



**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE EBU TOURNAMENT COMMITTEE
HELD AT THE BAKER TILLY OFFICES, 2 BLOOMSBURY ST, LONDON
ON TUESDAY 12 NOVEMBER 2013**

Present:	Ian Payn	Chairman
	Gillian Fawcett	Vice-Chairman
	Jeremy Dhondy	EBU Chairman
	Barry Capal	EBU General Manager
	Paul Hackett	
	Philip Mason	
	Addis Page	
	Andrew Petrie	EBU Treasurer
	Gordon Rainsford	Chief Tournament Director
	Peter Jordan	Secretary

1. **Apologies for Absence:** Terry Hewett and Eddie Williams.

2. **Election of Chairman and Vice-Chairman**

1. **Chairman:** Ian Payn was proposed by Andrew Petrie, seconded by Gillian Fawcett and elected unopposed.

2. **Vice-Chairman:** Gillian Fawcett was proposed by Ian Payn, seconded by Andrew Petrie and elected unopposed.

3. **Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

1. **Accuracy**

3.5 On-line Knock Out trial. Subsequent to the meeting a prize of a one year subscription (up to a maximum of six players) for Bridge Magazine Online was offered by Mark Horton. (Secretary's note).

2. **Matters Arising:** no matters arising that were not on the agenda.

3. **Action List**

4. **Parking at the Royal National:** The Secretary reported no progress so far on obtaining parking concessions for delegates.

12. **Event feed back forms:** Addis Page put forward his ideas for up dating the return forms and was thanked by the Chairman for his research and time. Addis was then asked to liaise with the Secretary in order to produce a new form to be circulated to the committee.

4. **EBU Finances:** Ian Payn introduced a paper detailing the recent downward trend of income from the competition programme and the simultaneous pairs. After a discussion on various courses of action the Chairman said that he would ask small groups within the committee to cover specific events/areas and he would be in touch following the meeting.

5. **Event Review**

1. **Riviera Congress:** Gordon Rainsford reported that the venue was not available for the published weekend in 2015 and as it was a popular venue an alternative date was being sought in the first instance.

2. **Hubert Phillips Bowl 2012-13:** The final of this competition had not been played due to the failure of one captain to agree any dates over a long period of time. The same team then conceded their round one match for the new competition in similar circumstances. The Committee decided that the Chairman should write to Daniel McIntosh saying that for the immediate future the competition department would be instructed not to take an entry for a team in a KO competition where he was proposed as captain.

The Committee also decided that in the event of a team not contesting a final in future then the team that they had beaten in the semi-final would be invited to replace them. The defaulting finalists would then revert to getting the prize money for the semi-final appearance and not that for the final.

3. **Brighton Summer Meeting**

1. It was reported that the trial of relocating the TDs to alternative hotels at a distance from the venue was not a success and that accommodation would be sought at the Metropole for 2014.

2. The one day swiss teams on the first weekend were poorly attended and so there was a proposal to replace them with a one day bracketed pairs. This would be discussed at the Brighton planning meeting soon to take place.

4. **Telford Midweek Congress:** The event, despite an initial catering problem was deemed to be a success. Although a smaller turnout than the midweek congress at Oxford this was not unexpected. The Secretary reported that the event attracted a much higher proportion of newcomers to national competitions than is normal. The event will take place again in 2014.

5. **On Line KO teams Trial:** Some feedback had already been received and the general view was positive and the committee recommended that an on line option would be available to teams entering the Gerard Faulkner Salver in 2014.

6. **Autumn Congress:** Gordon Rainsford said that the scheduled 2014 date is unavailable and both a change of date and/or venue will have to be considered.

Secretary's note – new venue is Holiday Inn, Peterborough and the date is unchanged at 17-19 October.

6. **Green Point one day events:** The secretary reported that a reorganisation in the calendar had resulted in there being no conflicting event with the Saturday of the May Green Point weekend. Northants and Sussex had both taken advantage of this and requested that their 2015 pairs days be moved to that date.

7. **Laws & Ethics report:** Jeremy Dhondy reported that "The L & E had expressed concern that there were two recent cases where a person had left a tournament without advising anyone and that disciplinary action was being considered in both cases".

8. Various Issues

1. Simultaneous pairs prizes: The treasurer reported that the new prize structure had been agreed and would come into force from Jan 1st2014.

The prizes are as follows –

£50 to the pair winning each event (day).

Heat winners entered into a prize draw for annual amounts of £1000 for first prize, £500 second, £200 third and 15 prizes of £100.

Clubs to be entered (one ticket for each session run) into a prize draw for annual amounts of £1000 first prize, £500 second, £200 third and 15 prizes of £100.

2. Seeding of KO events: The secretary reported that a number of people had said that they thought that finalists of KO events should automatically be seeded in that event for the following year. The general view of the Committee was against this other than the existing case of Crockfords where that was the norm. It was agreed that we should stick to the Gold Point seeding that was used otherwise.

3. KO Regulations: Gordon Rainsford said that following a number of situations reported recently, he would be including references to the using of mobile phones and e-cigarettes. He also agreed to look at the wording regarding pre-dealt boards following a request from Addis Page.

9. Issues raised by members

1. Parking at Riviera Congress (Marietta Andre) – the committee was in favour of taking all possible steps to obtain reasonable parking rates for delegates at venues. Gordon Rainsford says that this was now part of the new event set up procedure.

2. Result posting & venue times (Bill Gardner) – again the committee was in agreement that all practical improvements to result posting should be sought and that with reference to the second part, train times would taken into account when timetabling and that last minutes changes would not be made.

3. Eastbourne schedule (Philip Watson) – following the letter from Mr Watson and comments from the Congress feedback Gordon Rainsford had produced a new schedule not only for the Summer Seniors Congress but also the Seniors Congress in November. These were welcomed by the committee and will be on the web site very soon.

4. Seniors Congress (Mike Swanson) – a suggestion that the Seniors congress might benefit from being changed to mid week was forwarded to the group that will be looking at the future of this and similar events.

5. SKO draw (Leslie Reece) - Mr Reece stated that he thought that byes (round two in this instance) should be selected only from first round winners and not from teams that had come through the repechage. The Committee felt that as this was the first year of the new format then no changes would be recommended at such an early date. The situation would be reviewed as all other events on an annual basis.

10. Dates of meeting for 2014: The committee agreed to reduce the number of meetings to two per year and the next meeting was set for Tuesday 11 March 2014.

Ian Payn 11 March 2014