



MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE SELECTION COMMITTEE
HELD AT THE IMPERIAL HOTEL, LONDON, ON
THURSDAY 30th APRIL 2009

Present:	Heather Dhondy	(Chairman)
	Simon Cochemé	(Vice-Chairman)
	Max Bavin	(Chief TD)
	Sally Bugden	(EBU Chairman)
	David Burn	
	Steve Eginton	
	Gerard Faulkner	(EBU Vice-President)
	Paul Hackett	
	Tom Townsend	
	Sandra Claridge	(Secretary)

1 An apology for absence was received from Andrew Petrie (EBU Vice-Chairman).

2 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 8TH JANUARY 2009

2.1 Accuracy

The minutes were signed as a true record.

2.2 Matters arising

2.2.1 Data Protection Issues

This item was deferred pending advice from the Honorary Counsel.

2.2.2 Publicity & Promotion of national teams

Steve Eginton said that the response from Club Focus had been very disappointing. However, Tunbridge Wells Bridge Club had offered to host a publicity event on 19th November, and had indicated a preference for an after lunch talk by a bridge celebrity. It was agreed to approach members of the Beijing Women's gold medallists, and a member of the Seniors team in Beijing to ascertain whether they would be interested.

Paul Hackett reported that the City of Manchester had very kindly provided a civic reception for the Beijing medallists from the area, which had been organised by Kevin Comrie and Jeff Morris. Sally Bugden said that the teams' success had been given excellent coverage in *English Bridge*. It was agreed that every effort should be made to reintroduce the Selection Committee Blog, and Steve Eginton agreed to co-ordinate possible contributors, in sufficient time for reporting on the Seniors Camrose at the end of May.

2.2.3 *Committee's Terms of Reference*

The Chairman of the Union reported that the Committee's Terms of Reference had received formal approval by the Board at its meeting on 5th March.

2.2.4 *Spring Foursomes Seeding*

It was noted that there had been some comments on the seeding of the 2009 Spring Foursomes which was currently the responsibility of the Tournament Committee and based solely on Gold Point holdings, the Chief Tournament Director using his discretion in regard to overseas players.

It was agreed that to achieve the most accurate seeding, the Chairman would suggest to the Chairman of the Tournament Committee that responsibility for the seeding of the Spring Foursomes revert to the Selection Committee.

3 SELECTION METHOD FOR THE 2010 EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS

Recommendations by the Board on a selection process for the 2010 European Championships in Ostend, together with the interim report of the Committee's Working Group, were discussed. Sally Bugden said that whilst it was the Committee's responsibility to determine the method of selection, such must be within both its code of ethics and budget, and must reflect a clear aim for success.

Heather Dhondy, Paul Hackett and Tom Townsend absented themselves for the voting on the proposal for pre-selection.

A suggestion that two pairs be pre-selected for the Open and Women's teams was debated. There was general agreement that pre-selecting two pairs a year ahead of the event would be counter-productive, divisive, and stifle motivation. In competing for the one place available, two pairs in contention could be part of the same team, but playing in opposition to each other.

Tom Townsend absented himself from the selection of the open pairs for the Coaching programme.

It was agreed to announce that two Coaching Groups would be formed as detailed below, but that in each case it was open to the Committee to add or subtract pairs based on performance:

Open: Jason & Justin Hackett
David Gold & Tom Townsend
Espen Erichsen & Norman Selway
Andrew McIntosh & Nick Sandqvist
Tony Forrester & Artur Malinowski

Womens: Sally Brock & Nicola Smith
Heather Dhondy & Nevena Senior
Fiona Brown & Susan Stockdale
Catherine Draper & Anne Rosen

The Chairman and Secretary would be responsible for informing all the applicants of the Committee's decision, and for publicising the groups on the EBU website.

Individual pairs would decide on their coach, and anyone not already listed as acceptable to the Committee, must obtain Committee approval. Coaches would be required to provide regular objective reporting to the Committee on the pair's activity, performance and results.

Simon Cochemé was appointed as co-ordinator for the Open Coaching Group, and Paul Hackett for the Women's Group.

It was agreed that applications would be invited for a Trial to select the team for the Seniors event at the European Championships. The closing date for entries would be the 1st August, and the format and date of the Trial would be determined when the level of entries was known. The Secretary was asked to publicise the Trial on the EBU website, and contact all captains of teams in the Gerard Faulkner Salver seniors' teams.

Sally Bugden thanked Simon Cochemé, Heather Dhondy, Tom Townsend and Paul Hackett for all the work they had undertaken in formulating their recommendations.

4 2009 PREMIER LEAGUE

It was noted that 18 teams had applied to compete in the League. Subject to no team withdrawing, all applications would be accepted and Division 2 would comprise 10 teams. However, if there was a withdrawal, the team captained by Paul Fegarty, which had entered after the closing date would not be accepted, unless a further team entered to achieve an even number. On the results attained in 2008, the following eight teams qualified by right for Division 1:

DIVISION 1

Alexander Allfrey	Andrew Robson, Tony Forrester, David Bakhshi, Peter Crouch, Derek Patterson
Jeremy Dhondy	Alan Kay, Heather Dhondy, Richard Fleet, Alan Mould, Gary Hyett
Paul Hackett	Tony Waterlow, Michelle Brunner, John Holland
John Hassett	Bill Hirst, Peter Czerniewski, Ian Panto, Chris Dixon, Victor Silverstone
John Howard	Brian Callaghan, Michael Ranis, Mike Perkins, Ian Reissman, Andy Bowles
Nick Irens	Tom Townsend, David Gold, Espen Erichsen, Norman Selway
Neil Rosen	Martin Jones, David Price, Colin Simpson, Michael Byrne, Mike Bell
Cameron Small	Graham Osborne, Frances Hinden, Jeffery Allerton, Jon Cooke, Martin Garvey

DIVISION 2

Ken Barnett	Ryan Stephenson, Paul Huggins, Liz Clery
Richard Bowdery	Richard Johnson, Richard Palmer, Richard Davey, Ed Scerri, Chris Burley
Chris Cooper	Alan Shillitoe, Paul & Alex Gipson
Simon Cope	Ed Jones, Ben Paske, Duncan Happer, Tom Paske, Graeme Robertson
Janet de Botton	Artur Malinowski, Jason & Justin Hackett, Nick Sandqvist, Andrew McIntosh
Paul Fegarty	Catherine Curtis, David Kendrick, John Cullingworth
Malcolm Pryor	Tim Pike, David Jones, Trevor Ward

Brian Senior Nevena Senior, Gunnar Hallberg, Sandra Penfold
Alan Wilson Nick Smith, Chris Chambers, Jim Gobert, Mike Ash, Stuart McPhee
Bryony Youngs Andrew Murphy, Luke Porter, Susan Stockdale, Fiona Brown

Tom Townsend, Heather Dhondy and David Burn having absented themselves, it was agreed that the reserves for Division 1 would be as follows:

- 1 Janet de Botton
- 2 Simon Cope

Max Bavin announced that the format for a 10 team Division 2 would be 9 x 40-board matches, played in 20-board sets, the three weekends comprising 6 days of 1½ matches per day. Teams in Division 2 would each be refunded £60.

It was agreed to publicise that any player unsure of their qualification under section 4 of the Premier League Conditions of Contest should contact Max Bavin.

5 INTERNATIONAL EVENTS

5.1 Panel of NPCs

The Committee reviewed the panel of non-playing captains. Jeremy Dhondy was added to the list.

5.2 Bonn Nations Cup

The team for the forthcoming Bonn Nations Cup was confirmed as:

David Gold & Tom Townsend
Jason & Justin Hackett
Reserves: Espen Erichsen & Norman Selway

5.3 2009 Camrose Trophy

The English Bridge Union team was congratulated on winning the Camrose Trophy, and the NPCs thanked for their reports. The results are included in Appendix A.

Max Bavin agreed to consider the use of Bridgemates in the home international series.

Future participation in the Camrose and Lady Milne Trophies was debated, and it was agreed to put a formal proposal to Bridge Great Britain at its next meeting, that the format reverts to the holders of the trophy providing the sixth team in the following year.

It was further agreed that the Chairman would put a proposal to the Board that from 2011 onwards when England fields two teams in the Camrose, the winners of the Premier League would be funded, and the second team self-funding. In the case of the Lady Milne Trophy, the additional England team would also be self-funding.

5.4 Lady Milne Trophy

The results of the 2009 Lady Milne Trophy were noted, and are included in Appendix A. The NPC was thanked for his report. It was agreed that applications would be sought later in the year for a 2010 Lady Milne Trial.

5.5 Seniors Camrose Trophy

Paul Hackett reported that John Williams had agreed to captain the England team.

5.6 Vilnius invitation event

It was agreed that subject to receipt of an invitation, a team would be selected in consultation with the Coaching Group/Co-ordinators for the event in Vilnius on the weekend of 26th/27th September.

6 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting was fixed for Saturday 22nd August, at the Brighton Summer Meeting, commencing at 10.30 am.

ACTION LIST

Minute	Action	Responsibility
2.2.2	Bridge celebrity speaker	Matt Betts & Steve Eginton
	Selection Committee blog	Steve Eginton
2.2.4	Contact with Andrew Petrie	Chairman
3	Notification of Coaching Group selections	Chairman, Secretary
	Publicity of Coaching Groups on EBU website	Secretary
	Announcement of Seniors Trial	Secretary
4	Confirmation of Premier League teams, format of Division 2 and appropriate refunds	Secretary
5.3	Letters to Camrose NPCs	Secretary
	Proposal to BGB for change in format	Secretary, Malcolm Oliver
5.4	Letter to Lady Milne NPC	Secretary

APPENDIX A

CAMROSE TROPHY

1st weekend results

	NI	Wal	RofI	EBU	Sco	Eng	Total	Pos
Northern Ireland		14	14	9	19	14	70	5
Wales	16		22	15	18	12	83	2
Republic of Ireland	16	8		15	25	10	74	4
English Bridge Union	21	15	15		18	17	86	1
Scotland	11	12	3	12		14	52	6
England	14	18	18	13	16		79	3

England:

David Gold & Tom Townsend
 David Bakhshi & Tony Forrester
 Peter Crouch & Glyn Liggins
 NPC: David Price

English Bridge Union:

Peter Czerniewski & Ian Panto
 Jeremy Dhondy & Alan Kay
 Michael Byrne & Mike Bell
 NPC: Chris Dixon

2nd weekend results

	C/F	EBU	Eng	Wal	RofI	NI	Sco	Total
English Bridge Union	86		10	15	21	19	25	176
England	79	20		13	10	20	25	167
Wales	83	15	17		9	16	10	150
Republic of Ireland	74	9	20	21		18	4	146
Northern Ireland	70	11	10	14	12		11	128
Scotland	52	1	3	19	25	19		119

England:

David Gold & Tom Townsend
 Espen Erichsen & Norman Selway
 Michelle Brunner & John Holland
 NPC: David Price

English Bridge Union:

Alexander Allfrey & Andrew Robson
 Andy Bowles & John Howard
 Jon Cooke & Martin Garvey
 NPC: Chris Dixon

LADY MILNE TROPHY

	Sco	Eng	NI	CBAI	Wal	RoI	Total	Pos
Scotland		14	13	18	25	22	92	1
England	16		19	12	20	16	83	3
N Ireland	17	11		25	21	17	91	2
CBAI	12	18	3		23	14	70	4
Wales	3	10	9	7		12	41	6
Republic of Ireland	8	14	13	16	18		69	5

England:

Susan Stockdale & Fiona Brown
Catherine Seale & Catherine Jagger
Kath Nelson & Tracy Capal
NPC: Martin Jones

SENIORS CAMROSE TRIAL

Paul Hackett, Ross Harper, Ian Panto, Tony Waterlow, Gunnar Hallberg, Peter Czerniewski
defeated

Richard Palmer, Carole Mueller, Chris Burley, Steve Gore, Phil Thornton by 129 IMPs.