



MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE EBU LIMITED

via Zoom 6th May 2020

Present:

Ian Payn (Chair) (IP)

Gillian Fawcett (Vice Chair) (GF)

Jerry Cope (Treasurer) (JC)

Gordon Rainsford (Chief Executive) (GR)

Anthony Golding (AG)

Rob Lawy (RL)

Ron Millet (RM)

Bev Purvis (BP)

Patrick Shields (PS)

Sam Kelly (Minutes) (SK)

1. Apologies for Absence

None

2. Minutes and Approval from last meeting

IP thanked everyone for joining.

JC gave an overview of the current financial state of the EBU. He confirmed that we are faring a little better than anticipated. Our forecasted revenue from online games of £8k per month, was actually just over £10k in April. However, this income is a very small percentage of the income that the EBU received prior to the lockdown. We are currently waiting to see if the government furlough scheme will be extended. We are currently using a significant portion of our reserve cash each month. At the current rate of income and expenditure, the EBU will have no adequate cash reserve by the end of quarter three.

It was agreed that we need to have both a short term and a long term plan. The short term plans are the focus of the online C19 sub-committee working group.

GF gave an overview of the ideas and issues talked about at the C19 meeting from 5th May. This included, issues with the uploading of results from BBO games; UMS; BBO EBU Games; Subsidised TD training; the possibility for webinars for TD training; promotional video for bridge; communication to clubs and counties; strategy and exit plans for the future.

GR confirmed he has spoken to EBED and they are happy for us to run a one-off webinar, led by Jacks Morcombe, aimed at sharing with other counties Suffolk's experience of setting up virtual clubs. It will take place this Saturday at 11am. GR also confirmed he has spoken to Michael Clark (MC) about the possibility of setting up a system for easier upload of results.

There was discussion about the money from BBO EBU games and how some of this would be put towards funding for clubs. There was a suggestion that the funds could be used by some clubs to train TD's for online games. It was noted that clubs and counties should be made aware of the TD training available and that the EBU is there to support them.

There was discussion about the current revenue for the EBU, and how much of our reserves are currently being used. Some clubs are paying UMS from their online games, but not all. Most clubs were not aware that UMS was required for online games.

It was decided that GR will write to all clubs detailing the need to play in online games and encouraging virtual clubs. He would also include some of the current financial position of the EBU.

Any Other Business

It was decided that the County Chairmen's meeting, originally due to take place Wednesday 13th May, would be cancelled, and instead a virtual meeting will be held on 20th May 1pm to 3pm. This meeting will be held via Zoom, with questions to be submitted beforehand, and additional questions asked via the chat function, to avoid confusion.

Next Meeting: TBC

EBBU