

Minutes of Diversity Subcommittee Meeting held on Monday 20th May 2024

Attended by: Ron Millett (Chair), Robin Jepson and Ruth Kerr (Minutes).

Actions from previous meeting: None (inaugural meeting).

Matters discussed:

Disability Access

The attached paper was considered by the Committee in conjunction with a newsletter regarding facilities for disabled players that had previously been issued by the EBU.



Disability Access



Facilities for
Disabled Players

It was noted that the Disability Discrimination Act (DDA) referred to in the EBU newsletter had been replaced with the Equality Act 2010.

It was agreed that further work was required to successfully implement the six recommendations of RK's recent review of information regarding disability access on YCBA Club Websites as well as to support clubs improve disability access more generally.

It was agreed that in terms of the facilities that a club provides for its disabled players that as a minimum the following be provided:

- Easy access for wheelchair users and members with other mobility issues
- Accessible toilet facilities for disabled members
- Accessible parking spaces near the club entrance where the club has its own car park
- Card holders or other equipment to enable disabled members to play bridge as comfortably as possible such as large print playing cards, access to a hearing loop etc.

It was agreed that the recently created "Club Buddy System" could provide support to clubs regarding this matter as well as members of the Diversity Committee.

It was also agreed that it would be beneficial to identify any potential sources of grants for improving disability access.

AP1 – RK to draft an initial communication to clubs regarding this matter (including checklists/templates, guidance regarding terminology and contact points for further advice) for discussion at the next meeting.

AP2 – RK to draft some brief signposting information for Michael Jackson to use as part of the YCBA League 2024/25 Entry Process.

Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) Checks

RM outlined the importance of those who engage directly with children and/or vulnerable adults undergoing a DBS Check.

It was agreed that this could be an area in which further guidance could be usefully given to clubs.

Available Support

RM advised that he was in contact with the Senior Diversity Officer at Leeds City Council who had offered to help the Committee as a contact point for further advice.

Terms of Reference

The need to agree terms of reference for the committee was discussed.

AP3 – RM to draft terms of reference for the committee and circulate to Committee Members for their input.

Board Members

RJ advised that he had not received any nominations for the following positions:

- Board member with responsibility for women's interests.
- Board member with responsibility for the interests of minority ethnic groups.

AP4 – Role briefs for the above roles to be discussed at the next meeting together with a mechanism for filling these roles.

Promotion of Bridge Amongst Underrepresented Groups

It was agreed that this would be an area of focus for the Committee over the coming months.

Date of Next Meeting: Tuesday, 28th May at 16.30hrs