



**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE EBU LIMITED
AT BAKER TILLY MANAGEMENT LTD, 2, BLOOMSBURY STREET, LONDON WC1B 3ST
ON WEDNESDAY 16th JANUARY, 2013**

Present:

- Sally Bugden (Chairman) (SB)
- Jeremy Dhondy (Vice Chairman) (JD)
- Andrew Petrie (Treasurer) (AP)
- Jerry Cope (JC)
- Heather Dhondy (HD)
- Ron Millet (RM)
- Malcolm Oliver (MO)
- Ian Payn (IP) Note Taker
- Michael Hill (MH)
- Barry Capal (General Manager) (BC)

SB read an e-mail from Val Gibson (VG), who is standing down from the Board on health grounds. SB formally thanked VG for the work she had undertaken with the National Club Committee (NCC) on behalf of the Board. SB will become acting Chairman of the NCC until further notice.

1. Apologies for Absence

There were no apologies for absence

2. Minutes of Last Meeting

SB thanked Malcolm Oliver for taking the minutes.

2.1 Accuracy

After clarification of an item under 2.2.1, which had omitted the Northern Ireland Bridge Union, and a typographical error on item 7.6, the minutes were passed as accurate.

2.2 Matters Arising

2.2.1 European Champions Cup

IP and Gordon Rainsford had prepared a budget for the European Champions Cup, to be held in November 2014, in accordance with EBL guidelines. Sponsorship would be sought before any confirmation to the EBL that we could hold the event.

Action SB, HD

2.2.2 Simultaneous Pairs Consultation

A consultation with the National Club Committee about Simultaneous Pairs had not taken place. SB undertook to move this forward.

Action SB

2.2.5 British Sims

JD reported that the SBU and WBU needed to decide by April 1st whether they wished to continue within the British Sims from 1st April 2014. JD to write to them to remind them of the agreement clauses.

Action JD

2.3 Review of Action Points

All actions were complete or in hand.

3. Financial Matters

3.1 Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer updated the Board performance to the end of December, which is in line with budget.

Re-forecasting and preparation of the 13/14 budget was currently taking place, as it normally does in January. The re-forecast will provide a better indication of the out-turn for the year.

Gordon Rainsford is to replace Max Bavin as a cheque signatory.

3.2 Update on Five Year Plan and Implications

The 13/14 budget will form the basis for year 1 of the 5 year financial plan which will be used to help the Board make medium/long term decisions.

3.3 2013/4 Budget

See previous item.

3.4 Licence Fees and other prices 2013/4

Prices would rise by 3.3 per cent in line with inflation. The Treasurer's Licence Fee recommendations were accepted with a minor amendment to the Green Pointed Event Fee which was amended from £7.00 to £7.04.

Licence Fees for 2013/14

Unless stated otherwise all prices are per table per session (p.t.p.s).

		2013/14
Events run by an affiliated club / county		
Licensed Club and County Events		£1.96
Licensed Charity Events		£1.72
Blue Point events		£2.36
County Green-Pointed Events		£7.04
Events run by non-affiliated organisations		
(e.g. Bridge Holidays)		£2.20
Multi-Venue (Simultaneous) Events		
Charity - Affiliated clubs		£1.72
Non-charity - Affiliated clubs		£5.36

NOTES

1. Multi Venue Licence Fee is the fee payable by the event organiser. Normal P2P rates and organiser's entry fee apply at club heats. Exception: Children in Need is P2P exempt.
2. County events, leagues and Novice/Beginner events (in line with Section 1.4.2 of the MP&L Handbook) are subject to a P2P subscription charge at 50% of the national rate.

3.5 Personal Expenses and Allowances, Fees and Charges

It was agreed that this was the General Manager's area of responsibility, and that authority was devolved to him. A revised version of the Procedures Manual would be available by around the middle of February. JD is responsible for overseeing the updating of the current manual. **Action BC/ JD**

3.6 VAT Reclaim

The response period from HMRC was nearing the end. AP informed all those present that he was continuing to monitor the situation.

3.7 Carry Over of Funds raised to support internationals

A paper was presented defining an International Contingency Fund, the Selection Committee wanting more flexibility over funds allocated, mainly with regards to carrying funds unspent forward. The proposal was adopted a) with the agreement that it was renamed the International Training Contingency Fund, to ensure transparency of the objective and b) that the standard authorisation process for expenditure was followed.

4. General Manager's Report

Website: Beta version due in March.

- Blue Point Scheme: Launched and in operation.
- Master Point area in web site altered slightly.

5. Memorandum of Understanding with Bridge Overseas Limited (BOL)

BOL had provided a very good service to the EBU for its Overseas Congresses over recent years. It was now proposed to extend this service to include UK accommodation. A separate MOU had been prepared and this was approved with two minor wording amendments. **Action AP**

6. Strategy Update

The Directors agreed to move forward with a Strategy Meeting on Tuesday 22nd January as planned, to be led by JC. The meeting would focus on Resources, Financials and Communications. In addition two strategies would be "work-shopped", Tournaments and Internationals **Action ALL**

7 Charity update

Andrew Petrie reported that a new charitable structure, the CIO became available from 2 January and this would likely be the most appropriate form for the Education and Development charity that we are working to establish.

8. On-Line Bridge Update.

SB to contact Fred Gitelman who is owns BBO to move things forward.

Action SB

9. Communications

SB circulated a paper that would be discussed in detail at the Board's Strategy day in June. In the meantime she reiterated to all Board Members the importance of communications with all volunteers at national level, the members and our staff.

10. Vice-Presidents' Expenses.

It was confirmed that Vice-Presidents can only attend Standing Committee meetings if they are specifically invited to a meeting by the Chairman of the Standing Committee. If such an invitation were to be issued, reasonable travel expenses would be re-imbursed. This policy had been in operation since 2007 but the Board now wish to formalise this. To do so would require a change to the Articles of Association (17.3) which would be presented to the Shareholders at the May Shareholders' Meeting for approval.

Action: BC to prepare a suitable resolution

Correction published in the minutes of the Board meeting held on 11th June 2013.

11. EBL/WBF Matters

Preparations for the Bermuda Bowl and Venice Cup are well underway.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 4.15.

