



**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE SELECTION COMMITTEE
HELD AT THE METROPOLE HOTEL, BRIGHTON, ON SATURDAY 14TH AUGUST 2010.**

Present:	Heather Dhondy	(Chairman)
	Simon Cochemé	(Vice Chairman)
	Peter Baxter	
	Sally Bugden	(EBU Chairman)
	David Burn	
	Paul Hackett	
	Andrew Petrie	(EBU Vice-Chairman)
	Tom Townsend	
	Max Bavin	(EBU Chief TD)
	Michael Byrne	(Junior Squad Manager - Item 8 only)
	Sandra Claridge	(Secretary)

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Sally Brock and Gerard Faulkner (EBU Vice-President).

2 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 6TH APRIL 2010

Accuracy

The minutes were signed as a true record, subject to the first sentence of paragraph 3 of item 3.2 being amended to read "It was mostly agreed that the selections for the Coaching Groups in the past year had been sensible...."

Matters Arising

International Focus

Sally Bugden confirmed that all information on international matters would be channelled through Tournament Focus and publicity on BEIF (Bridge England International Fund).

Coverage of medal ceremonies at major championships

This item was deferred to the next meeting. Heather Dhondy did report, however, that at the recent European Championships there had been no advance information on presentation of the qualifying teams in each category.

Youth Matters

Heather Dhondy reported that at a meeting on 27th April, there had been a very successful handover to the Selection Committee of youth affairs, and training programmes were

continuing under the three Squad Managers. Clarification had been sought by the Squad Managers on free entry to EBU tournaments for squad members, and the Chairman and Paul Hackett had produced a list of appropriate events for discussion by the Board.

It was noted that a member of one of the squads had been permanently excluded from the squad. The Committee was anxious to ensure that every opportunity was offered for the member to appeal, and a Review Panel would be formed if an appeal was forthcoming.

Selection processes in Europe

Sally Bugden said that Max Bavin had undertaken some fact-finding in relation to selection processes by other European NBOs, and the results of the research would be debated at the September Board Meeting. In the meantime Max's findings would be circulated to the Committee.

3 BUDGETS

Simon Cochemé reported that the Committee had come in £9K under budget for the year to 31st March 2010, largely due to anticipated losses on trials being less than expected.

The EBU budget of £77K for the year to 31st March 2011 assumes that around £10K will be raised by BEIF. Without this, cost savings would need to be found, including the possibility of the Camrose being partly or wholly self-funded, and overseas events no longer being part-subsidised.

The BEIF Fund started the year with £1.5K from unclaimed coaching fees, and this has been increased by a further donation. Thanks were expressed to Heather Dhondy, Peter Crouch and David Burn.

Heather Dhondy presented a detailed budget for Junior events, totalling £37.3K for the year to 31st March 2011.

4 BRIDGE ENGLAND ACTIVITIES

A 'Bridge England' Simultaneous Pairs will be held on Tuesday 8th February, which it is hoped will raise around £3K. It was agreed to investigate an option of online hand booklets, to reduce costs.

The BEIF prospectus has been published, and efforts would be made to recruit Patrons. Committee members were asked to suggest possible patrons to Sue Maxwell. In addition ideas were welcomed e.g. for a prestige "Play with an International" event in London.

5 OPEN EVENTS

European Championships

The results are contained in Appendix A, and Jeremy Dhondy was thanked for his excellent NPC's report, and recommendations for the future.

The Committee endorsed a general criticism about the lavish expenditure by the EBL on its officials at the Championships, and the size of the Appeals Committee. Sally Bugden stated that she would be recommending to the Board that in future an NPC be given the proxy to vote on behalf of the EBU at EBL Assembly meetings. She informed the Committee that David Harris, the EBL Treasurer, stands for election to the EBL independently and is not an EBU delegate.

It was agreed that in terms of uniform for the teams, only team shirts should be provided, and that the number be increased.

It was noted that it was more expensive to eat out in Belgium than anticipated, and a retrospective adjustment had been made to the per diem allowance.

Whilst the comfort and proximity of the hotel to the playing venue was of the utmost importance, it would be an advantage in future to have free Wifi.

The Committee felt it was desirable for it to have a blog during championships and there should not be a delay at weekends. Sally Bugden said that she would discuss this matter with the General Manager with a view to allowing postings to be made by NPCs directly to the site at weekends, as long as the usual checks on content can be made.

5.2 Commonwealth Nations Cup

The Chairman reported that some members of the selected team for the Commonwealth Nations Cup had subsequently withdrawn. The Secretary had issued an invitation to all teams in the first division of last year's Premier League, and the two teams promoted to the first division for the coming year. Further applications had been received, and subsequent to the meeting, the following team was confirmed:

John Hassett & Jeff Morris
Ian Reissmann & Mike Perkins
Gary Hyett & Brian Callaghan

The Chairman also confirmed that a ladies team had also now withdrawn.

6 WOMEN'S EVENTS

6.1 European Championships

The results are contained in Appendix A, and the team was congratulated on qualifying for the Venice Cup in 2011. The NPC was thanked for his report.

6.2 Lady Milne Trophy

The results are contained in Appendix A. Both teams were congratulated on their success, and the NPCs thanked for their reports.

6.3 Bonn Nations Cup

Heather Dhondy thanked the Committee for giving the team the opportunity to gain valuable experience prior to the European Championships. The team had been unexpectedly moved to

the Women's competition, but it had been a quality event, and much enjoyed. Heather hoped that better information would be provided by the organisers in future.

6.4 Lady Milne Trials

It was agreed that an announcement would be published on the EBU website that a trial would be held on 21st/23rd January at the Young Chelsea Bridge Club, for the Lady Milne Trophy being played on 15th/17th April in Northern Ireland. The closing date for entries would be Monday 8th November, and the entry fee £140 per pair.

7 SENIORS EVENTS

7.1 European Championships

The results are contained in Appendix A, and the NPC was thanked for his report.

7.2 Seniors Camrose Trial

It was agreed that an announcement would be published on the EBU website that a trial would be held on 17th/19th December for the Seniors Camrose being played on 27th/29th May in England. The closing date for entries would be Monday 8th November, and the entry fee would be £280 per team. Depending on how many teams entered, the Friday may or may not be used. The format would be a round-robin, with the winners guaranteed selection.

8 JUNIOR EVENTS

8.1 Under 21 World Championships, Philadelphia

Michael Byrne, U-21 Squad Manager, joined the Committee for this item.

The Chairman reported that the England U-21 team had finished 9th in the Junior European Championships, but owing to some withdrawals, England had received a late invitation to compete in the World Championships in Philadelphia in October, which it had accepted.

Sally Bugden pointed out that no additional funds were available. The Selection and Junior budgets fluctuated year by year, and had the U-21 team qualified as of right for the World Championships, Max Bavin would have included a relevant sum in the budget for the current year.

The Committee noted that the likely cost of sending the team to Philadelphia was in the region of £8K, and that £1.5K had been raised to date. After a lengthy debate it was agreed that if the team was to withdraw, as much notice should be given as possible. It was decided to allow the Squad Manager a further week to try to raise a further £4.5K. If he was successful, the Selection Committee would permit the team to go, and if necessary provide the additional funding from the Junior budget by making cuts elsewhere.

Selecting the team for Philadelphia, there was some criticism from the Committee that insufficient information had been forthcoming, and in particular Michael Byrne apologised for the fact that his NPC report from Romania had not been circulated. However, his recommendations were approved, and the team was selected as follows:

James Paul & Dan Mackintosh
 Tom Paske & Graeme Robertson
 Shivam Shah & Tom Rainforth
 NPC: Michael Byrne
 Coach: Alan Shillitoe

9 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting was subsequently fixed for Wednesday 17th November at 1.00 pm. Venue to be confirmed.

10 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

10.1 Championship reporting

It was agreed that it would be appropriate in future to offer team members the opportunity to report on the team and officials, and Heather Dhondy and Andrew Petrie agreed to produce a pro forma.

ACTION LIST

Item		Responsibility
2.2.1	Information to Tournament Focus and BEIF	Chairman
2.2.4	Circulation of fact-finding on selection processes	Max Bavin
3	Expression of thanks to David Burn, Peter Crouch & Heather Dhondy	Secretary
4	Online hand booklets for Simultaneous Pairs	Vice-Chairman
5.1	Letter to Open NPC	Secretary
	Change to uniform provision	Secretary/Dawn Mertens
	Enquiries re free Wifi	Secretary/Dawn Mertens
	Committee blog	Sally Bugden
5.2	Confirmation of Commonwealth Nations Cup team	Secretary
6.1	Letter to Women's NPC	Secretary
	Pro forma Players' report	Chairman/A Petrie
6.2	Letters to NPCs and teams	Secretary
6.4	Publicity of Lady Milne Trial	Secretary
7.1	Letter to NPC	Secretary
7.2	Publicity of Seniors Camrose Trial	Secretary

APPENDIX A

LADY MILNE TROPHY 2010

	EBU	ENG	IRE	SCO	NI	WAL	ADJ	TOTAL
EBU		15	13	19	18	23	-1	87
England	15		15	18	18	15		81
Ireland	17	15		20	11	17		80
Scotland	11	12	10		22	25		80
N. Ireland	12	12	19	8		19	-1	69
Wales	7	15	13	4	11			50

EBU:

Sally Brock & Susanna Gross
 Chris Duckworth & Nicole Cook
 Nevena Senior & Sandra Penfold
 NPC: Simon Cope

ENGLAND:

Jane Moore & Gillian Fawcett
 Catherine Jagger & Catherine Seale
 Susan Stockdale & Fiona Brown
 NPC: Jeremy Dhondy
 Asst NPC: Richard Bowdery

SENIORS CAMROSE 2010

Round Robin 1

	Wales	Ireland	England 2	Scotland	N Ireland	England	Total
Wales		7	6	7	15	11	46
Ireland	23		16	9	9	11	68
England 2	24	12		25	12	8	81
Scotland	23	21	5		12	11	72
N Ireland	15	21	18	18		6	78
England	18	19	22	19	24		102

Round Robin 2

	Wales	Ireland	England 2	Scotland	N Ireland	England	RR1 b/f	Total
Wales		5	6	8	9	5	46	79
Ireland	25		15	16	14	16	68	154
England 2	24	15		19	24	14	81	177
Scotland	22	14	11		20	5	72	144
N Ireland	21	16	6	10		17	78	148
England	25	14	16	25	13		102	195

England:

Patrick Collins (Captain) & Malcolm Lewis
Paul Hackett & Ross Harper
Gunnar Hallberg & John Holland

EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS – Ostend, 22nd June – 3rd July

Open:

Pos		VPs
1	Italy	314
2	Poland	308
3	Israel	304.5
4	Iceland	289
5	Sweden	274
6	Netherlands	271
12	England	247

David Gold & Tom Townsend
Nick Sandqvist & Andrew McIntosh
Jason & Justin Hackett
NPC: Jeremy Dhondy
Coach: Simon Cope

Women:

Pos		VPs
1	France	505
2	Netherlands	504
3	Sweden	500
4	Germany	495
5	England	492
6	Poland	481

Heather Dhondy & Nevena Senior
Nicola Smith & Sally Brock
Susan Stockdale & Fiona Brown
NPC: Richard Bowdery
Coach: David Burn

Seniors:

Pos		VPs
1	Poland	422
2	Denmark	416
3	Italy	411
4	France	407
5	Germany	391
6	Bulgaria	385
14	England	352

Paul Hackett & Ross Harper
Colin Simpson & David Price
Gunnar Hallberg & John Holland
NPC: Peter Baxter

COMMONWEALTH NATIONS CUP - New Delhi, 24^t -29th October

John Hassett & Jeff Morris
Ian Reissmann & Mike Perkins
Gary Hyett & Brian Callaghan

EUROPEAN YOUTH PAIRS - Opatija, Croatia, 14th - 17th July

Junior Pairs Final "A":	22nd	Ben Paske & Graeme Robertson	48.68%
Youngsters Pairs Final:	7th	Tommy Brass & Alex Roberts	51.73%