



**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE EBU LAWS & ETHICS COMMITTEE
HELD AT 2 BLOOMSBURY STREET, LONDON WC1B 3ST ON
WEDNESDAY MAY 29TH 2013**

Present:	Jeremy Dhondy (JD)	Chairman and Elected Member
	Frances Hinden (FH)	Elected Member
	Martin Pool (MP)	Elected Member
	Gordon Rainsford (GR)	Chief Tournament Director
	Tim Rees (TR)	Vice Chairman and Elected Member
	Gerard Faulkner (GF)	Vice-President
	Robin Barker (RB)	Invited member
	John Pain (JP)	Secretary

1A	Apologies for Absence	Mike Amos (MA)	Elected Member
		Sally Bugden (SB)	EBU Chairman
		David Burn (DB)	Elected Member
		Barry Capal (BC)	EBU General Manager
		Grattan Endicott (GE)	Vice-President
		Neil Morley (NM)	Elected Member

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2.1/2 **Minutes of the previous meeting**

The minutes of the meeting of March 27th were approved and signed.
There were no matters of accuracy.

2.3 **Matters arising**

2.3.1 *Bidding record of a pair (2.3.2).*

The Secretary had written to the pair and a response had been received. It was acknowledged that one auction had been reported incorrectly and this had been rectified. The pair had been reminded about the necessity for full disclosure of their methods, however the tone of response had not been particularly helpful. Nevertheless the Committee felt the point had been made and the papers were put to file.

2.3.2 *E-book feedback*

It was noted that *English Bridge* was now available online through the Page Tiger facility and it was agreed to use the same process for the new Blue Book and the updated White Book. Versions can be read on all up to date systems, although there might be a problem with earlier versions of the Kindle. It was confirmed that the cost would be part of the subscription paid for the *English Bridge* service. As the Portland Club had already agreed to the *Laws of Duplicate Bridge 2007* being on the EBU website it was felt the necessary

authority to put them in the new format was already there. The Secretary was to write to the new Secretary of the Portland Club as a courtesy to advise him of the new format.

Action: JP to liaise with Matt Betts

2.3.3 New WBF Victory Point Scales

GR presented his recommendations for 3- and 4-board triple scales for use in Swiss Teams. The Committee approved their adoption and recommended the Tournament Committee adopt them for tournaments from September 1st 2013. They are attached to these minutes (Appendix A).

He had consulted with the WBF who had been unhelpful (they do not have triples and the odd team sit out for a match). He had also sought the advice of Max Bavin. A further option was just to add all the scores together and use the appropriate full-match scale but this did not find favour amongst the Committee.

It was agreed to ask Michael Clark to produce a macro for the website where interested parties could type in the number of boards they wished to play and obtain the scale required.

Action: RB to include in the WB, JP to check on the website and advise TC, Michael Clark

2.3.4 Other Matters

(2.3.6) MP had sent a draft of his proposed Inter County regulations to JD but it was agreed to hold the item over until the September meeting.

(2.3.1) GR confirmed that the Conditions of Contest for matches played privately had been updated. He would also liaise with Heather Dhondy regarding the Premier League

Action: GR to Heather Dhondy

(2.3.5) The addition to the draft of the revised White Book had been made.

3 Appeals to the National Authority

None this time.

4 Disciplinary Cases

The Committee considered a report from a TD at the Easter Festival and the reply from the member. The Committee closed the case and the papers were put to file.

5 Technical Matters

a) EBL TD Course

GR reported on the recent EBL Tournament Directors course. He said it had been a valuable course to attend although many had felt the final exam was not well thought out. Robin Barker had attended as a course delegate but had become an examiner for the course. Matthew Johnson attended from England and did very well. GR said it was useful to have an exchange of views from TDs from other countries.

He also noted a move in the EBL to dispense with appeals in their current format. Instead there would be a 'reviewer' who would be asked to consider procedure, the decision etc and if there were deficiencies to ask the TD to reconsider. GR said the mood amongst the TDs to the new approach was one of doubt.

There are no plans to dispense with the current method of conducting appeals in EBU events.

b) Blue Book and White Book

The Committee considered the final changes to the new Blue Book. Much of the discussion was to do with typographical and presentation changes but further points were agreed as follows:

- (i) System Cards. It was agreed that a reference to the old EBU 20A System Card should be included. The use of the card is still permitted.
- (ii) Level 3 – it was agreed to remove references to Level 3 completely and to include a list of changes to Level 4 which clubs (who currently use Level 3) might consider enforcing. The Committee agreed that the list of changes would, by implication, include changes to the Level 3 permissions for 2nd and 4th seat actions in line with those at level 4.

The Chairman reminded the Committee that clubs *could* make such regulations as they thought fit for their members although there were various reasons such as the expectations of members going to other clubs or visitors to the club which made it undesirable.

- (iii) At Level 4 the Committee noted the following:
 - a. The permitted methods for 1♣ and 1♦ openings were now the same;
 - b. The minimum strength for 3-suited opening bids at the 2-level was set at 10 HCP.
 - c. 2- and 3-level openings : unspecified two-suiters to be 5-4 (rather than 5-5) because otherwise the regulations were impossible to enforce.
- (iv) With the demise of Level 3 it was noted that the regulations did no longer ban a psyche of the Multi 2♦ so this was removed. Again it was up to Tournament Organizer whether or not they wished to implement this as Law 40B2(a) allows.
- (v) It was agreed to reword slightly the section on Encrypted carding methods removing the words 'exceptionally' and 'specific'.

It was agreed that the time frame for the Blue Book should be as follows:

Monday 17 June: JD sections 1 to 5; FH sections 6 to 10. Then to JD for contents and indexing.

By July 5th: all proof reading to be complete. Jeffrey Allerton, Matt Johnson and Andy Bowles to be approached to see if they can help with proof reading.

Week commencing: July 17th to be made available on the website

August 1st: implementation date

The new Blue Book was likely to be 32 or 36 pages, compared with the current Orange Book at 66 pages.

White Book progress

RB had circulated a draft copy of the revised WB. Despite adding material from the Orange Book the new draft was approximately 60 pages shorter than the current edition. RB was thanked to taking on the responsibility of preparing the book and coming to recent meetings.

Sections had been moved, removed or revised to produce a more coherent volume. WBF minutes had been retained but most of the comments attributed to Ton Kooijman had been removed. There were a number of outstanding issues but RB was confident of finishing in time for July 5th, running to a similar timetable to the Blue Book. Proof readers would include GR, TR and JP.

6. Applications for new permitted methods

The committee considered those which had been deferred and made the following observations:

- a) Mike Wenble: applications from 2012 which were refused were still not to be allowed.

- b) Malcolm Hartley: there was to be no change to the announcement regarding Stayman.
- c) Barry Mitchell: opening 2NT with either both minors or both majors. Now permitted from 1/8/13.
- d) Frances Hinden: opening 2NT. Revised from 1/8/13.
- e) Mike Coop: Optimal 2s. Still not permitted because of the ambiguity in the anchor suit.
- f) Robert McRae: any action by the 4th seat will now be permitted from 1/8/13.
- g) Eddie Luck: announcements. No change to style of announcing 2-level bids.
- h) Anthony Golding: announcements range of HCP with 2-level openings. No change.
- i) Andy Margetts: Announcing short 1♣. Now included from 1/8/13
- j) Samee Qayum: alerting doubles. No change to the current regulations.
- k) Frances Hinden: wording of Stayman responses. The Committee agreed to add the following to the BB regarding the announcing and alerting of Stayman:

‘Unusual responses such as the opener bidding 2NT or higher or 2♠ showing spades but **not** denying hearts should be alerted’.
- l) Albert Bird: abolition of announcements. A number of submissions had been received, some favouring an increase in the scope of announcements and some a decrease, but it was agreed to make no changes other than those already agreed.
- m) Paul Gipson: announcing a short 1♣ opening. Now included from 1/8/13
- n) The Committee considered correspondence from Jeffrey Allerton regarding calls made with bidding boxes. GR was concerned that his suggestion contravened what is written in Law 25. He would, however, give it some thought and report back to the next meeting.

Action: GR

7. Reports from Tournament Directors

Not considered this time.

7.2 Disciplinary forms

Not considered this time.

8 Date of next meeting

Monday 9th September at 1pm. (reverts to usual time)

Venue is Baker Tilly offices, 2 Bloomsbury Street (near to Tottenham Court Road tube station).

9. AOB None

The meeting closed at 5.15pm.

Appendix A

**New WBF Discrete Victory Point scales.
To be used in EBU teams of 4 events from September 1st 2013
And recommended to other tournament organizers**

VPs	No of Boards		(Repeated from last minutes)
	7	8	
10 - 10	0	0	
11 - 9	1 - 2	1 - 3	
12 - 8	3 - 5	4 - 6	
13 - 7	6 - 8	7 - 9	
14 - 6	9 - 11	10 - 12	
15 - 5	12 - 14	13 - 16	
16 - 4	15 - 18	17 - 20	
17 - 3	19 - 23	21 - 25	
18 - 2	24 - 28	26 - 30	
19 - 1	29 - 35	31 - 38	
20 - 0	36 +	39 +	

Proposed scale for use in Swiss Teams triple matches

VPs	3-boards		4-boards	
	IMPs		VPs	IMPs
5 - 5	0		5 - 5	0
6 - 4	1 - 3		6 - 4	1 - 3
7 - 3	4 - 6		7 - 3	4 - 7
8 - 2	7 - 9		8 - 2	8 - 11
9 - 1	10 - 14		9 - 1	12 - 17
10 - 0	15 +		10 - 0	18 +