangements for forthcoming events**

New Year Bonanza. **Open.**

- Pairs event on Wednesday 1st January.
- To be played online on BBO
- Free of charge
- NW to appoint a TD, first choice Ken Johnston
- 36 boards starting at 11.00.

Yorkshire Pairs and Nine High Yorkshire Pairs. **Open.**

- Both to be on Sunday 26th January
- YP to be face-to-face at York Bridge Club (NW to confirm with YBC)
- Nine High competition to be online
- Entry fee £56 per pair for the YP and £10 per pair for the Nine High.
- NW to appoint a TD,

### **7) New Handicapped Pairs competition**

NW reported on his discussions with Keighley and Sheffield Bridge Clubs and it was agreed that arrangements for the pilot events would proceed as follows.

- Each club has, in principle, agreed to host the pilots, but subject to approval by the respective club committees at their next meeting.
- The events to be free of charge and targeted at the membership of the hosting clubs and nearby clubs. Bradford and Olicana for the Keighley event and Doncaster, Barnsley and Beauchief for Sheffield.
- To be a single session event but with a break for coffee, tea and biscuits.
- The EBU handicapping method to be used and explained in the publicity material.
- YCBA to advertise the competitions but also ask the hosting clubs to promote them to their own members and those of the other nearby clubs.
- At present we are looking to run the events early in November on Saturday 2nd or 9th, but this might slip back depending on how soon the club committee approvals are given.

**Open.** Action NW.

### **8) Adjustments for players with disabilities**

It was agreed that clubs should be informed that large symbol playing cards with bar coding are available for purchase at the EBU's Bridge Warehouse. **Open**, action RJ. No decision taken on a proposal that YCBA should purchase a set of such large symbol cards for use at YCBA competitions if requested.

It was agreed that supplementary lighting ought to be made available at YCBA competitions if requested, and Event Organisers and TDs to be informed accordingly.

### **9) Other Business**

It was agreed that the Yorkshire Congress trophy, the Chairman's Plate, will be renamed as the Philip Mason Chairman's Plate with additional engraving accordingly, **Open only** in regard to the arrangements for engraving this and other trophies.

### **1) Date of next meeting**

Monday 4th November 2024 at 4.00 pm by Zoom video conferencing. Note slightly earlier time.