



**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE SELECTION COMMITTEE
HELD ON THURSDAY 21ST FEBRUARY 2008 AT 40 BERNARD STREET, LONDON.**

Present:	Steve Eginton	(Chairman)
	Gerard Faulkner	(Vice-Chairman)
	Max Bavin	(EBU Chief TD)
	Sally Bugden	(EBU Vice-Chairman)
	Barry Capal	(EBU General Manager)
	Heather Dhondy	
	Paul Hackett	
	Sandra Landy	
	David Muller	
	Sandra Claridge	(Secretary)

The Committee observed a minute's silence in memory of Raymond Brock.

1 An apology for absence was received from Peter Stocken (EBU Chairman).

2 **MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 7TH NOVEMBER 2007**

The minutes were signed as true record.

2.1 Matters arising

2.1.1 Register of U28 players

The list was noted.

2.1.2 Universities Championship

Sally Bugden reported that whilst England had been approached as a possible host of a Universities Championship, the Board would assist in facilitating the hosting of an event, but could not make funding available.

In general terms, the Committee recognised England's responsibility as one of the larger members of the European Bridge League to host an international event. However, it was noted that other NBOs had borne significant financial losses from major championships, and it was not believed to be in the best interests of the Union's membership to offer to host an event unless sufficient sponsorship could be attracted. It was also considered that funding of World and European events should be reviewed as a priority.

Sandra Landy said that it was unlikely that we could fund major events in the mid to near future, which was generally agreed. Sally Bugden said that the Board would welcome the Selection Committee's input on the general policy and aims for staging major international events.

Sandra Landy asked Sally Bugden about the Board's policy for hosting international tournaments. Sally stated that this would be discussed at the next Board Meeting, and a statement issued.

2.1.3 *European U35 series*

The Committee requested that the EBU Board consider a formal proposal to the European Bridge League for the introduction of an U35 championship. If the matter was to be pursued, the Selection Committee would make a case for providing an incentive for ex-juniors remaining in the international game.

2.1.4 *Mind Sports Olympiad*

Paul Hackett reported that there was significant sponsorship for the 2008 games in Beijing, and that the Chinese government had agreed to make up any financial shortfall.

It was now recognised that the average university leaving age worldwide was 27, and it was anticipated that the U28 championship would be repeated in four years' time, possibly in St Petersburg. The U28 event would be limited to one team per country, and the U20 and U25 by qualification.

2.1.5 *Competitions Calendar*

The updated calendar was noted, and committee members were asked to inform the Secretary of changes or additions. The reserve date for the 2008 Premier League was confirmed as 7th -9th November. The calendar is attached to these minutes as Appendix B.

3 INVITATION EVENTS

(Paul Hackett and Heather Dhondy absented themselves for this item)

3.1 Bonn Nations Cup: 30th April – 1st May 2008

The 2008 European Championship Open team of six would be invited to represent England.

3.2 Gelibolu Peace Cup, Turkey: 17th – 21st April 2008

The 2008 European Championship Seniors team of six would be invited to represent England, as follows:

Colin Simpson & David Price
Victor Silverstone & Chris Dixon
Paul Hackett & Ross Harper

Secretary's note: Both invitations were subsequently declined. The losing finalists in the Open Trials accepted an invitation to represent England in the Bonn Nations Cup and three of the pairs in the Women's European Championships squad would representing England in the Gelibolu Peace Cup.

4 OPEN EVENTS

4.1 2008 Camrose Trophy - 1st weekend

The results, included in Appendix A, and NPCs report were noted. The Captain was congratulated on the team's excellent performance, and for providing a very helpful report.

4.2 Selection of team, reserves, NPC and Coach for the 2008 European Championships (Paul Hackett absented himself for this item)

The following were selected to represent England at the 2008 European Championships, in Pau, France from 14th – 28th June:

John Armstrong & John Holland
Paul Hackett & Tony Waterlow
Jason & Justin Hackett
Reserves: David Gold & Tom Townsend
NPC: To be appointed
Coach: David Burn

4.3 Arrangements for Brighton Trial

In the event that the Open team did not finish in the top eight places in the European Championships, a play-off would be held on 11th-14th August at Brighton between the top four teams in the 2008 Trials to determine the team for the 2008 Olympiad. The Secretary was asked to contact the top five teams to seek confirmation that they would be available to play.

4.4 Coaching programme – progress report

Steve Eginton reported that he had approached a number of coaches, who had all supported the notion of a resource available for all interested parties. Further discussion would take place to seek to make an appointment, possibly on an expenses only basis.

5 WOMENS EVENTS

5.1 Results of Women's Trials

The results of the Trials are included in Appendix A.

Sandra Landy reported that there had been very favourable comments on the format, use of screens and tournament direction at both stages of the Trials, the only criticisms concerning the changes of date, and the slightly confusing publicity. It was agreed that in future where a joint trial was held for more than one championship, it would be specified that players can opt to be considered for either or both events.

5.2 Selection of team, reserves and NPC for the 2008 Lady Milne Trophy (Heather Dhondy absented herself for this item)

The following were selected to represent England at the Lady Milne Trophy being held in Scotland from 11th – 13th April:

Catherine Jagger & Sarah Teshome
Catherine Draper & Anne Rosen
Audrey Hartley & Stefanie Rohan
Reserves: Heather Dhondy & Nevena Senior
NPC: Alan Mould

5.3 Selection of team, reserves, NPC and Coach for the 2008 European Championships

A squad of four pairs, as listed below, was selected from which the team and reserves would be formed to represent England at the 2008 European Championships in Pau, France from 19th – 28th June.

Catherine Jagger & Sarah Teshome
Heather Dhondy & Nevena Senior
Catherine Draper & Anne Rosen
Susan Stockdale & Fiona Brown
NPC: Alan Mould
Coach: To be appointed

When selecting the team in April, the Committee would take into account reports by the captain and coach on plans for developing partnerships, and results obtained.

5.4 Arrangements for Brighton Trial

In the event that the Women's team does not finish in the top six in the European Championships, the European team will play a head-to-head match at Brighton on 11th -14th August to determine the team for the 2008 Olympiad. Pairs wishing to be part of the team to challenge the European team should apply to Sandra Claridge by 4th July 2008.

5.5 2008/9 Lady Milne Trials

It was agreed that two weekends of pairs trials would be held on 6th/7th December 2008, and 7th/8th February 2009.

6 SENIORS EVENTS

6.1 Results of first weekend of Seniors Camrose Trials

The results are included in Appendix A.

6.2 Personnel for 2008 European Championships

It was noted that there is currently no provision for an NPC for the Seniors team. It was agreed that the Chairman would discuss the matter with the team, and that every effort would be made to find sufficient funding to provide the team with a captain.

It was agreed that scorers would be provided for the Open, Womens and Seniors teams.

The Chairman noted that a budget for general spending on Internationals would need to be prepared for the coming year as a matter of urgency, and he would assure the EBU Board

that the Committee's spending would remain within it, and would include provision for support for Seniors teams.

6.3 Arrangements for Seniors play-off

It was agreed that in the event that the European Seniors team did not finish in the top six of the 1st Division, a play-off would be held between the European team and the team qualifying for the Seniors Camrose. If the teams so agreed, the match could be played prior to Brighton. In the event that one player qualified for both teams, the matter would be discussed further.

7 COMMITTEE POLICY & PROCEDURES

7.1 Committee portfolios

It was agreed that a degree of focus and defined areas of responsibility for the Committee were paramount, and the following were determined:

Junior Liaison	Sandra Landy Reserve: David Muller
International Events Publicity & Transmissions – HO & Web Liaison	David Muller
Legal Compliance & Event Regulations, Disciplinary Liaison	Gerard Faulkner
Budgets & Financial Controls	Steve Eginton
Events Timing, Tournament Liaison, Premier League & Trials Arrangements	Paul Hackett
Coaching & Captaincy Liaison	Heather Dhondy

The Chairman will with each member draw up a "roles and responsibilities" type portfolio description.

7.2 Policies & Procedures

A draft document produced by the Chairman was discussed. Steve said that it was important that the Committee's policies should be published, and be clear to aspiring players. When complete, the document will be forwarded to the Board for approval before publication.

Comments were requested prior to further discussion at the next meeting.

An extract from the relevant section of the EBU's Policy & Procedures Manual was debated, and it was noted that in three areas the Committee would wish to make changes. The General Manager confirmed that the document had been approved by the Board and must be adhered to, but that it was available to the Committee to recommend changes.

8 PREMIER LEAGUE

(Paul Hackett, Heather Dhondy & David Muller absented themselves for this item)

The Secretary reported that 16 teams had applied to enter the League, captained by:

Alexander Allfrey, Michael Byrne, Janet de Botton, Jeremy Dhondy, Ken Ford, Paul Hackett, Peter Hasenson, John Hassett, John Howard, Nick Irens, Gary Jones, David Muller, Neil Rosen, Brian Senior, Victor Silverstone and Cameron Small.

It was agreed that all the applications would be accepted, and that there would be two pools of eight teams. The Committee was divided as to whether, in the first year, it would be preferable to have two horizontal divisions, the Committee seeding eight teams into the first division, or to have two parallel pools, the Committee seeding e.g. three teams into each, with the winner of both pools being guaranteed a Camrose match in 2009. From 2009 onwards there would be two divisions with promotion and relegation, the bottom teams in the second division playing off against further would-be applicants, as appropriate.

It was decided that the teams would be polled on the two options, and also on the choice of format for the first year i.e. round robins on each weekend with short matches, or seven long head-to-head matches.

Further decisions were taken as follows:

Max Bavin would determine masterpoint awards and entry fees.

There would be no prizes.

The Premier League would replace the Crockfords Cup in terms of qualification for the Champions Cup.

European Championship and Olympiad qualification would be determined once the format was agreed.

Possible venues would be investigated by the Secretary

9 YOUTH MATTERS

9.1 Youth Committee

Sandra Landy reported that the Youth Committee had held two meetings, but no issues had been raised of direct relevance to the Selection Committee.

The Youth Committee Chairman had requested that the EBU make appropriate arrangements for the Channel Trophy in December 2008, and it was reported by the Secretary that these were in hand. It was noted that the event provided very worthwhile experience for our young players and every effort should be made to make the most of the opportunity.

9.2 Junior Camrose & Peggy Bayer Trophies

Steve Eginton reported on some non-bridge problems at the recent Junior Camrose and Peggy Bayer weekend in Manchester. However, the bridge had been much enjoyed by all. Sally Bugden said that the Chairman of the Union had apologised to the other Home Unions for the administrative difficulties, and there would be a detailed de-brief to ensure that similar problems did not occur again.

England had won the Junior Camrose Trophy with Scotland in second place, the positions being reversed in the Peggy Bayer Trophy.

9.3 U28 Trials for the 2008 Olympiad

The Secretary reported that at the closing date applications had been received from the following six pairs:

Ben Handley-Pritchard & Alex Hydes
 Andrew Murphy & Simon Cope
 Ollie Burgess & Andrew Woodcock
 Mike Bell & Michael Byrne
 Ben Green & Duncan Happer
 Susan Stockdale & Fiona Brown

It was agreed to hold a total IMPs 3-table trial over two days, the winners being guaranteed selection. As two players were unavailable for the date suggested, the Secretary was asked to offer the first or second weekends in April as alternatives.

10 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting was fixed for Tuesday 15th April in the Pitman Room, Imperial Hotel, Russell Square, London commencing at 12.30 pm.

ACTION LIST

Item	Action	Responsibility
2.1.3	Formal request to EBL for U35 event	Chairman & EBU Chairman
3.1	Notification of Bonn Nations Cup to European Open team	Secretary
3.2	Notification of Gelibolu Peace Cup to European Seniors Team	Secretary
4.1	Letter to David Price	Secretary
4.2	Notification of selection of Open Team	Secretary
4.3	Availability of 5 teams for Brighton Open Trial	Secretary
5.2	Notification of selection of Lady Milne Team	Secretary
5.3	Notification of selection of European Womens Squad	Secretary
5.4	Publicity of Women's Challenge match	Secretary
5.5	Publicity of Women's 2008/9 Lady Milne Trials	Secretary
6.2	NPC for European Seniors team	Chairman / team captain
	Appointment of scorers for European Championships	Secretary
8	Acceptance of applications for Premier League & questionnaire on format	Secretary
	MP awards & entry fee for Premier League	Max Bavin
	Venues for Premier League	Secretary
9.1	Arrangements for Channel Trophy	Secretary
9.3	Notification & arrangements for U28 Trial	Secretary

APPENDIX A

2008 Lady Milne Trials – final results

	CF	D/R	H/R	S/D	S/G	S/B	D/C	N/C	L/G	C/H	E/K	TOTAL
C.Draper A.Rosen	5.7		14	3.9	48	30.2	-10.9	1.1	10.6	29.5	48	180.1
A.Hartley S.Rohan	77.6	-16		48	11.2	19.2	-8.4	1.4	34.7	25.3	-14.4	178.6
N.Senior H.Dhondy	65.7	-3.9	-61.6		23.9	7.6	14.4	25.1	17.6	48	1	137.8
N.Smith L.Godfrey	52.6	-58.6	-11.2	-23.9		-3.8	8.2	25.5	16.7	45.7	32.3	83.5
S.Stockdale F.Brown	-18.3	-30.2	-19.2	-7.6	3.8		31	19.3	25.8	-11.6	25.8	18.8
C.Duckworth N.Cook	31.2	10.9	8.4	-14.4	-8.2	-31		24.9	-29.9	-7.0	0.7	-14.4
K.Nelson T.Capal	-26.6	-1.1	-1.4	-25.1	-25.5	-19.3	-24.9		25.4	30	27.2	-41.3
F. Liew S.Grant	3.8	-10.6	-34.7	-17.6	-16.7	-25.8	29.9	-25.4		-2.5	14.1	-85.5
P.Cohen R.Henig	-0.4	-29.5	-25.3	-53.7	-45.7	11.6	7.0	-30	2.5		14.9	-148.6
H.Erichsen A.Kaye	3.5	-55.9	14.1	-1	-32.3	-25.8	-0.7	-27.2	-14.1	-14.9		-154

2008 Seniors Trials – Stage 1

	4	1	2	3	VPs
Paul Hackett , Ian Panto, Tony Waterlow, Ross Harper Peter Czerniewski, Gunnar Hallberg		15	20	22	57
Richard Palmer , Carole Mueller, Chris Burley, Stephen Gore, Phil Thornton	15		15	19	49
Keith Stanley , Richard Edwards, Irving Gordon, Bill Townsend	10	15		23	48
Tony Parkinson , John Greenhalgh, Andrew Parker, Ian Thompson	8	11	7		26

2008 Camrose Trophy – 1st weekend results

	Scotland	N Ireland	Wales	CBAI	England	Ireland	Total
Scotland		13	8	11	15	15	62
N Ireland	17		2	12	7	11	49
Wales	22	25		21	14	2	84
CBAI	19	18	9		1	14	61
England	15	23	16	25		15	94
Ireland	15	19	25	16	15		90

England:

David Gold & Tom Townsend
Martin Jones & Neil Rosen
Gunnar Hallberg & Andrew McIntosh
NPC: David Price

2007/8 Open Trial – Final result

John Armstrong/John Holland, and Paul Hackett/Tony Waterlow defeated David Gold/Tom Townsend and Gunnar Hallberg/Andrew McIntosh by 33 IMPs over 100 boards.

APPENDIX B

SELECTION CALENDAR as at 1st March 2008

March	1st & 2nd	Ranked Masters Pairs	Hinckley
	7th - 9th	Camrose	Republic of Ireland
	6th - 16th	US Nationals	Detroit
	9th - 15th	White House Tournament	Amsterdam
	21st - 23rd	Easter Festivals	London & Blackpool
	28th - 30th	Seniors Trials	Young Chelsea BC
April	11th - 13th	Lady Milne	Scotland
	17th - 21st	Gelibolu Peace Cup	Turkey
	19th & 20th	National Pairs Final	Hinckley
	20th	Passover	
	25th - 4th May	Jersey Congress	Jersey
	26th & 27th	U28 Trial ?	
May	30th - 1st May	Bonn Nations Cup	Germany
	2nd - 6th	Spring Foursomes	Stratford
	10th & 11th	Crockfords Cup Final	Hinckley
	17th & 18th	U28 Trial ?	
	24th - 26th	Spring Bank Holiday Congress	Bournemouth
	30th - 1st June	Seniors Camrose	Oxford
June	14th & 15th	Pachabo Cup	Hinckley
	14th - 28th	European Championships	Pau, France Las
			Vegas
July	17th - 27th	Summer US Nationals	
August	9th - 11th	Summer Meeting Pairs	Brighton
	15th - 17th	Summer Meeting Teams	Brighton
	Midweek	Open & Ladies Olympiad Trials	Brighton
September	2nd - 9th	World University Championships	Poland
	5th – 7th	National Women's Teams	Hinckley
		Premier League	
October	14th - 21st	Warren Buffett Cup (Europe v USA)	USA
	19th - 28th	Guernsey Congress	Guernsey
	3rd - 18th	Olympiad	Beijing
	4th & 5th	Great Northern Swiss Pairs	Warrington
	11th & 12th	Lederer Trophy	London
	17th - 19th	Autumn Congress	Bournemouth
November	24th - 26th	Premier League	
	6th – 9th	Champions Cup	Amsterdam
	7th – 9th	Seniors Congress	Daventry
	7th-9th	Reserve date for Premier League	
	14th - 16th	Premier League	
	20th - 30th	US Nationals	Boston
December	29th & 30th	Tollemache Qualifier	Hinckley
	6th & 7th	Lady Milne Trials	Tba
	13th & 14th	Gold Cup Finals	Peebles
	19th - 21st	Junior Channel Trophy	England
	27th - 30th	Year End Congresses	London & Blackpool
	2009		

January	9th - 11th	Camrose	Wales
	17th & 18th	National Swiss Teams	Hinckley
	24th & 25th	Women's & Men's Pairs	Hinckley
February	3rd – 9th	NEC Cup	Japan
	7th & 8th	Lady Milne Trials	Tba
	??	Yeh Bros Cup	
	14th & 15th	Tollemache Final	Hinckley
	20th - 22nd	Junior Camrose & Peggy Bayer	N Ireland
	21st & 22nd	Australian Broadbeach	
	21st & 22nd	Icelandic Open	
March	6th – 8th	Camrose	England
	7th & 8th	Ranked Masters Pairs	Hinckley
	12th - 22nd	American Spring Nationals	Houston
	??	White House Tournament	Netherlands
April	10th - 13th	Easter Festivals	London & Blackpool
	17th - 19th	Lady Milne	Republic of Ireland
	25th & 26th	National Pairs Final	Hinckley
May	1st – 5th	Spring Foursomes	Stratford
	9th & 10th	Crockfords Cup Final	Hinckley
	23rd - 25th	Spring Bank Holiday Congress	Bournemouth
June	13th & 14th	Pachabo Cup	Hinckley
	20th - 4th July	European Open Championships	TBA
July	20th - 30th	European Youth Championships	TBA
	23rd – 2nd	American Summer Nationals	Washington
		Summer Meeting	Brighton
August	14th - 23rd		
September	4th - 6th	National Women's Teams	Hinckley
October	3rd & 4th	Great Northern Swiss Pairs	Warrington
	10th & 11th	Lederer Trophy	London
	16th - 18th	Autumn Congress	Bournemouth
November	6th - 8th	Seniors Congress	Daventry
			San Diego
	26th - 6th Dec	American Fall Nationals	
	??	Champions Cup	
December	12th & 13th	Gold Cup Finals	Peebles
	18th - 20th	Junior Channel Trophy	
	27th - 30th	Year End Congresses	London & Blackpool
2010			
January	8th - 10th	Camrose	Scotland
February	2nd - 8th	NEC Cup	Japan
	19th - 21st	Junior Camrose & Peggy Bayer	Wales
March	5th - 7th	Camrose	N Ireland
April	16th - 18th	Lady Milne Trophy	England
September	18th	Yom Kippur	
	19th - 25th	Commonwealth Games	
	27th - 1st Oct	Buffett Cup	
QUERIES			
		Venice Cup & Bermuda Bowl	Brazil
		Rosenblum	St Petersburg
		World Youth Championships	
		World Open & Mixed Pairs	

