



**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF
THE ENGLISH BRIDGE UNION HELD AT 40 BERNARD STREET, LONDON ON
TUESDAY 27TH SEPTEMBER 2005**

Present:	Denis Robson	Chairman
	Philip Mason	Vice-Chairman
	John D Neville	Treasurer
	Terry Collier	General Manager
	Sally Bugden	
	Chris Dixon	
	John Carter	
	David Harris	(Departed 16:40pm)
	Jeff K Morris	(Arrived 13:50pm)
	Alan Nelson	
	Clare Smith	Minute Taker

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies for late arrival of Jeff Morris.

2. MINUTES OF THE MEETING 12TH JULY 2005

2.1 Accuracy

No matters were raised and the minutes were **approved**.

2.2 Matters Arising

2.2.1 Lancashire Membership Scheme (3.2.2)

It was noted that Lancashire have recently submitted a new draft constitution for our consideration and it was agreed that we should seek more details of their membership system before proceeding further.

2.2.2 Senior Camrose Sponsorship (3.2.2)

It was agreed this matter would be presented to the BGB with the suggestion the event could be run alongside Lady Milne.

2.2.3 *Educational Trust*

The Board decided after a lengthy discussion to proceed with the establishment of the *English Bridge Union Youth and Education Trust*.

2.2.4 *Mission Statement*

Reports from the Strategy Sub Group were noted and the Chairman advised that the next meeting of the Board would concentrate on strategy, allowing new board members to participate.

3. **FINANCIAL MATERS**

3.1 ***Treasurer's Report and Accounts***

The report was noted and approved.

4. **EBU WEBSITE DEVELOPMENT – Update**

The General Manager reported that Enterprise 2 had now been installed and that it is working effectively. The new system identified that some 100 players at Brighton were not current members of the EBU and these are now being followed up. It is also encouraging to note approximately 500 lapsed members have re-joined due to the fact that they did not receive their August issue of *English Bridge*.

Now that Enterprise is established we can progress with the creation of “Member Rooms” on our website that are linked to Enterprises along with membership data base/accounts systems. It is planned to have this system in place by the end of October, with membership renewals and event bookings on-line intended to be early features.

5. **MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT – Update**

The Chairman advised he had received an initial report/presentation from the Membership Action Group, who had been formed at the suggestion of Shareholders and was impressed with their efforts/suggestions. This group will continue with its work and will report to the Board in the near future.

6. **ROLES OF COMMITTEES AND TERMS OF REFERENCE**

Reports previously circulated from Chris Dixon relating to the possible restructuring of the L&E, Selection and Tournament Committees were discussed and whilst it was acknowledged that a degree of “streamlining” might be appropriate this should not be undertaken in isolation to the committees themselves. It was agreed that more work would be needed on revised drafts before further consideration at a future Board meeting.

7. ENGLISH BRIDGE REPORT – Sally Bugden

A report was received from Sally Bugden expressing her views in respect to the future production of the magazine. This report was deemed to be a confidential matter at present.

8. CHAIRMAN & TREASURERS REPORTS FOR AGM

Reports were **approved**.

9. COMMITTEE REPORTS

9.1 *Editorial Board – 16th August 2005*

The minutes were noted.

9.2 *Tournament Committee – 15th September 2005*

The Vice Chairman advised that the proposed National Business Houses competition was proving difficult to organise but further work and investigation is currently being undertaken by Addis Page. The Vice Chairman also advised that there were a small number of criticisms arising in respect to the use of the Kettering Conference Centre as a Bridge venue in particular the £3.50 per day charge for Tea and Coffee. It was agreed this offered good value for money and should proceed as planned but that uptake be monitored.

9.3 *L&E Committee – 26th July 2005*

The minutes were noted

9.4 *L&E Committee – 21st September 2005*

Minutes not yet available.

10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Chris Dixon is currently producing a scoring programme which he hopes will be compatible with the Bridgemate system. The Chairman thanked him for his offer to make this available to the EBU at no charge and it was agreed to proceed with the purchase of Bridgemate with the intention of it being available for the Tollemache event at Kettering in November.

John Carter raised the need for consistency in dealing with deceased members in relation to ranking lists and it was agreed to investigate ways of improved presentation in the future.

Jeff Morris advised that a bridge event alongside the golf Ryder Cup in September 2006 was being planned by our colleagues in Ireland. The intended event would be USA v Europe.

(THESE MINUTES WILL BE APPROVED AT THE NEXT BOARD MEETING)

The next Board meeting will be held on Tuesday 1st November 2005 at
40 Bernard Street, London.

(All meetings commence at 12:30 unless otherwise indicated)

