



MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SELECTION COMMITTEE
HELD ON THURSDAY JANUARY 16TH 2014
AT BAKER TILLY MANAGEMENT LIMITED, LONDON

Present: Andy Bowles (Chairman)
 David Burn
 Simon Cochemé (Vice-Chairman)
 Heather Dhondy
 Jeremy Dhondy (EBU Chairman)
 Paul Hackett
 Dawn Mertens (Secretary)
 Gordon Rainsford (EBU Chief Tournament Director)
 Nick Smith
 Tom Townsend

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Ian Payn (EBU Vice-Chairman).

2. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 14TH NOVEMBER 2013

2.1 Accuracy

4.2 The Azores event did take place. However, an invitation was not forthcoming due to lack of sponsorship.

2.2. Matters arising

14.2 Bridge Base Online

SC confirmed that he has co-ordinated operators to cover the Lady Milne Trials.

14.3 Use of 'England' name

AB confirmed he had written to one team regarding the use of the 'England' name. It was agreed that a reminder be put on the Internationals/Open Trials website page to all players that they cannot call themselves 'England' without the permission of the Selection Committee.

3. REVIEW OF DECISIONS TAKEN BETWEEN MEETINGS

Camrose captains:

- England, first weekend: Simon Cochemé
- England, second weekend: Ben Green
- EBU, first weekend: David Burn
- EBU, second weekend: David Burn

Commonwealth Games team:

- Ben Green – John Holland
- Cameron Small - Phil King

with a subsidy of £500 per pair

David Gold has stood down as U25 squad leader. Alan Shillitoe has agreed to take over.

Alan Shillitoe and Michael Byrne are to be paid the squad-leaders' honoraria.

The Teltscher Trophy team will receive a subsidy of £1000. This is because the funds had been provided and were still available, and should not be seen as setting a precedent.

NPC for the Teltscher Trophy: Simon Cochemé

NPC for the European Senior team: Simon Cochemé

Heather Dhondy, Nevena Senior, Sally Brock and Nicola Smith accepted the invitation to play in the Women's European Championships. Applications were invited from women's pairs interested in filling the remaining vacancy. It would be helpful if applicants would play in the Lady Milne Trials. The deadline for the Lady Milne Trials was extended to 6th January 2014 to accommodate such applications.

Premier League dates and venues:

- 1st Weekend 20th - 21st September 2014 (London - venue to be confirmed)
- 2nd Weekend 27th - 28th September 2014 (Manchester Bridge Club)
- 3rd Weekend 7th - 9th November 2014 (West Midlands Bridge Club, Solihull)
- Reserve Weekend 31st October – 2nd November 2014

The Committee agreed that this was an accurate record.

4. FINANCES

4.1 Report from Vice-Chairman on Open/Women's/Seniors budgets to date and forecast
SC was thanked for his report. Mainly due to savings in accommodation costs in Bali the expenditure to date is £14,000 under budget. Slight overspends were noted due to an extra Selection Committee meeting and also the extra weekend for the European Seniors Trials.

4.2 Report from Tom Townsend on Junior budgets to date and forecast
TT was thanked for his report. TT queried the larger amount in the budget for the U20s, compared to the U25s, for both European Travel and squad training. GR will clarify this when looking at the 2014/15 budgets. The Committee requested the Secretary contact the Squad Leaders to advise players who are considering entering the European Pairs to apply to the Committee, by the beginning of March, as there may be some funding available towards the cost of the event.

5. OPEN EVENTS

5.1 NPC's reports from Camrose first weekend
SC was thanked for his report regarding the England Team. The Secretary to cost the supply of navy long sleeve pullovers with the three lions logo for use by players in international events.

5.2 Selection of Open team and reserves for European Championships
PH and TT left the room for this item

The following team were selected for the European Teams Championships:

Tony Forrester & Andrew Robson
David Bakhshi & David Gold
Jason Hackett & Justin Hackett
Reserves: Derek Patterson & Norman Selway

5.3 Selection of NPC and Coach for European Championships
Captain and Coach for the event to be determined after consultation with the team.

6. WOMEN'S EVENTS

6.1 Lady Milne Trophy trials and format

21 pairs have entered for the Lady Milne Trophy trials and the format will be twenty one five-board rounds with a sit-out. BBO coverage should prioritise the pairs who were being considered for the European Championships.

One of the pairs that have applied to be considered for the European team is ineligible to represent England in the Lady Milne. The Committee considered whether to allow the pair to play in the Lady Milne Trial without standing, but decided not to allow it.

6.2 Selection of third pair and reserves for Women's team for European Championships
HD left the room for this item

Five pairs have indicated that they wish to be considered as the third pair for the England Women's team for the European Championships. The Committee decided that the selection should be deferred at least until after the Lady Milne Trials have taken place.

6.3 Selection of NPC and Coach for European Championships
Derek Patterson was selected as NPC, and David Burn as Coach.

7. SENIOR EVENTS

7.1 Team for the Teltscher Trophy

As previously noted the Senior team, winners of the trials, had been offered a subsidy towards the event and SC had been appointed NPC.

7.2 Team for the Senior Europeans

The Hackett team were congratulated on their result. Pharon were thanked for their sponsorship towards both of the Seniors events. PH did not feel that the right format was used for the trials, as a round robin does not necessarily produce the best team. A suggestion was made that knock-out matches could be held privately to save costs and the venue for the final arranged after the knock-out. The Committee agreed to review the format for the next Europeans Trials in 2015.

8. JUNIOR EVENTS

8.1 NPC report for U20s team from Channel Trophy
Michael Byrne was thanked for his report.

8.2 NPC report for U25s team from Channel Trophy
Mike Bell was thanked for his report and the team were congratulated on their result.

8.3 NPC report for U25 Women's team from Channel Trophy
Alan Shillitoe was thanked for his report.

8.4 Selection of team and NPC for Junior Camrose
Following Alan Shillitoe's recommendation the following team was selected:

Shivam Shah & Tom Paske
Toby Nonnenmacher & Michael Alishaw

Simon Spencer & Kyle Lam
NPC Tom Townsend

Alan Shillitoe had recommended that Mike Bell act as coach to the under 25's and become involved in training weekends and preparation for the Europeans. The Committee agreed to this appointment.

8.5 Selection of team and NPC for Peggy Bayer

Following Michael Byrne's recommendation the following team were selected:

Freddie Illingworth & Ben Norton
Nick Dean & Sam Behrens
Stephen Kennedy & Rhys Munden
NPC Michael Byrne

8.6 Selection of team/s and NPC/s for White House Junior International

At present the invitation to the White House is for one team only. Michael Byrne and Alan Shillitoe are checking availability and will recommend a composite team.

9 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting to be held at the Baker Tilly Management Offices, London on Wednesday 11th June 2014 at 1.00pm.

10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

10.1 Prize money in events where Selection Committee provides funding

An EBU member had queried if when a subsidy is given to a player representing England in an event there is any claw-back if the player wins prize money. It was agreed that this would be decided on an event by event basis; the judgement should be made on expectations of the result and the amount of prizes available.

10.2 Disciplinary Action

A Disciplinary Committee had been appointed and charge papers sent to the player involved. AB had asked the Board to consider whether the disciplinary procedure to be used by the Selection Committee should be formalised in the By-Laws. JD replied this matter is due for discussion at the Board Meeting in June.

10.3 Bridge England Simultaneous Pairs

NS reported that 17 players had contributed to the hand commentaries and thanked TT for checking them and the EBU for all their help. At present 23 clubs have indicated they will participate. NS will liaise with Peter Stockdale for help in promoting the events which take place in February.

10.4 Awards

The EBU have a variety of awards and (Gold, Silver, Dimmie Fleming etc.) but at present no player awards. HD reported that the Board were considering introducing new awards and would like the Committee's opinion on their preference for either a Hall of Fame or a Diamond award (for a player at International level) and a Sapphire award (for a NPC or Coach at International level). The Hall of Fame would not necessarily be annual and could be backdated but the Diamond and Sapphire would be awarded following recommendations each year. The Committee preferred the latter idea.

10.5 Premier League

PH reported that the opening date of the new venue for the Young Chelsea Bridge Club had yet to be finalised, a licence hearing is due in April, and therefore the venue for the first weekend of the Premier League could not yet be confirmed. The website to be updated to include the closing date for entry to the 2014 event of 31st May 2014.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 4.20 pm.

Actions List

2.2	Publish notice about use of "England" name	SC
4.2	Invite Juniors to apply for funding for European Pairs	DM
5.1	Cost supply of England pullovers	DM
5.2	Invite team and poll players regarding NPC and Coach	DM
6.2	Contact pair regarding participation in Lady Milne	AB
6.3	Invite coach for Lady Milne	DM
6.4	Check payment of honoraria with Accounts	DM