



**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE SELECTION COMMITTEE
HELD AT 14/16 CAXTON STREET, LONDON, ON TUESDAY 5TH JANUARY 2010.**

Present:	Heather Dhondy	(Chairman)
	Simon Cochemé	(Vice Chairman)
	Peter Baxter	
	Sally Brock	
	Sally Bugden	(EBU Chairman)
	David Burn	
	Paul Hackett	
	Tom Townsend	
	Sandra Claridge	(Secretary)
	Sue Maxwell	(Item 4 only)

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Max Bavin (Chief TD), Gerard Faulkner (Vice-President) and Andrew Petrie (EBU Vice-Chairman).

2 MINUTES OF THE MEETING ON 18TH NOVEMBER 2009

2.1 Accuracy

Item 5.2

Tom Townsend confirmed that he would assume responsibility for the Committee blog, but was unable to take on other aspects of publicity. Simon Cochemé agreed to liaise with Sue Maxwell on sponsorship.

Subject to these amendments, the minutes were signed as a true record.

2.2 Matters arising

2.2.1 There had been a brief reference to prize money in invitation events. It was agreed that the return of a portion of prize money won in an event which was funded or part-funded by the EBU would continue to be considered on an event by event basis.

2.2.2 It was noted that an overseas player currently eligible to represent England had competed for his country of birth in the Nordic Challenge. It was confirmed that this did not affect his eligibility in terms of WBF and EBL events, and the Conditions of Contest for the 2010 Premier League would clarify the position in regard to Home Internationals.

2.2.3 Japanese Invitation event

It was confirmed that the following team would represent England in the NEC Bridge Festival in Yokohama on 9th – 14th February:

Heather Dhondy & Nevena Senior
Susan Stockdale & Fiona Brown

2.2.4 International Focus

Sally Bugden said that there was no progress to report, and this item was therefore deferred to the next meeting.

3 COMMITTEE PROCEDURES

3.1 Committee's Terms of Reference

Revised Terms of Reference would be agreed at the forthcoming Board Meeting, and circulated to the Committee thereafter.

3.2 Self-certification

This matter would be discussed by the Sally Bugden and David Harris, and included on the agenda for the next meeting.

4 EBU SUPPORTERS CLUB

Presenting her discussion paper "Bridge England Supporters Trust (BEST)", Sue Maxwell was joined by Sally Bugden in saying that the paper represented the formulation of conceptual ideas to harness the support for international teams from the 3000 existing tournament players and within clubs, to provide alternative funding for international representation.

5 OPEN EVENTS

5.1 Review of Open Coaching Group Reports

The reports were noted. Whilst it was conceded that there had been limited opportunities to participate in top level events since the last meeting, it was agreed that with few exceptions very little effort had been made by the pairs, and that to justify future selection there must be significantly more evidence of motivation and commitment. It was confirmed that with the exception of the pairs selected for the European Championships, funding of coaches expired on 31st December 2009.

The Chairman agreed to contact all members of the Groups to obtain feedback on the scheme, prior to a review at the next meeting.

5.2 Selection of team, reserves, Coach and NPC for the European Championships

Tom Townsend and Paul Hackett absented themselves during the selection process.

The following team was invited to represent England in the European Team Championships in Ostend from 22nd June – 3rd July:

David Gold & Tom Townsend
Jason & Justin Hackett
Nick Sandqvist & Andrew McIntosh
Reserves: Peter Crouch & Derek Patterson
NPC: Jeremy Dhondy
Coach: Simon Cope

5.3 Bonn Nations Cup

It was agreed that the Women's team for the European Championships be invited to represent England in the Bonn Nations Cup on 12th/13th May.

5.4 Tel-Aviv Bridge Festival

It was agreed that availability would be sought from the Open and Women's European Championships teams and from all remaining pairs in the Coaching Groups to represent England in the Tel-Aviv Bridge Festival on 18th – 27th February. Participation would be on a self-funding basis.

5.5 Bulgarian invitation event

Availabilities would also be sought as above for an invitation to an inaugural event in Bulgaria from 27th – 31st January.

5.6 Commonwealth Nations Cup

The Chairman reported that the winners of the Premier League had declined the invitation to represent England in the Commonwealth Nations Cup in New Delhi on 24th – 29th October. However, a team was available comprising one pair and a player from the runners-up of the Premier League, and a pair from the team that finished in third place, and this was confirmed as follows:

John Hassett & Bill Hirst
Michelle Brunner & John Holland
Howard Melbourne

Sally Bugden said that the team must be made fully aware of the terrorist situation.

6 WOMEN'S EVENTS

6.1 Review of Coaching Group reports

The reports were noted.

6.2 Selection of team, reserves, Coach and NPC for the European Championships

Heather Dhondy and Sally Brock absented themselves during the selection process

The following team was invited to represent England in the European Team Championships in Ostend from 22nd June – 3rd July:

Heather Dhondy & Nevena Senior
Sally Brock & Nicola Smith
Fiona Brown & Susan Stockdale
Reserves: Catherine Jagger & Sarah Teshome
NPC: Richard Bowdery
Coach: David Burn

6.3 Notification and publication of Lady Milne Trophy selections

Simon Cochemé agreed to be responsible for confirming and publicising selections of the England and EBU teams at the conclusion of the Trials on 22nd-24th January, for the Lady Milne Trophy being held in Manchester on 16th – 18th April. It was agreed that the 4th placed pair would be invited to be reserves for the England team. Simon also agreed to liaise with Michael Clark in regard to a BBO presentation at the Trials.

7 SENIORS EVENTS

7.1 Results of Pre-trial

The results were noted as follows:

					Total VPs
O'Donovan	14	25	X	15	54
Waterlow	X	12	16	25	53
Jepson	3	18	15	X	36
Palmer	18	X	5	12	35

Denis O'Donovan John Short, Patrick Collins, Malcolm Lewis
Tony Waterlow Ian Panto, Chris Dixon, Victor Silverstone
Graham Jepson David Musson, Sandy Davies, Tom Gisborne
Richard Palmer Kitty Teltscher, Phil Thornton, David Edwin

7.2 Arrangements for Final Trial

Paul Hackett reported that arrangements had been made to play the 96-board match with screens between Denis O'Donovan's team and a 5-man team comprising himself, David Price & Colin Simpson and Gunnar Hallberg & John Holland at TGR's on 23rd and 24th January. Simon Cochemé agreed to arrange for the result of the Trial to be publicised. It was agreed that the NPC would be selected when the result was known.

8 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting was fixed for Tuesday 6th April at 1.00 pm at TGRs Bridge Club.

9 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

9.1 Paul Hackett said he understood that the BBC would be prepared to cover medal ceremonies at major championships, if the necessary footage could be provided. Paul agreed to contact Matt Betts to establish how this could be achieved.

9.2 It was noted that whilst the Youth Committee was now disbanded, Malcolm Oliver is over-seeing the Junior Squads and their Managers until 1st April. It was agreed that thereafter feedback would be obtained from the Squad Managers on how the scheme was operating, and whether any improvements could be made.

ACTION LIST

Item		Responsibility
2.2.2	Clarification of eligibility	Secretary/Max Bavin
2.2.4	International Focus	Sally Bugden
3.1	Terms of Reference	Chairman
3.2	Self-certification	Sally Bugden/David Harris
4	Supporters Club - Committee comments	Simon Cochemé/Sue Maxwell
5.1	Feedback on Coaching Groups	Chairman
5.2	Invitation and notification of team	Secretary
5.3	Invitation to Women's team	Secretary
5.4	Availability of Open and Women's Coaching Groups	Secretary
5.5	Availability of Open and Women's Coaching Groups	Secretary
5.6	Confirmation of team	Chairman
6.2	Invitation and notification of team	Secretary
6.3	Notification of results and selections BBO liaison	Simon Cochemé
7.2	Venue arrangements Publication of results Selection of NPC	Secretary Simon Cochemé Committee
9.1	BBC coverage of major achievements	Paul Hackett/Matt Betts

