



**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE ENGLISH BRIDGE UNION
HELD AT THE IMPERIAL HOTEL, LONDON
ON WEDNESDAY 6 OCTOBER 2004**

Present:

Denis Robson	Chairman
Philip G Mason	Vice Chairman and Yorkshire Delegate
Tom J Bradley	Hon. Treasurer
Terry Collier	Secretary and General Manager
John Carter	Board Member and Hants & IOW Delegate
Jeff Morris	Board Member
John Neville	Board Member
Grattan Endicott	Vice President
Gerard Faulkner	Vice President and Norfolk Delegate
Margaret Curtis	Tournament Committee Chairman and Essex Delegate
Chris Dixon	Selection Committee Chairman
Martin Pool	Laws & Ethics Committee Chairman and Sussex Delegate
Max Bavin	Tournaments Manager
Nick Doe	Minute Secretary
Karen Durrell	Reception
Clare Farthing	Minute Secretary and Office Manager

Apologies:

Alaine Hamilton	Board Member
Peter Stocken	Board Member

COUNTY	DELEGATES:		ALTERNATE	COUNTY	DELEGATES:		ALTERNATE
	<u>Present</u>	<u>Apologies</u>			<u>Present</u>	<u>Apologies</u>	
Avon	P Green	L Bennett		Lincolnshire		J Gaunt S Knox	
Bedfordshire	R R Davis	D Gilling		London	S Cochemè D Martin J Smith J Rudolf		
Berks & Bucks	J Allen R Brock Mrs M Hatch			Manchester		B Kaye	
Cambs & Hunts				Mersey & Ches		J A Leather P Kaufmann I PTobias	
Channel Islands	Mrs P Panter			Middlesex	K A R Drane		
Cornwall				Norfolk	R Amey JG Faulkner (VP)		
Cumbria				North East	I Spoons		
Derbyshire	R McEwan	C Band		Northants	R Vajda	T King	
Devon				Notts	E Nunn		
Dorset		G Fogg		Oxford	P Baxter Mrs B Harris	Mrs S Claridge	
Essex	Mrs M Curtis	S Prince		Somerset	J Dilworth	E Sutton	
Gloucestershire	E Hill			Staffs & Shrops	P Hackett	J Withers Mrs P Poxon	
Hants & IoW	J Carter (Bd) Dr S J Strachan			Suffolk	M Carey		
Herefordshire		Dr S Munday G Harrington		Surrey	Mrs J Virley	Mrs L P Lockhart Mrs P Griffin Mr P Bentley	
Hertfordshire	B Eddleston M Hancock M Minting			Sussex	P Kent M Pool P Bates		
Isle of Man	Dr E Slatcher			Warwicks	M Allen J Downing		
Kent	B R Crack	Mrs C Draper B Manser		Westmorland			
Lancashire	AA Cordery	JB Brelsford		Wiltshire			
Leicestershire	R H Northage	J Wilcox Mrs P Watson		Worcester		Mrs L Boyes	P Hammond
				Yorkshire	G Jepson P Mason (Bd) I Rodger	Mr J Latham	

1. APOLOGIES

See table on page 1.

2. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 14 JULY 2004 AND MATTERS ARISING

2.1 Accuracy

2.1.1 County Meetings have been discontinued not cancelled.

2.1.2 The word 'the' before Tessa Jowell should be removed.

2.1.3 The minutes were **approved**, subject to the above.

2.2. Matters arising

2.2.1 Topic for Discussion (item 9.1, last para.)

Advertising rates for 1-day events and feature layouts are currently being considered and should be available from the February issue of *English Bridge*.

TC

3. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN, VICE CHAIRMAN AND SECRETARY OF THE EBU FOR THE YEAR 2004/2005

3.1 Denis Robson was appointed as Chairman, Philip Mason as Vice-Chairman and Terry Collier as Secretary.

4. ELECTION OF TREASURER FOR THE YEAR 2004/2005

4.1 Tom Bradley was elected as Treasurer.

5. ELECTION OF 3 MEMBERS TO THE LAWS & ETHICS COMMITTEE

5.1 Steve Barnfield, David Burn and David Martin were re-elected for a 3 year term expiring in 2007.

6. ELECTION OF 3 MEMBERS TO THE TOURNAMENT COMMITTEE

6.1 Margaret Curtis, Addis Page and Paul Spencer were re-elected for a 3 year term expiring in 2007.

7. ELECTION OF 2 MEMBERS TO THE SELECTION COMMITTEE

7.1 Tom Bradley and Gerard Faulkner were elected for a 3 year term expiring 2007.

8. DATES OF COUNCIL MEETINGS FOR THE YEAR 2004/2005

8.1 The following dates were approved, 12 January, 6 April, 20 July and 5 October 2005.

9. HONOURY TREASURER'S QUARTERLY REPORT

9.1 The Bridge Shop figures were better than last August and operational improvements and stock lines are being investigated. Membership figures are also of concern and suggest that we have not reversed the decline of last year. TB/
TC

9.2 It was confirmed that the process of sending reminder notices had started.

10. MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS FOR 2005/2006

10.1 The Board's proposals for 2005/6 were presented by the Treasurer.

10.2 It was proposed by Mr Crack that the recommended increases should be rejected. His reasoning being that many members feel that the 2004/5 Diary and Handbook and the proposed diary for 2005/6 is unnecessary and consequently is a waste of our resources. Whilst the Chairman noted his comments Council **approved** recommended subscription charges. The Chairman advised Council that the Board would take account of member's suggestions in planning next year's diary. Board

11. NEW DISCIPLINARY RULES

11.1 Council were asked to make the following decisions: TC

1. **Jurisdiction (Rule 2.1 (ii))** - Whether jurisdiction should extend to officers of EBU-affiliated clubs who were not themselves EBU members. The decision was that it should not.
2. **Appeals to the Sports Dispute Resolution Panel (Rule 10.2)** - Council were asked to decide whether there should be an option for appeals in serious cases to be to an external body, with other appeals to be to an EBU Panel, or whether all appeals should be to an EBU panel. In light of the potential costs of using an external body, the decision was to use an EBU Panel in all cases.
3. **Costs (Rule 12 (9))** - Council was asked to decide whether there should be a power to award costs, and the decision was that there should not. In addition, the suggestion was made that members who are subject to disciplinary proceedings should have the right to be told the reasons for the decisions made at a Disciplinary Committee hearing, on request within a reasonable time limit. This was agreed.

The Chairman advised that the above decisions would be incorporated into our new Disciplinary Rules, which will be circulated well in advance of our January meeting, allowing us to deal with the matter of the Single Entity.

12. MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF EBU LTD

12.1 5 JULY 2004

12.1.1 EBU Trust (item 2.2.1)

It was confirmed that the trustees in 2.2.1 would be the Officers of EBU.

12.1.2 National Bridge Centre (item 6)

A report and financial model is currently being prepared for presentation to the Board in November, until then there is no further information.

12.1.3 Home Service (item 9.1)

The proposed Home Service is a category of membership for those who play the majority of their bridge at home. This is still in the "idea" stage and consequently no further information can be given at present.

The minutes were **noted**.

13. MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE EBU SELECTION COMMITTEE

13.1 Mr Dixon presented the minutes of 23 July, which had mainly dealt with matters concerning our team for the Senior International Cup in Istanbul.

13.2 Mr Hackett was disappointed that we did not enter a team in the first European U25 Women's Championship. It was confirmed that should future events be staged, then the Committee's recommendation would be for us to participate.

13.3 The minutes were **approved**.

14. MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE EBU TOURNAMENT COMMITTEE

16 SEPTEMBER 2004

14.1 Mrs Curtis presented the minutes.

14.2 Possible Congress in the South West (item 2.2.2)

Venues are currently being considered and will be reported to the next meeting of the Committee.

14.3 Possible Seniors Congress in the North (item 13.1)

Again venues are currently being considered.

14.4 National Newcomers Pairs (item 10.1)

Counties views on the possibility of staging a second tier event, at the same time and venue as the 5000 point event but for those players with less points, possibly in the region of 1000 to 2500 points, would be appreciated.

14.5 Tollemache Cup (item 2.2.8)

No formal approach has been received from the WBU.

14.6 General Promotion of Events (item 2.2.12)

A discussion paper would be presented to the next meeting of the Committee dealing with 1-day events and the cost/profit variations across the country.

14.7 Age qualification for Seniors (item 2.2.1)

It was confirmed that anyone born on or before 31 December 1950, is eligible to play in competitions in 2005.

14.8 Master Points Sub-Committee (item 6.1)

Mr Mason advised that his group's paper would be discussed by the Board prior to being circulated to Council. It is, however, still the intention that this matter will be on the agenda of the January Council meeting.

Secretary's Note: *The Chairman asked that this proposal be circulated to all County Secretaries on 7 October 2004.*

14.9 Tunisia Overseas Congress

It was noted that bookings, at this time, are far greater than previous years with over 200 already having booked their flights/accommodation.

The minutes were **approved**.

15. MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE EBU LAWS & ETHICS COMMITTEE

15.1 26 JULY 2004

Mr Pool presented the minutes. He advised Council that the review of the Orange Book had led to the suggestion that only two levels of permitted methods should be published and used in EBU events, broadly equivalent to the present Level 2 and Level 4. The Committee considered that this would help simplify things, simplification having been identified as a priority. Concern was expressed that such a decision would be unhelpful to Counties and Clubs. Mr Pool pointed out that they could continue to use the existing Level 3 if they wished.

Concern was also expressed at the fact that no new permitted conventions had been authorised since the summer of 2002. Mr Pool said that the Committee had considered that it was better to get the principle of the new Orange Book defined before considering detailed applications. The Committee did hope to complete the process as soon as possible, but they did have limited time and volunteers.

Mr Pool advised that the sub-committee was still working on a detailed proposal with regard to 'announcements' and will report to the Committee at their next meeting.

The minutes were **approved**.

16. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

16.1 The suggestion of minutes being on different coloured paper will be investigated.

16.2 It was confirmed that the Board had agreed to send a team to Australia for the Commonwealth Games, subject to cost, terms and conditions.

The next Council meeting will be held on 12 January 2005,
at the Imperial Hotel, London, starting at 12.30pm