



**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE EBU LIMITED
AT BAKER TILLY MANAGEMENT LTD,
2 BLOOMSBURY STREET, LONDON WC1B 3ST
ON THURSDAY 24th MARCH 2011 COMMENCING AT 1.00PM**

Present:	Sally Bugden	(Chairman)
	Andrew Petrie	(Vice-Chairman)
	Michael Hill	(Treasurer)
	Jeremy Dhondy	
	Heather Dhondy	(Note Taker)
	Graham Jepson	
	Malcolm Oliver	
	Barry Capal	(General Manager)

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Ian Payn (see item 2).

2. FORMAL APPOINTMENT OF A NEW BOARD DIRECTOR

Ian Payn was formally co-opted on to the committee following a unanimous vote in favour.

3. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 20th January 2011

MO was thanked for his work in producing the minutes.

3.1 Accuracy

Except for a couple of minor amendments, the minutes were accepted as a true record of the meeting.

3.2 Matters arising

Monegasque situation

HD reported that no reply had been received from the tentative enquiries, and it was agreed to await developments for the time being, with no further action.

3.2.1 Schedule of financial sanctions

A paper prepared by DH was tabled. JD offered to prepare an introduction to the paper for use by disciplinary panels going forward. SB to advise members of the Disciplinary Panels.

3.3 Review of action list

All items had been completed and cleared, except for those with a June timeline.

4. FINANCIAL MATTERS

4.1 Treasurers Report

The Treasurer's report was tabled, and MH was thanked for his work. He commented that Gail should also receive thanks for her part in producing it.

AP pointed out that the Tournament budget was a stretching budget, and may be hard to achieve given the economic downturn.

The loss in advertising revenue was the main reason for the magazine falling below budget, however it was noted that April's issue had achieved something of a recovery in this area.

4.2 Forecast 2010/11

The forecast for the remainder of the year was reported, and it was noted that there were no significant expected departures from budget still to come.

4.3 Budget 2011/12

The budget for the year 2011/12 was tabled, and its acceptance was proposed, seconded and carried.

5. BGB MATTERS

A paper produced by JD was tabled, and he summarised the proposal:

- Keep the Home internationals going as they are.
- Licensing should be outside of BGB.
- BGB needs a 1 year run-down for tidying up and finishing with a suggested end date of April 2012. This will give Anna Gudge a 12 month notice period, and allow time for the EBU to write and test the sim pair's software.
- Gold Cup should be tendered for by the home unions.
- A run down sub-committee should be set up.
- Simultaneous pairs events would be run by the EBU. Other Home Unions would be permitted to enter into an arrangement with the EBU to join in, or free to do their own events.
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The proposals were unanimously agreed, and the chairman would write to the unions clarifying the position with regard to the sim pairs events, and that Anna would be written to giving an end date to the agreement.

6. CHARITY REGISTRATION UPDATE

Correspondence had been received from Mary Groom (lawyer of Bells, Braithwaite and Wells). She advised that the Charities Commission were happy that no further work was needed establishing the link between bridge and mental activity and health. However there were other issues, including structural and membership issues.

The Board agreed that we should find out what changes to the organisation would be needed in order to comply with the requirements, however concerns were expressed about the costs of using professional advisers to any extent.

BC to attend a free consultation meeting on Mind Sports and Charity Status at BBW on 31 March 2011 and report back.

It was agreed that a meeting with the Charities Commission should be set up, and thereafter we would seek to liaise directly with them.

7. RESPONSES FROM COUNTIES ON REPRESENTATION

The response from counties suggested that their members were little interested in the matter, and it was agreed, therefore, that the Board would recommend that the existing structure should remain in place.

8. RESPONSES FROM COUNTIES ON CHANGES TO PAY TO PLAY AND LICENSING

The majority of the counties were in favour of the changes, and gave their endorsement to proceed.

9. LICENSING UPDATE

A good response to the letter and final agreement on commercial licensing has been received.

10. HONOURS GROUP REPORT

A paper was tabled from a committee chaired by Phillip Mason. It was agreed that public honours were not something that the Board wanted to be involved in as it was thought to be divisive as well as involving a great deal of confidential correspondence. AP agreed to draft some criteria for EBU honours. PM's committee were thanked for their paper.

11. BLUE POINTS – a proposal from the Tournament Committee

A draft proposal was tabled to get some initial views from the committee, although this had not yet been tabled at the Tournament Committee meeting. The reason for this proposal was explained as:

- A way for clubs to attract players to their competitions.
- To provide a means of acquiring national Masterpoints locally.
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A suggestion was made that fractioning green points for such events could be an alternative to introducing a new colour.

It was agreed that the Board would await comments from the Tournament Committee before further discussion took place.

12. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

BC reported that around 160 applications had been received for the post of office junior at Aylesbury. Of these, nine had been invited for interview.

13. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Verbal reports were given of these meetings, and their contents noted.

14. EBL/WBF MATTERS

It was noted that there had been no confirmation received about the Mind Sports Games as yet.

15. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

15.1 Alex Salisbury award

A nomination has been received for Paul Marks (from Stuart Haring). The Board approved this nomination.

15.2 Anonymous members

A query regarding anonymous members was clarified by Honorary Council. It was confirmed that players in EBU events are required to give their name and address to the EBU and the general Conditions of Contest had been amended to include this.

15.3 National Grading Scheme

It was confirmed that any individual's grade would be available publically on the EBU website, but that it was possible for members to un-tick a box in their membership area if they did not wish their own grade to be publicised. This information to be added to the EBU Privacy Policy available on the website and from Aylesbury.