



**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE EBU TOURNAMENT COMMITTEE
HELD AT THE IMPERIAL HOTEL ON TUESDAY 02ND JUNE 2009**

Present:	Andrew Petrie	Chairman
	Brian Crack	Vice-Chairman
	Max Bavin	Chief Tournament Director
	Sally Bugden	EBU Chairman
	Barry Capal	EBU General Manager
	Margaret Curtis	Vice President
	Paul Hackett	
	Mike Hill	EBU Treasurer
	Philip Mason	
	Alan Nelson	
	Addis Page	
	Peter Jordan	Secretary

1 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** none

2. **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING (10th March 2009)**

2.1 Accuracy: ok

2.2 Matters arising;

2.2.1 Paul Hackett asked if the dropping of the drinks reception at certain events would impact on the prize structure; it was agreed that the fund would now be returned to its normal level, which is set to be 17.5% from 1st September 2009.

3. **TOURNAMENT REPORTS & SCORECARDS**

Max Bavin gave a verbal report of tournaments from mid-March to date.

3.1 Portland Pairs The success of the new venue in Oxfordshire had contributed to an increase in numbers to 405 pairs, the largest attendance since 2003. Addis Page was thanked for his work in sourcing the new venue. It was confirmed that there would be a change of venue from Manchester to Brierfield for 2010 and it was now thought that the Young Chelsea venue would still be available next year.

3.2 The Baker Tilly Buxton Easter Festival. The venue resulted in a total attendance better than any of the last three years at Blackpool. However it still scored very badly on the scorecard and there were many complaints about the hotel. There would be at least one more year in line with the previous tournament committee decision and the sponsorship agreement with Baker Tilly. Alan Nelson said that he would look into promoting the event.

3.3 The Baker Tilly London Easter Festival. Following comments from the players it was agreed to reduce the length of the break between sessions.

3.4 The Schapiro Spring Foursomes. It was decided in the interests of security to ban mobile phones from the playing area on the Monday and Tuesday of the main competition.

4. NATIONAL WOMEN'S TEAMS

Paul Hackett brought the proof of a brochure from the 'group' and it was planned to send it to Aylesbury for proofing before the end of the week. The Committee registered their thanks to the 'group' (Sarah Teshome, Nicole Cook, Fiona Brown and Sally Brock) for all their hard work and also to Paul Hackett for assisting them.

The committee was in favour of the idea that the event winners would represent England in the Lady Milne if the Selection Committee so decided. Andrew Petrie agreed to write to Heather Dhondy to this effect.

5. NEW EVENTS FOR CLUB PLAYERS

After a long discussion it was proposed that there would be an EBU Club Stratified Pairs Week in September 2010. Margaret Curtis agreed to formulate a proposal for the Club Committee.

6. GREAT NORTHERN SWISS PAIRS

Owing mainly to the fact that a suitable venue had not been found for either 2009 or 2010 the Committee agreed to discontinue the event with immediate effect.

7. MASTER POINTS

It was agreed that any changes to the system would be left until after P2P was up and running.

8. MASTERPOINT HANDBOOK & P2P

Andrew Petrie said that he would rewrite chapter 3 of the Master Point Handbook and then it would be available only in electronic form. Philip Mason agreed to help with the proofing.

9. RANKED MASTERS PAIRS

It was agreed to continue with the discount for promotion offer that was started this year and extend it to include promotion to National Master for the 2010 event.

10. CALENDARS

10.1 It was minuted that the committee agreed to the request for the Midland Congress to add an extra green-pointed day to their congress in January 2010 on the occasion of it being the 60th year of the event.

10.2 It was also agreed to allow Devon to award green points at the Friday night session of their swiss pairs at the Devon congress in April 2010. This would mean that Devon would exceed the previous limitation of two days of green point awards per county per year. It was felt that extending the provision for this format can only be beneficial to the players, the counties and the EBU.

The committee wanted it made clear that (a) this extension is available to all County Congresses where green points are awarded and (b) the Friday evening can only be green pointed if it and the Saturday sessions are one complete event.

11. BGB MATTERS

The Board had asked the TC to look at the awarding of Green Points for BGB Sim Pairs. This resulted in a discussion where Brian Crack put forward the view that he thought it was inappropriate for unaffiliated clubs to be able to take part in BGB Sim Pairs. After further discussion the TC referred this back to the board for further consideration. Brian Crack agreed to provide the board with data about the number of unaffiliated clubs that currently take part in BGB Sim Pairs so that the board could look at the income generated from this group.

12. ISSUES RAISED BY MEMBERS

12.1 Point a board event – it was agreed to put an article in the next 'Tournament Focus' to inform and solicit views.

12.2 Midweek congresses – again a piece in the next 'Tournament Focus' and also to include it on the congress return forms.

12.3 Seeding of events – the committee decided that the current system of gold point ranking should be retained; with careful consideration to produce detailed adjustments for overseas players. Andrew Petrie to write to Heather Dhondy about the committee decision.

12.4 Garden Cities Trophy – Andrew Petrie said that he would canvass the views of the counties about this event.

12.5 National Pairs – Andrew Petrie said that he would write to Mike Minting (Herts) to tell him that the event would be reviewed after the start of P2P.

13. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

13.1 Overseas Congresses. The Secretary reported that there were 35 tables booked for Andalusia (October) and that the brochures had just been sent out for Madeira (February 2010). It was expected that Crete would be confirmed soon as the venue for October 2010.

13.2 Alan Nelson asked if the results service could be improved at EBU events. Max Bavin said that although we only promised to post the results the next morning; often we improved on this and would continue to do so where possible. There were constraints at some venues that made things very difficult at the moment.

13.3 Paul Hackett said that he had asked Peter Baxter to join the ranks of EBU Congress Hosts.

13.4 Max Bavin reported that we had been contacted by Barcelo Hotels to the effect that they may request us to move selected events from Hinckley to Daventry during 2010. These were stated as the Swiss Teams Congress, the Ranked Masters Pairs and the Tollemache Qualifier.

14. The date for the remaining meeting in 2009 was confirmed as:
Wednesday 21st October.