



**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE SELECTION COMMITTEE
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 16TH NOVEMBER 2011 AT THE IMPERIAL HOTEL,
LONDON.**

Present:	Heather Dhondy	(Chairman)
	Heather Bakhshi	
	Max Bavin	(EBU Chief TD)
	Peter Baxter	
	Sally Bugden	(EBU Chairman)
	Simon Cochemé	(Vice-Chairman)
	Gerard Faulkner	(EBU Vice-President)
	Paul Hackett	
	Andrew Petrie	(EBU Vice-Chairman)
	Tom Townsend	
	Sandra Claridge	(Secretary)

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE
An apology was received from Nick Smith.

2 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN FOR THE YEAR 2011/12
Heather Dhondy was proposed by Paul Hackett and seconded by Simon Cochemé. There being no other nominations, Heather was duly elected.

Heather welcomed Heather Bakhshi and Nick Smith to the Committee, and thanked Sally Brock and David Burn for their service on the Committee.

3 ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN FOR THE YEAR 2011/12
Simon Cochemé was proposed by Tom Townsend and seconded by Heather Dhondy. There being no other nominations, Simon was duly elected.

4 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 6TH JUNE 2011

Accuracy

Bonn Nations Cup

Tom Townsend noted that the EBU website was still incorrect in regard to the composition of the team that competed in the Bonn Nations Cup. The Secretary would ensure that the detail was corrected.

4.1.2 Pro-Am event

The Vice-Chairman said that he had not been present at the meeting when it was he agreed he would be co-organiser of the Pro-Am, and that there had been no discussions with David Burn.

4.2 Matters Arising

4.2.1 Future format of the Gold Cup Finals & Spring Foursomes

The Chairman reported that Bridge Great Britain had polled team captains who had reached the final stages in the last few years, and as a consequence it had been agreed to introduce screens for the final stages from 2012, but to retain 8-board stanzas in the 64-board matches. It was noted that a date had yet to be agreed for the Finals in 2012. Andrew Petrie confirmed that screens would be used on the last day of the Spring Foursomes.

4.2.2 February Simultaneous Pairs event

The Vice-Chairman said that arrangements were well in hand for the Simultaneous Pairs which would be scored by ECATS, and requested that the EBU be proactive in promoting the event. Sally Bugden suggested that he contact Val Gibson, the Chair of the National Club Committee who would ensure that promotional material was made available to clubs.

4.2.3 Pro-Am Event

The Chairman agreed to investigate whether any progress had been made, and report to the next meeting.

4.2.4 Budget for 2012 Camrose

In light of the first weekend of the Camrose being hosted by England the budget had been increased for 2012. It was agreed, however, that the cost of staging the event was outside the control of the Committee.

4.2.5 2012 Olympiad

Paul Hackett reported that a meeting, and a demonstration of Mind Sports, was being held on 17th November at the London Eye, at which the Presidents of the WBF and EBL, and Don Morris of the UK Mind Sports Association, would be present.

Sally Bugden said that Jeremy Dhondy would be there as the EBU's official representative. Though a number of possible venues for the Olympiad had been rumoured, Sally did not believe that a formal announcement would be made at the meeting on date or venue, which was totally unsatisfactory given that the organisers had had four years to make the necessary arrangements.

4.2.6 Junior Squads Standard System

Tom Townsend said he believed that Michael Byrne and Allan Shillitoe had embarked on a draft of a standard system. The Chairman agreed to contact Michael and David Gold to discuss the matter.

4.2.7 Event in the Netherlands

Gerard Faulkner enquired whether any progress had been made on a joint initiative with the Netherlands. Paul Hackett said that he had met the Coach of the Dutch team, who said that if England could send a top team, the Netherlands would host an event as part of their training programme. Tom Townsend added that the Dutch players were working very hard, with excellent support from the Government, their Federation, and a major sponsor. Paul agreed to pursue the matter in terms of a possible date, and it was suggested that the Open team to be selected in January be offered the opportunity to go to the event.

4.2.8 Chinese Contract

Gerard Faulkner said that the Contract he had examined on behalf of the women's team visiting China, contained a serious section regarding drugs. He urged that the EBU be more proactive in

determining relevant information on banned substances, and inform captains so that waivers could be obtained. In response, the Chairman said that a very complex and lengthy document does exist which lists everything.

5 FINANCE

5.1 Annual Accounts of 31st March 2011

The Chairman reported that the Committee had £3K remaining of the funds raised during the year, and had come in just under budget. The Board had agreed that the surplus would be carried over to the current year, but it could not be assumed that this would be the case in future years.

5.2 Budget for Open/Women/Seniors to 31st March 2012

The Vice-Chairman reported that the Premier League was budgeted to make a small loss, though free entries for Juniors, and some small expenditure on BBO operators, should be more than offset by a reduction in venue costs.

Teams had been sent to invitation events abroad during the year, some on a subsidised or partly-funded basis, and around £4K was available for this purpose to 31st March 2012 to provide additional international experience for teams selected for the European Championships. In general the Committee's finances were in good shape.

Andrew Petrie offered to discuss with the Union's Hon. Treasurer ring-fencing of income raised by the February Simultaneous Pairs event. Andrew congratulated Simon on an excellent job preparing the budget, and Simon thanked Max Bavin and Gail Nancarrow for their invaluable assistance.

5.3 Junior Budget to 31st March 2012

The Chairman said that expenditure on Juniors had been around £6K under budget, largely due to the decision not to send a Girls team to the Junior European Championships. It was therefore decided to use this to send a team to the White House event for which an invitation had been received, and it was agreed to send the team selected to play in the forthcoming World Championships. Squad training had been in line with the budget.

Heather was thanked for the work she had done on the budget.

6 COMMITTEE RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE YEAR

Responsibilities were agreed as follows:

<i>Finance</i>	Simon Cochemé (Open, Women & Seniors) Tom Townsend (Juniors)
<i>Youth Squad Co-ordinator</i>	Paul Hackett (Womens) Tom Townsend U25 & U20

It was agreed that the Board would re-examine the financing of Squad Managers and the overall responsibility for the Youth budget. In addition it was considered that the Committee should be more proactive in communicating with the Junior Squads.

<i>Open & Ladies Squad Co-ordinators</i>	Peter Baxter (Open) Paul Hackett (Womens)
--	--

It was agreed that the Co-ordinators would make recommendations on how best to spend the funds available for the teams selected for the European Championships, and that a squad of pairs

would be produced for selection for invitation events. In addition, it was vital that Committee decisions were communicated to the players.

Publicity/Committee blog Nick Smith

Publicity would include *English Bridge*, and the EBU website. It was noted that the latter needed easy access from the front page, and deadlines for updating, and clearing out-of-date information. Andrew Petrie suggested that articles could also be added to Tournament Focus, and the publication renamed “Tournament & International Focus”. Twitter and Facebook were noted as possibilities for news items.

Scheduling Paul Hackett

Proof-reading Tom Townsend & Heather Bakhshi

Fund-raising Simon Cochemé

Player database Heather Bakhshi

It was agreed that there should be a matrix of all relevant events to provide objective criteria for discussion and selection. Heather Bakhshi agreed to establish the current state of the database and report progress on updating it. Tom Townsend suggested that in addition to Committee members making themselves aware of relevant results, consideration should be given to having a consultative panel of senior players to aid the Committee. It was generally the view, however, that rather than have a formal panel, members of the committee were encouraged to consult knowledgeable players before selection meetings.

BBO Co-ordinator Simon Cochemé with assistance from Heather Bakhshi

7 OPEN EVENTS

7.1 Premier League

The final results, contained in Appendix A, were noted and the winners of both Divisions were congratulated. The Butlers, which it was conceded have limitations, were also noted.

It was reported that the trophies were not available to present, and Aylesbury would be asked to determine their whereabouts.

It was agreed that in future Appeals Committees would be formed on site comprising players from the other Division, save at the conclusion of the event, when players from the same division could be used.

In terms of venues for 2012, Simon Cochemé offered to draft a questionnaire to determine whether a midlands venue would be preferable for all weekends, or alternatively introduce a variable entry fee.

7.2 Camrose Trophy Selections

Tom Townsend absented himself during this item

Selections were made as follows:

Camrose Trophy – 6th – 8th January: Oxford

Alexander Allfrey & Andrew Robson
Peter Crouch & Derek Patterson

Camrose Trophy – 2nd – 4th March: East Kilbride

Frances Hinden & Graham Osborne
Chris Jagger & Ian Pagan
Jeffery Allerton & Tom Townsend
Reserves: Peter Crouch & Derek Patterson
NPC: David Burn

Funding for the Camrose Trophy (bearing in mind the distance to travel and number of nights involved) was agreed as follows:

- The team for Oxford would receive £200 per player towards their expenses.
- The team for East Kilbride would also receive £200 per player towards their expenses.
- NPCs for both weekends would be funded in full.

Both teams would be expected to stay at the venue hotel.

The Premier League Regulations for 2012 would include a statement that the runners-up in the first division of the League will be offered the opportunity to be selected en bloc for one of the Camrose weekends; otherwise the Selection Committee will select the team. The Regulations will also be more specific in regard to teams of 5. Heather Bakhshi offered to produce revised wording.

It was agreed that the Open & Womens teams for the 2012 European Championships would be selected at the next meeting, and that notification would be published on the website.

7.3 Invitation events

7.3.1 Tel Aviv Bridge Festival - 2-11th February

An invitation had been received to send a team to the Tel Aviv Bridge Festival, with two free rooms being offered by the organisers. It was agreed that David Gold would be asked to select two pairs from the U25 Squad, and that their flights would be funded by the EBU.

7.3.2 Japanese NEC event – 7th -12th February

An invitation had been received to send a team to the NEC tournament in Japan, and that free entry, accommodation and breakfast was offered by the organisers. The team selected comprising Heather Dhondy & Nevena Senior and Susan Stockdale & Fiona Brown would be given £2K towards their flights.

8 WOMENS EVENTS

8.1 Venice Cup

The team was congratulated on reaching the Semi-finals, and the NPC and players were thanked for their reports.

It was noted that whilst team officials are appointed for the event itself rather than preparation, there had clearly been some lack of communication prior to the Championships. It was agreed that in future every effort must be made to manage the players' expectations and offer the support

needed. Once appointed, Captains and Coaches would be asked to determine what the players required in terms of coaching, sports psychology etc. and make recommendations to the Committee.

8.2 Chinese Invitation Event

The Chairman reported that the team had performed reasonably well, and that the event had provided excellent preparation for the Venice Cup.

8.3.1 Lady Milne Trial

Entries were noted as follows:

Catherine Seale & Catherine Jagger
Sarah Teshome & Anne Rosen
Heather Dhondy & Dinah Caplan
Sandy Davies & Carole Kelly
Marietta Andree & Janet Cahm
Susanna Gross & Sally Brock
Frances Liew & Belinda Bridgen
Gillian Fawcett & Jane Moore
Terry Hewett & Gitte Hecht-Johansen
Alice GC Kaye & Bryony Youngs
Sandra Penfold & Nevena Senior
Lorna Vesty & Sue Shaw
Nicole Cook & Christine Duckworth
Pauline Cohen & Lizzie Godfrey
Rowena Clow & Millie Jones
Carrie Eden & Jacqui Lund
Sarah O'Connor & Lavinia Constantin
Maureen Dennison & Audrey Hartley

It was confirmed that the format would be 17 x 7-board matches with screens on 13th – 15th January at the Young Chelsea Bridge Club, London. The leading three pairs are guaranteed selection for the Lady Milne Trophy to be played in Wales on 13th -15th April. The NPC would be appointed following the Trial.

9 SENIORS EVENTS

9.1 Seniors Camrose Trial

Entries were noted as follows:

Richard Palmer, Phil Thornton, Bob Holder, Nigel Wolfendale
Paul Hackett, Roger O'Shea, David Price, Colin Simpson, John Holland, Gunnar Hallberg
Jeremy Dhondy, Alan Kay, David Kendrick, Roger Gibbons
Sandy Davies, Tom Gisborne, Dave Robinson, Warner Solomon

Max Bavin confirmed that the format would be a double round robin of 3 x 16-board matches each day played in sets of 8 boards, with automatic change of opponents. The winners would be invited to represent England in the Seniors Camrose Trophy to be played in Scotland on 24th – 26th May. To be eligible for automatic selection, a player must play at least one-third of the boards in the Trial, and one-quarter of the boards against each opponent.

9.2 European Seniors Trial

The winners of the Trial being played on 19th & 20th November will play a 96-board match in sets of 8 boards against Paul Hackett's team for the right to represent England in the 2012 European Seniors Championships.

To be eligible for automatic selection, a player must play at least one-third of the boards in the match. Screens will be used in the match, unless both captains agree otherwise. The winners of the Trial and Paul Hackett to seek to agree a suitable date for the match, and consult the Committee if necessary.

9.3 2011 Seniors Camrose Trophy

The Non-playing Captain and players were thanked for their reports.

10 JUNIOR EVENTS

10.1 Junior European Championships

David Gold and Michael Byrne were thanked for their reports. The results are contained in Appendix A.

The Chairman of the Union said that there had been no support from the EBL in terms of rescinding the change of age limit in the Regulations for the World Junior Championships, and the next step would be to write directly to the WBF.

10.2 Azores invitation event

Sarah O'Connor was thanked for her report. The Chairman said that the event, for teams under the age of 30 offering flights and accommodation, provided excellent experience in terms of competing against foreign pairs and systems, and recommended that further invitations should be accepted.

10.3 Junior Camrose & Peggy Bayer Trophies

The Chairman agreed to request that David Gold and Michael Byrne select teams within the defined age range for the next Junior European Championships.

10.4 Channel Trophy

The teams for the Channel Trophy were confirmed, and the details are contained in Appendix A.

10.5 White House Tournament – 25th -30th March, Amsterdam

It was agreed that the U-21 team for the World Championships be selected for the White House Tournament, the cost of travel and accommodation for a third pair being paid by the EBU.

The Chairman said that given the invitation had been received in good time, she did not anticipate any problem with the standard of accommodation offered.

11 JUNIOR SQUADS

Andrew Petrie was joined by Committee members in extending a vote of thanks to all the Squad Managers for the work they had done over a significant period. David Gold was welcomed as the new manager of the U25s.

12 U25 WOMEN - THE FUTURE

A paper by the Chairman was noted. It was agreed that this item be deferred to the next meeting when Allan Shillitoe's report from the Junior Channel Trophy would be available.

13 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting was fixed for Wednesday 18th January in the Fountain Room, Imperial Hotel, Russell Square, London, commencing at 12.15 p.m.

ACTION LIST

Item		Responsibility
4.1.1	Correction of website	Secretary
4.2.2	Promotion of Simultaneous Pairs	Matt Betts & Vice-Chairman
4.2.3	Investigate progress of Pro Am event	Chairman
4.2.6	Progress of Junior Squads Standard System	Chairman
4.2.7	Event in the Netherlands	Paul Hackett
5.2	Ring-fencing of income from fund-raising	Andrew Petrie
6	Establish progress on player's database	Heather Bakhshi
7.1	Establish whereabouts of Premier League trophies	EBU Tournament Dept.
	Questionnaire on future Premier League venues	Vice-Chairman
7.2	Notification of Camrose selections & publication on EBU website	Secretary
	Revision of Premier League regulations	Heather Bakhshi
	Notification of selection date for European Championship teams	Secretary/Chairman
7.3.1	Selection of team for Tel Aviv Festival	Tom Townsend/David Gold
8.1	Acknowledgement of NPC & Players Reports	Secretary
9.3	Acknowledgement of NPC & Player Reports	Secretary
10.1	Acknowledgement of NPC Reports	Secretary
10.2	Acknowledgement of Report	Secretary
10.3	Consultation on selection of JC & PB teams	Chairman/D Gold/M Byrne
10.5	Invitation to White House Tournament	Tom Townsend/David Gold

APPENDIX A - 16TH NOVEMBER 2011

JUNIOR EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS

Albena, Bulgaria 13th – 24th July 2011

Youngsters Series:

1 st	Poland
2 nd	Israel
3 rd	Sweden
4th	England
5 th	Norway
6 th	Italy
7 th	France
8 th	Latvia

England:

Shivam Shah & Basil Letts
Alex Roberts & Tommy Brass
Simon Spencer & Ankush Khadelwal
NPC: Michael Byrne
Coach: Alan Shillitoe

Juniors Series:

1 st	Israel
2 nd	Italy
3 rd	Denmark
4 th	Bulgaria
5 th	France
6 th	Netherlands
7 th	Croatia
8 th	Poland
11th	England

England:

Ed Jones & Graeme Robertson
Daniel McIntosh & Alice Kaye
Tom Rainforth & David Williams
NPC: David Gold
Coach: Simon Cope

CHINESE INVITATION EVENT

September 2011

England:

Heather Dhondy & Nevena Senior
Sally Brock & Nicola Smith
Susan Stockdale & Fiona Brown

Position:

4th

GIRLS' INVITATION EVENT - AZORES

England: Emily Middleton & Sinead Bird
Sarah O'Connor & Lavinia Constantin

2011 PREMIER LEAGUE

Team	Telt	Dho	Feg	deB	Hin	Ros	Hac	All	Adj	Total	Rank
Teltscher		16	17	14	13	21	21	12	-1	113	4
Dhondy	14		14	0	15	16	13	6		78	8
Fegarty	13	16		20	5	25	4	7	-1	89	5
De Botton	16	25	10		6	8	5	14	-1	83	6
Hinden	17	15	25	24		23	14	4	-1	121	2
Rosen	9	14	5	22	7		18	5		80	7
Hackett	9	17	25	25	16	12		14		118	3
Allfrey	18	24	23	16	25	25	16			147	1

Division 2

Team	Bell	Ewa	Pry	Cope	Bow	Chad	Penf	Rob	Adj	Total	Rank
Bell		15	10	15	11	23	24	18		116	3
Ewart	15		20	21	25	24	20	25		150	1
Pryor	20	10		9	12	5	15	22		93	6
Cope	15	9	21		14	25	13	21		118	2
Bowdery	19	2	18	16		21	7	14		97	5
Chadha	7	6	25	5	9		16	10		78	8
Penfold	6	10	15	17	23	14		15		100	4
Roberts	12	4	8	9	16	20	15			84	7

JUNIOR CHANNEL TROPHY

Utrecht, 16th - 18th December

U20: Toby Nonnemacher & Michael Alishaw
Freddie Illingworth & Chris Huber
Shivam Shah & Alex Roberts
NPC: Michael Byrne

U25: Tom Rainforth & David Williams
Dan McIntosh & James Paul
Ed Jones & Basil Letts
NPC: David Gold

U25 Women's: Sarah O'Connor & Sinead Bird
Emily Middleton & Lavinia Constantin
NPC: Alan Shillitoe

VENICE CUP

England: Heather Dhondy & Nevena Senior
Sally Brock & Nicola Smith
Susan Stockdale & Fiona Brown
NPC: Martin Jones
Coach: David Burn

Round Robin position: 3rd 384 VPs
Quarter-Final: Defeated Sweden 226-168 IMPs
Semi-Final: Lost to Indonesia 177.5-185 IMPs