



MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE EBU TOURNAMENT COMMITTEE HELD AT THE CCPR ROOMS LONDON ON TUESDAY MARCH 10TH 2010

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

1. **Apologies for Absence:** none.

2. **Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

1. **Accuracy**

5.1 National Women's Teams. The Committee asked for its thanks to the **Women's** Committee to be recorded.

9. Ranked Masters Pairs. It was decided to keep unchanged the discount award scheme that was instituted for the 2009 event, **with the addition of the National Masters as one more promotion to qualify for the discount.**

3. **Update on MP & Licensing**

Andrew Petrie stated that the new Handbook was up on the web-site that day. He stated that any major changes would go to the Board but any minor ones would be handled by himself and Max Bavin; he concluded by thanking all those that had done so much work with the production of the new document.

4. **Tournament reports.**

4.1 Tollemache Cup. It was decided that from next year there would be 'medals' only to the winners but the quality would be improved. The entry fee for the next competition was set at £350 per team.

4.2 Following the success of the new timings at the London Year End Congress, Max Bavin was asked to look at the timings for the London Easter Festival for 2011.

4.3 Harrogate Congress. It was reported that there had been some teething problems with the event moving to the Majestic Hotel. Despite these the Tournament Committee members at the event all preferred the new venue and Max Bavin was asked to try and book the Majestic Hotel for the 2011 event.

It was also felt that the Tournament Host should be given a copy of the event set-up notes and if a local person was appointed then a pre congress visit would be advisable.

4.4 The report on the Ranked Masters was full of compliments for the Daventry Hotel which now seemed to be in tune with all the requirements to make our events successful.

It was also agreed to ask the EBU to obtain a trophy for the Premier Grand Masters Pairs.

Addis Page agreed to report on the general principle of qualification for the various levels and the relationship this may have with the new National Grading Scheme.

5. Transfer 1H/1S openers

The report from the L & E was discussed and it was decided to adopt a category of 4R where an opening bid of 1H/1S would be required to at least show four cards in that suit. Events that would be exempt from this restriction would be Crockfords Cup, Tollemache Cup, Swiss Teams Congress, Ranked Masters Congress (Life and above), The Schapiro Spring Foursomes. The National Women's Teams would be added if it was to become the 'Trials'.

Changes were to be implemented from the 1st September 2010 and the L & E was to be asked by Brian Crack as to whether the changes could be included in the next sets of regulations for The Hubert Phillips Bowl and the Gerard Faulkner Salver both of which would start before the 1st of August. Brian Crack also said that he would prepare information on this subject for the web-site.

6. Mid-week Congress

It was decided to ask Max Bavin to go ahead with arrangements for a mid-week congress (two and a half days ideally) at Cheltenham during June 2011.

7. National Pairs Club Heats

Despite recent discussion on this event, it was on the agenda again following letters to the Committee from Graham Jepson (on behalf of the Club Committee), John Mathews and Gerald Everitt. The Committee were sympathetic to the points raised but felt that the whole event structure needed a proper review in the light of P2P and it was too late to do this for 2010/11. The Secretary was asked to put the event on the Agenda for the October meeting and Max Bavin was requested to bring some proposals to that meeting.

The correspondents were thanked for their constructive comments on the event.

8. Overseas Congress

Following a letter from Bernard Themis the Committee asked the Secretary to make certain changes to the Policy document for the Overseas Congresses and to arrange for it to be available on the web-site.

9. Regulations for NICKO, Garden Cities for 2011/12

It was recommended that in order to represent clubs in these two events, members would have to have played twelve times at the club in question during the previous competition year.

(Secretary's note)

At a subsequent Board meeting the Directors asked that any decision about the exact number of sessions required to qualify should be deferred until more data was available from P2P returns.

10. One Day Green Pointed Events

10.1 A request from Westmorland for a ODGP event to be held on Sunday 26th September 2010 was agreed to as there were no conflicts of interest with surrounding counties.

10.2 A request from Cambs & Hunts for a ODGP event to be held on Sunday 31st October 2010 was turned down as it was not a designated date for such an event. Cambs & Hunts were requested to submit a request for 2011 on a designated weekend as soon as possible if they wished to be considered for next year.

10.3 Kent asked for their green point day, scheduled for 25th July 2010, to be cancelled with the purpose of making the Sunday of the Kent Congress green-pointed. This followed the success of the 2009 event and the county committee viewed this as a long term arrangement. The Tournament Committee had no objection to this change.

11. Issues raised by members

11.1 A fine tuning of the qualifying for the finals of the championship pairs at the Autumn Congress put forward by Jeremy Dhondy was adopted by the committee.

This stated that..."In the semi-final the first 25 qualified for the A final and the next 6 for the B final and for the non qualifiers the first 3 qualified for the A final and the next 22 for the B final".

11.2 Peter Baxter had written to the committee with concerns about playing against the same team more than once when it was apparently not made clear that this was a possibility. He cited an occurrence at the Guernsey Congress. Max Bavin told the committee that with small fields this was unavoidable but more publicity would be given to the issue in the future.

11.3 Bob McRobert had made the Committee aware that the Football World Cup Final was on the evening of the Sunday teams at the Eastbourne Congress this summer. After discussion it was decided not to make any changes to the published times.

11.4 Joanne Caldwell expressed her concern that the gap between the green points required for Life Master (150) and Premier Life (300) was so great. The Committee decided against any change to this but thought that the new National Grading Scheme would have a positive effect on this kind of situation.

11.5 A request from David Wing about Bridgemate 'procedures at the table' was discussed. Max Bavin was asked to ensure that appropriate announcements were made by the TDs at EBU events.

11.6 Jeremy Dhondy raised the problem of parking costs at the Autumn Congress and Max Bavin said that he would contact the hotel again to see if any concessions could be obtained.

11.7 Mary Andrew drew the committee's attention to the fact that the ferry on the final Sunday of the Guernsey Congress was leaving earlier each year and with present timings it would not be possible to play in the teams on Sunday and return to the UK mainland by car ferry the same day. The Committee had sympathy with the players that were affected by this but felt that a change to the timetable to accommodate this would not be beneficial to the event as a whole.

The Committee thanked all those Members mentioned above for their comments and constructive suggestions regarding EBU events and all those that have contacted the EBU on the same subjects.

12. Any Other Business

12.1 Andrew Petrie reported that the board had proposed that in future there would be some appointments to the respective EBU committees and asked for comments on the proposal.

12.2 The Committee paid tribute to the work done by the late John Carter with the National Grading Scheme. Despite this very sad loss the scheme was on course.

12.3 Alan Nelson asked that TDs made sure that the announcements regarding mobile phones at events were made and that offenders were treated appropriately.

The Chairman requested that the following information be included in the equipment pack for all EBU events.

- a) The name of the host (where applicable).
- b) A list of the host's duties/responsibilities (to be handed to the host).
- c) The name of the EBU officer opening the event.
- d) A list of the issues to be covered by the EBU officer (to be handed to him/her).
- e) A list of issues to be covered by the TD opening the event.

Max Bavin said that he would make sure that the TDs in charge of events covered all the issues detailed in e).

There being no other business the Meeting concluded at 4.30 with a reminder that the next meeting was on Tuesday 6th July.

Peter Jordan 26.04.10.