



**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE C19 WORKING GROUP
OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE EBU LIMITED**

via Zoom 22nd April 2020

Present:

Gillian Fawcett (Vice Chairman) (GF)
Gordon Rainsford (Chief Executive) (GR)
Rob Lawy (RL)
Ron Millet (RM)

Bev Purvis (BP)
Patrick Shields (PS)
Kiat Huang (KH)
Sam Kelly (Minutes) (SK)

1. Apologies for Absence

None

2. Minutes and Approval from last meeting

GF thanked everyone for joining.

It was also decided that IP's statements should be sent to all members via email, as well as being published on the EBU site. It was also agreed that we should try to add some curated content to the bottom of any email he sent.

GR gave a brief update of Jonathan Lillycrop's (JL) direct contact with clubs. GR noted that a lot of clubs have already contacted JL, and that he was now concentrating on smaller clubs. JL will contact more clubs via phone when we are closer to being able to re-open clubs. GR noted that JL has been very helpful and put in a lot of work over the last few weeks.

GR stated that the information about opening virtual clubs on BBO was sent to all club and county officials. BBO have enabled the capability for counties as well as clubs.

GR confirmed that following the last meeting he has now collated all the recent articles with information about online bridge, into one article. He also confirmed that there were adverts on the BBO site over Easter, advertising EBU games.

It was discussed that an article should be written close to the time when clubs are re-opening, focusing on helping clubs to go cashless. JL, GR and BP to action.

The option of an EBU credit card was discussed, but due to the price and demand, it was decided this was not viable currently.

EBED

There was a discussion around EBED and their current sharing of teaching materials. The discussion included what materials should be free for all. One suggestion was that EBED create a comprehensive list for potential EBTA members available on the website, so that people can see what they will receive when joining.

EBED's new teacher training videos were also discussed and seen as a current success, with a lot of participation from members. KH has been involved in production and the quality has increased for the second tutorial video from the first session last week.

The restrictions on EBED's hand-banks were discussed, along with other EBED teaching resources, including PowerPoint template slides.

KH confirmed that EBED are currently looking at converting their teaching books for online learning.

It was discussed that there should be more help or resources for beginners playing bridge on BBO, with suggestions of encouraging members to set up games with their family and friends.

There was a suggestion that we encourage members to teach their families and friends to play bridge while chatting on Skype/Zoom as a 21st century equivalent of learning around the kitchen table.

It was decided that we would try to record a short video, showing a family setting up a Zoom or Skype call alongside starting a table on BBO. This will be taken forward in a separate meeting with GF, GR, KH and SK.

The possibility of using the twitch on gaming streaming platform was discussed.

Update on BBO – Virtual Clubs

GR gave a brief update on the virtual clubs that BBO have enabled. These are open to all clubs, who are then able to organise their own games, when and how they want, with the option to control who plays in each game and the entry fee for each game. EBU will receive some income from these games via UMS, as each game must be submitted, but the choice of which code to use is determined by individual clubs.

KH raised concerns over brand loyalty and the likelihood of BBO taking over from the EBU and other national governing bodies. It was agreed that this would be something to be aware of.

How to help clubs in lockdown

Continue to encourage clubs to set up virtual clubs.

There were also suggestions for setting up teaching sessions online to encourage beginners. KH suggested setting up events of different levels, for example club level, county level, etc.

There was also a discussion around the best social media forums to use when distributing information to clubs and counties.

GF ended the meeting by asking for any thoughts about social media and how to get members interacting.

Any Other Business

Next Meeting: 5th May 2020 2pm