



**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE SELECTION COMMITTEE HELD AT 10-12
RUSSELL SQUARE, LONDON, ON WEDNESDAY 17TH NOVEMBER 2010.**

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

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Sally Bugden (EBU Chairman) and Peter Baxter.

2 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN FOR THE YEAR 2010/11

Heather Dhondy was proposed by Andrew Petrie, and seconded by Sally Brock. There being no other nominations, Heather was duly elected.

3 ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN FOR THE YEAR 2010/11

Simon Cochemé was proposed by Paul Hackett, and seconded by Tom Townsend. There being no other nominations, Simon was duly elected.

4 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 14TH AUGUST 2010

4.1 Accuracy

The minutes were signed as a true record, subject to the first paragraph of page 3 of the minutes being expanded to reflect that the Committee's disapproval of the level of expenditure at the European Championships extended to all areas of its organization, including a presentation of ex-champions. The Chairman agreed to pass on the Committee's concerns to the EBU Chairman.

4.2 Matters arising

4.2.1 Coverage of medal ceremonies at major championships

No progress had been made, and it was agreed that in an effort to achieve some media publicity, the role of an NPC would be extended to obtaining team photographs and moving images prior to an event. Paul Hackett reported that "Northwest Tonight" had shown a picture of the Seniors medal ceremony in Philadelphia, but Andrew Petrie said

that in general terms it had proved very difficult for the EBU to get any coverage in national or local news.

Team photographs and video coverage would be arranged prior to the Venice Cup.

4.2.2 Selection process

A lengthy debate took place on the current procedures for selection, and Sally Brock and Tom Townsend were thanked for their papers on the subject.

The Chairman said it was regrettable that funds were no longer available for coaching leading Open and Women's pairs, or for sending pairs to overseas tournaments to gain valuable experience, though the latter would be achieved, if possible. However, it was paramount that growth must continue to be encouraged, and it was agreed to introduce a system for monitoring progress. David Burn suggested that in addition, the Committee should work with the Tournament Committee to seek to provide competitions with a format and system regulations similar to those in international championships, noting that currently only the Premier League could be viewed as a direct comparison.

It was suggested that a request be made to Bridge Great Britain that the Gold Cup Finals be amended to 16-board sets, with screens, and Andrew Petrie agreed to raise the matter at the meeting with Bridge Great Britain representatives in January. It would also be recommended to the EBU Tournament Committee that a similar change be made to the format of the final stages of the Spring Foursomes.

It was agreed that the present system of selection would be extended, and that players would be informed via the EBU website, of the importance of results as a determining factor for selection which would encompass results in domestic and overseas competitions, with enhanced weighting for international events. David Burn offered to produce recommendations for the events to be included, in consultation with Paul Hackett.

4.2.3 'Bridge England' activities

The Chairman reported that she had been notified by the Chairman of the Union that the Bridge England Patrons Scheme had been shelved, and that the minimal setting-up costs of the scheme would be borne by the Union's publicity and promotion budget. If the planned 'Supporters Club' was to be introduced, a volunteer would be needed to organize it.

The Honorary Treasurer hoped that the Committee would do its best to manage its budget for the remaining four months of the current financial year, and thanked those who had donated coaching fees to international funds.

It was noted that the EBU intended to seek a volunteer with professional fund-raising skills for appointment to the EBU Board, and that a discussion would be held between the Board and all its standing committees to establish their objectives and the roles and responsibilities of the volunteers elected to the committees.

Simon Cochemé said that the 'Bridge England' simultaneous pairs event would go ahead on 8th February, and he thanked the booklet contributors. He hoped that as much effort as possible would be put into encouraging clubs to enter, and offering the opportunity for a visit from an international player to extend their thanks.

It was agreed that there would be flexibility on what time the event could be played on the 8th February, but that any clubs wishing to play the hands on the following day could do so at a reduced entry fee. However, the scores would not be included and no masterpoints would be issued.

Simon said that it was still hoped that a Pro-am event could be arranged for 2011, and David Burn agreed to pursue the matter.

4.2.4 Access to EBU website for Committee blog and results

It was agreed that arrangements for uploading news and results from Championships would be discussed at the next meeting. In the meantime David Burn offered to liaise with Michael Clark and Matt Betts, and establish whether or not there would be a vetting procedure.

4.2.5 Players' Report

A pro forma report for players produced by the Chairman was approved, subject to it being stressed that completion of the form would be voluntary, and would be treated in the strictest confidence. Its circulation to the committee would be determined initially by the Chairman, or Vice-chairman, as appropriate.

4.2.6 Entry fees for juniors

In answer to a question from Gerard Faulkner as to what arrangements had been agreed in regard to entry fees to EBU competitions for juniors, the Chairman said that details had now been agreed, which would come into effect from 1st April. Under-20 Squad members playing in partnership, nominated by their Squad Manager and approved by the Selection Committee, would be entitled to free entry to designated events up to a certain financial limit, funded at the Tournament Committee's expense. Thereafter it would be a charge on the international budget. Under-25s would be entitled to half-price entry.

4.2.7 Junior squad

The Chairman reported that there had been no appeal in the case of a young player excluded from the squad, but the player in question had enquired as to the procedure for appeal.

4.2.8 Uniform for major championships

It was confirmed that only polo shirts were now funded by the EBU for playing purposes, and the number provided could be increased to 6 on request.

4.2.9 Per diem for 2010 European Championships

It was confirmed that the per diem in Ostend had been increased by 5 Euros per day.

5 FINANCE

5.1 Committee Budget - Open and Women

Simon Cochemé's report had been circulated in advance. The budget for the events which the Committee wished to fund totalled £77.5K, but the amount allocated by the EBU was limited to £67.5K. Simon pointed out that there had been savings against budget on the European Championships and the Lady Milne Trophy. In addition, some coaching fees had not been claimed, and it was hoped to raise around £2K from the simultaneous event in February, leaving a probably deficit in the region of £2K. However, the Premier League was likely to be overspent, due to reduced entry fees for juniors.

Funding for the Camrose Trophy was agreed as follow:

- The winners of the Premier League would be funded to the extent of the hotel package rate, plus £50 towards travel expenses for one weekend.
- NPCs for both weekends would be funded in full.
- Selected pairs who were not winners of the Premier League, and those winners who were offered a second weekend would be allocated £140 each towards their expenses.

Simon was thanked for his excellent report.

5.2 Committee Budget - Juniors

Heather Dhondy's report had been circulated in advance, and showed that current activity was slightly over-budget. Squad Managers were sticking to the budget for training, and this aspect would be monitored on a regular basis.

Michael Byrne was congratulated on raising the amount required to take the U20 team to Philadelphia.

Heather was thanked for her report.

6 COMMITTEE RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE YEAR

Responsibilities were agreed as follows:

| | |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| <i>Finance</i> | Simon Cochemé (Open & Women) Heather Dhondy (Juniors) |
| <i>Youth matters</i> | Paul Hackett |
| <i>Results coordination (online)</i> | Paul Hackett |
| <i>Publicity/Committee blog</i> | David Burn |
| <i>Scheduling</i> | Paul Hackett |
| <i>Proof-reading</i> | Tom Townsend & David Burn |
| <i>Fund-raising – Sim Pairs</i> | Simon Cochemé |
| <i>Pro-am</i> | David Burn (to investigate) |
| <i>BBO Operators coordinator</i> | David Muller (to be asked for the Lady Milne Trial) |

7 OPEN EVENTS

7.1 Premier League

Results were noted as follows, and the winners of the divisions congratulated.

Division 1

| Team | R | T | C | dB | H | H | S | S | Adj | Total | Rank |
|-----------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|-----|-------|------|
| Rosen | | 19 | 15 | 19 | 25 | 13 | 14 | 25 | | 130 | 1* |
| Teltscher | 11 | | 15 | 25 | 19 | 17 | 23 | 20 | | 130 | 1 |
| Crouch | 15 | 15 | | 14 | 18 | 15 | 23 | 22 | -1 | 121 | 3 |
| De Botton | 11 | 1 | 16 | | 16 | 20 | 23 | 19 | -1 | 105 | 4 |
| Hackett | 5 | 11 | 12 | 14 | | 14 | 25 | 20 | | 101 | 5 |
| Hinden | 17 | 13 | 15 | 10 | 16 | | 13 | 10 | | 94 | 6 |
| Small | 16 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 0 | 17 | | 22 | -5 | 75.5 | 7 |
| Senior | 4 | 10 | 8 | 11 | 10 | 20 | 8 | | | 71 | 8 |

* = winners on split tie

Division 2

| Team | F | D | C | C | S | P | R | B | Adj | Total | Rank |
|-----------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|-----|-------|------|
| Fegarty | | 18 | 18 | 25 | 17 | 23 | 24 | 25 | | 150 | 1 |
| Dhondy | 12 | | 18 | 16 | 23 | 16 | 25 | 25 | | 135 | 2 |
| Cope | 12 | 12 | | 23 | 14 | 20 | 20 | 25 | -1 | 125 | 3 |
| Cooper | 5 | 14 | 7 | | 23 | 21 | 25 | 25 | | 120 | 4 |
| Shillitoe | 13 | 7 | 16 | 7 | | 20 | 23 | 24 | -1 | 109 | 5 |
| Pryor | 7 | 14 | 10 | 9 | 10 | | 25 | 25 | | 100 | 6 |
| Roberts | 6 | 2 | 10 | 4 | 7 | 1 | | 18 | | 48 | 7 |
| Bird | 0 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 6 | 5 | 12 | | -5 | 26.5 | 8 |

It was agreed that comments received on the 2010 League would be circulated prior to a full discussion on the format for the 2011 event at the next meeting. The dates for next year were agreed as follows:

24th & 25th September

1st & 2nd October

11th – 13th November

Reserve date: 4th – 6th November

7.2 Selection of teams, reserves and NPCs for the 2011 Camrose Trophy

Tom Townsend absented himself during this item

7th – 9th January

Bewleys Hotel, Dublin

Peter Crouch & Derek Patterson
 Glyn Liggins & Willie Whitaker
 Norman Selway & Espen Erichsen
 Reserves: Neil Rosen & Martin Jones
 NPC: David Burn

4th – 6th March

Metropole Hotel, Llandidrod Wells

Neil Rosen & Martin Jones
Michael Byrne & Mike Bell
Norman Selway & Espen Erichsen
Reserves: Peter Crouch & Derek Patterson
NPC: Simon Cope

7.3 Commonwealth Nations Cup

A member of the England team was thanked for his report, which praised the organisation of the tournament, and the hospitality offered.

England:

Mike Perkins & Ian Reissman
John Hassett & Jeff Morris
Brian Callaghan & Gary Hyett

8 WOMEN'S EVENTS

8.1 Lady Milne Trial

Entries were noted as follows:

Alice Kaye & Bryony Youngs
Catherine Seale & Catherine Jagger
Dinah Caplan & Lizzie Godfrey
Muriel Bailey & Valerie Benson
Christine Duckworth & Nicole Cook
Terry Hewett & Gitte Hecht-Johansen
Sandy Davies & Carole Kelly
Heather Bakhshi & Heather Dhondy
Georgia Ray & Pat Barton
Pauline Cohen & Ruth Henig
Anne Rosen & Sarah Teshome
Tracy Capal & Jill Feldman
Alice M Kaye & Laura Bonney
Susan Stockdale & Fiona Brown
Helen Erichsen & Margaret James
Sandra Penfold & Nevena Senior
Susanna Gross & Sally Brock
Marietta Andree & Janet Cahm

8.2 Trial format

It was confirmed that the format would be 17 x 7-board matches with screens on 21st – 23rd January at the Young Chelsea Bridge Club, London. The leading three pairs are guaranteed selection for the Lady Milne Trophy to be played in Northern Ireland on 15th – 17th April. The NPC would be appointed following the Trial.

9 SENIORS' EVENTS

9.1 World Bridge Series

Paul Hackett was congratulated on his team's victory in the Rand Cup in the World Bridge Series Championships in Philadelphia.

9.2 Seniors Camrose Trial

Entries were noted as follows:

*Paul Hackett, Gunnar Hallberg, John Holland, Roger O'Shea, David Price, Colin Simpson
Richard Palmer, Phil Thornton, Mike Robinson, Robert Procter
Patrick Collins, John Short, David Kendrick, Charles Chisnall*

9.3 Trial format

The format for the trial at the Young Chelsea Bridge Club on 18th and 19th December, was agreed as 3 x 16-board triangles with screens played in 8-board sets on Saturday 18th December. The third-placed team would then be eliminated and the leading two teams would play a 48-board final in 3 x 16-board sets on Sunday, with scores between the teams on Saturday carried over. To be eligible for automatic selection for the Seniors Camrose Trophy being played in Oxford on 27th -29th May, a player must play at least one-third of the boards against each opponent, i.e. 8 boards against the eliminated team and 24 boards against the opposing finalists.

10 JUNIOR EVENTS

10.1 U-21 World Championships, Philadelphia

The team and its NPC and Coach were congratulated on winning the Silver medal, and the NPC was thanked for his excellent in-depth report. The full results are detailed below.

The Committee expressed to their gratitude to Michael Byrne for his successful fund-raising, and all the contributors, without which the team would not have been able to compete in Philadelphia.

A view was expressed that every effort must be made to ensure that our junior teams are able to accept invitations to compete in World Championships. Andrew Petrie pointed out that it could not be assumed that the Board would sanction the expenditure, and it was agreed that if necessary, other avenues should be explored for raising the necessary funds. Tom Townsend put forward the view that we make a rule that they have to come within two of qualifying for the EBU to accept the invitations, and fund the team. Both points of view found support and a final decision was deferred to a later date.

England:

Tom Paske & Graeme Robertson
James Paul & Daniel McIntosh
Shivam Shah & Tom Rainforth
NPC: Michael Byrne
Coach: Alan Shillitoe

Final ranking list – round robin

| Pos | Team | VPs |
|-----|----------------|-------|
| 1 | England | 284 |
| 2 | Sweden | 260 |
| 3 | Israel | 259 |
| 4 | France | 239 |
| 5 | Poland | 238 |
| 6 | China | 235 |
| 7 | Netherlands | 233.5 |
| 8 | Hungary | 229.5 |
| 9 | USA1 | 229 |
| 10 | Germany | 219 |
| 11 | Norway | 216 |
| 12 | Canada | 196 |
| 13 | Chinese Taipei | 195 |
| 14 | Australia | 189 |
| 15 | USA2 | 177 |
| 16 | Uruguay | 169 |

Quarter-final

England 119 – Hungary 62

Semi-final

England 142 – Netherlands 136

Final

England 138 – Poland 182

10.2 2010 Junior Trial

The results of the Junior Trial was noted as follows:

Weekend 1:

| | | |
|----|------------------------------|------|
| 1 | Alex Roberts & Tommy Brass | 87 |
| 2 | Tom Dessain & Chris Owen | 83 |
| 3 | David Williams & David Faria | 44 |
| 4 | Adam Jones & Paul Jones | 42 |
| 5 | Jonathan Cairns & Andre Kueh | 16 |
| 6 | Sarah O'Connor & Sinead Bird | 5 |
| 7 | Amy Stout & Emily Middleton | -12 |
| 8 | Peter Ford & Nick Mock | -26 |
| 9 | Ross Allen & Kenneth Andrew | -115 |
| 10 | Jack Hassan & Luke Webb | -124 |

Weekend 2:

| | | |
|---|------------------------------|-----|
| 1 | Ed Jones & Tom Dessain | 97 |
| 2 | David Williams & David Faria | 24 |
| 3 | Adam Jones & Paul Jones | 16 |
| 4 | Graeme Robertson & Ben Paske | -9 |
| 5 | Dan McIntosh & Alice Kaye | -43 |
| 6 | Joe Mela & James Paul | -75 |

10.2 Selections

Paul Bowyer, Michael Byrne and Susan Stockdale were thanked for their reports and their recommendations. It was agreed that selections for the White House Tournament and the Peggy Bayer Trophy would be deferred.

It was noted that options for selections of the girls' team was limited, and agreed that every effort must be made to encourage them to gain as much experience as possible. Selections for the Channel Trophy and Junior Camrose were confirmed as follows:

Channel Trophy – 17th/19th December, Lille, France:

Under-25:

Graeme Robertson & Ben Paske
Dan McIntosh & Alice Kaye
Chris Owen & Tom Dessain
Reserves: Ed Jones & James Paul
NPC: Simon Cope

Under 20:

Shivam Shah & Basil Letts
Tommy Brass & Alex Roberts
Simon Spencer & Ankush Khandlewar
NPC: Michael Byrne

Girls:

Emily Middleton
Lavinia Constantin
Laura Bonney
Alex Birchall
Sarah O'Connor
Amy Stout
NPC: Susan Stockdale

Junior Camrose Trophy – 18th-20th February, Ayr, Scotland

Graeme Robertson & Ben Paske
Ed Jones & James Paul
Chris Owen & Tom Dessain
Reserves: David Williams & David Faria
NPC: Simon Cope

11 COACHING GROUPS

It was decided that regrettably, due to lack of funding, the Open and Women’s Coaching Groups would have to be discontinued, but that a database would be introduced for selection purposes, as outlined in minute 4.2.2 above.

A suggestion by Sally Brock that the possibly of a joint Trial with another European NBO be explored, was approved.

12 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting was fixed for Wednesday 9th March starting at noon, at the Imperial Hotel, Russell Square, London.

13 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

13.1 Composition of 2010 Premier League Division 1

Asked by Gerard Faulkner what criteria had been used for determining the composition of Division 1 due to the ineligibility of one of the teams who would otherwise have been promoted from Division 2, the Chairman said that the Committee had followed to the letter the procedure laid down in section 13.4 of the Conditions of Contest.

ACTION LIST

| Item | | Responsibility |
|-------|---|--|
| 4.1 | European Championships expenditure | Chairman |
| 4.2.1 | Change to NPC Guidelines Photographs & video coverage for Venice Cup | Secretary/Chairman |
| 4.2.2 | Database for players’ progress & results | David Burn & Paul Hackett |
| 4.2.3 | Proposal for change to Gold Cup Finals Proposal for change to Spring Foursomes | Andrew Petrie/BGB Andrew Petrie/TC |
| 4.2.3 | Explore possibilities Pro-am | David Burn |
| 4.2.4 | EBU website/Committee blog & results | David Burn, Michael Clark, Matt Betts |
| 7 | Notification of selections and publicity | Secretary |
| 8 | Conditions of Contest for Trials | Secretary/Max Bavin |
| 9 | Conditions of Contest for Trials | Secretary/Max Bavin |
| 10 | Notification of selections | Secretary/Squad Managers |