



**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE SELECTION COMMITTEE HELD AT THE
BEDFORD HOTEL, LONDON, ON WEDNESDAY 9TH MARCH 2011.**

Present: Heather Dhondy (Chairman)
Simon Cochemé (Vice-Chairman)

Max Bavin (Chief TD)
Sally Brock
Sally Bugden (EBU Chairman)
David Burn
Paul Hackett
Tom Townsend

Sandra Claridge (Secretary)

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Peter Baxter, Andrew Petrie (EBU Vice-Chairman) and Gerard Faulkner (Vice-President).

2 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 17TH NOVEMBER 2010

Accuracy

The minutes were signed as a true record, subject to the penultimate sentence of paragraph 3 of item 10.1 being amended to read...“Tom Townsend put forward the view that we make a rule that they have to come within two places of qualifying for the EBU to accept the invitations, and fund the team.”

Matters arising

Future format for Gold Cup Finals and final stages of Spring Foursomes

In Andrew Petrie’s absence this items was deferred to the next meeting. However, the format of the Gold Cup Finals would be discussed at the BGB Meeting on 26th April.

Appointment of EBU fund-raiser

Sally Bugden reported that no progress had yet been made on recruiting a volunteer fund-raiser for the EBU. However, it was likely that the Union would seek to attract a member with relevant experience who would be in a position to contribute at Board level. Sally also reported that Ian Payn had joined the Board, with special responsibility for Education.

February Simultaneous Pairs event

Simon Cochemé reported that the event had attracted 302 pairs from 16 clubs, and had generated a profit of £1K. The Committee expressed its gratitude to all the contributors to the

commentary, and to Espen Erichsen for visiting Richmond Bridge Club to play in the event and talk through the hands at the end of the evening.

It was agreed to publicise in the EBU Diary and on the website that the 2012 Simultaneous Pairs would be held on 7th and 8th February. Volunteers would be sought to provide commentary on two sets of hands.

Simon was thanked for all his hard work.

Pro-Am event

David Burn reported that the RAC Club had not expressed interest in hosting a Pro-Am event. However, it might be possible to fit such an event at the Athenaeum Club, and David agreed to pursue the matter further.

Arrangements for uploading news & results from Championships

It was noted that the speed with which results were appearing on Bridgewebs had improved, and that every effort was being made to ensure that TDs were au fait with the technical procedures for submitting results.

In the case of major championships, photographs of the teams should be submitted to Matt Betts at the start of the championship. NPCs are to be informed of this duty.

Joint Trial with another European NBO

Paul Hackett agreed to investigate events in Sweden and the Netherlands to establish whether they offered anything useful to England in selection terms. It was noted, however, that the selection procedure for the next European Championships had already been determined.

3 FINANCIAL MATTERS

Report on Open/Women/Seniors

The Vice-Chairman reported that figures to the end of December indicated that the Committee was likely to be around £500 within budget for the year, and that any income generated from fund-raising activities in this financial year that were unused at 31st March would be rolled over to next year.

It was agreed that the Chairman would raise the matter of the £5K allocated for the home Camrose match in 2012 at the next Board meeting, and recommend that it be removed from the committee budget, since it was not an expense over which the committee had any control.

Report on Juniors

Figures to the end of December were tabled. These did not include the final cost of the Junior Channel Trophy, or the Junior Camrose and Peggy Bayer, which it was believed would be in line with budget.

Budget for 2011/12

The Chairman reported that the Selection Committee budget for 2011/12, based on the current year, would be tabled at the next Board meeting for approval.

The Junior budget had been drastically reduced in terms of squad training, and revisions had been discussed with the Squad Managers. In addition, contributions would be required in terms of travel costs for training weekends. The Junior Camrose, Peggy Bayer and the Junior Channel Trophy would continue to be fully-funded, but depending on remaining funds towards the end of the financial year, the White House tournament might be either self or part-funding in future, or teams would not be sent. The estimated cost of the 2011 Junior European Championships was noted to be slightly less than originally forecast.

Sally Bugden pointed out that in cases of genuine hardship, young players could apply to the Educational Trust for funding where full funding is not given.

4 ALL EVENTS

Policy on life partners attending championships

The current policy contained in the Players Guidelines is as follows:

“The attendance of special friends or relatives (in particular husband/wife or other partner, parents or children) is normally not permitted. However, if you wish to be accompanied you should contact the NPC and the Secretary of the Selection Committee to seek formal approval. Please note that restrictions may be put in place regarding the attendance of any such persons at team meetings, scoring time, team meals etc.”

It was agreed that in future players would be requested to obtain permission from the NPC if they wished to be accompanied.

Results of Membership Survey

The Chairman reported that results showed that only a small percentage of the EBU membership would be prepared to contribute to a supporters club, and it was therefore agreed that this would not be pursued.

5 OPEN EVENTS

Camrose Trophy

The Committee congratulated Wales on its first victory in the Camrose Trophy, and Sally Bugden said that she had written to the WBU on the Union’s behalf.

The results of the 2011 Camrose are contained in Appendix A, and the NPCs were thanked for their reports. Tom Townsend said that all the other Home Unions were now preparing well for the event, and accordingly the general standard had improved considerably.

Bonn Nations Cup

Tom Townsend and Paul Hackett absented themselves during this item

It was agreed that two pairs would be selected for the Bonn Nations Cup, and that if the players wished to upgrade from the two twin rooms offered by the organizers, it would be at their own

expense. A contribution towards their travel would be paid by the EBU, based on the most economical option available.

The team selected is:

Peter Crouch & Derek Patterson
David Bakhshi & Tom Townsend
1st Reserves: Glyn Liggins & Joe Fawcett
2nd Reserves: Paul Hackett & Tony Waterlow

Swedish Chairman's Cup

An invitation had been received to send a team of eligible English players to the Chairman's Cup, and that two free rooms were offered by the organizers.

The team selected is:

Heather Dhondy & Nevena Senior
Susan Stockdale & Fiona Brown
Martin Jones & Neil Rosen

It was noted that the cost of six flights and an extra room would be in the region of £1K, and that sufficient funds were available.

It was agreed to seek confirmation from the Swedes that a second English team would be welcome on a free entry basis, and otherwise be self-funding. The Secretary was asked to contact players who had expressed interest, who could apply as pairs or as teams of 4 or 6.

Premier League 2011

The Chairman reported that the results of the recent captains' questionnaire, which was tabled at the meeting, had not indicated a need for a change to the current format of the League for 2011.

It was agreed to invite applications via the EBU website. The closing date for entries would be 31st May, and the entry fee £720 per team. Max Bavin and the Secretary were asked to seek to reduce costs by investigating additional possible venues, and to produce revised Conditions of Contest as soon as practicable.

Simon Cochemé said that there had been a problem recruiting volunteer BBO operators, and it was agreed that in future operators would be entitled to claim a lunch allowance, and public transport fare.

It was agreed that Butler scores should now be replaced by cross-imping, but it was conceded that even with the addition of modified data on opponents' performance, the information was of dubious value. Tom Townsend said that rather than relying on data, it was important for selectors to watch bridge.

6 WOMENS EVENTS

6.1 Lady Milne Trophy

The results of the Lady Milne Trial and the team selected to play in the Lady Milne Trophy are contained in Appendix A.

6.2 NEC Championships

The Chairman reported that the team had gained valuable experience in Japan, and thanked the Committee for the opportunity.

7 SENIORS EVENTS

7.2 Seniors Camrose Trophy

The results of the Seniors Camrose Trial and the team selected to play in the Seniors Camrose are contained in Appendix A.

7.3 Seniors Trials 2011/12

Paul Hackett absented himself during this item

Tom Townsend made the point that pure selection without trial is not appropriate in seniors bridge, as in the long run the best players will often be the newly qualified with no form in seniors bridge. It was agreed that there would be a one-weekend Trial for the 2012 Seniors Camrose Trophy.

In the case of the 2012 European Championships and Olympiad, applications would be invited for a one-weekend Trial, the winner having the opportunity to challenge a team comprising Paul Hackett & Tony Waterlow, David Price & Colin Simpson, John Holland & Gunnar Hallberg to a match over one weekend. In the event that the team performed poorly in the European Championships, the Committee reserved the right to invite another team to challenge them for selection for the Olympiad.

Paul Hackett returned to the room

Paul Hackett announced the possibility that the Bridge Olympiad in 2012 would clash with the Brighton Summer Meeting.

8 JUNIOR EVENTS

8.2 Junior Channel Trophy

The results of the Junior Channel Trophy are contained in Appendix A. The NPCs were thanked for their reports.

8.3 Junior Camrose & Peggy Bayer Trophies

The results of the Junior Camrose and Peggy Bayer Trophies are contained in Appendix A. The teams were congratulated on their performance and the NPCs were thanked for their reports.

8.4 White House Tournament – Amsterdam, 21st-25th March

The Chairman reported that subsequent to the selections being made for the U25 team, two players had resigned from the Squad, and a further partnership had broken up.

The teams selected are as follows:

U25: Ed Jones & Graeme Robertson
Alice Kay & Daniel McIntosh
NPC: David Gold

U20: Simon Spencer & Ankush Khandelwal
Basil Letts & Shivam Shah
Alex Roberts & Tommy Brass
NPC: Simon Cope

8.5 Selection of teams for Junior European Championships – Bulgaria, 13th – 23rd July

In view of the break-up of three partnerships originally in contention for selection for the Junior European Championships, it was agreed that sending an U26 team to the Junior Europeans would depend their results in the White House tournament, and on David Gold's recommendations. If the team performed well in Amsterdam, a possible option would be to send two pairs plus a further player as an emergency replacement.

On the recommendation of the Squad Manager, the U21 team for the Junior Europeans would be selected after the final Training Weekend in April.

The Chairman reported that due to some of the leading girls' players being unavailable, it was possible that a girls' team may not be sent to the Junior Europeans. However, this decision would depend on whether a team of sufficient quality could be formed. In the meantime, the girls would be encouraged to attend the U25 and U20 squads with a view to producing a team in the future.

8.6 Junior Squads standard system

The Committee would recommend to the Squad Managers that at the next Junior meeting the introduction of a standard system such as "Bridge World Standard" be considered, which it felt would be beneficial to coaches and players, and provide a degree of interchangeability.

8.7 Succession planning for Squad Managers

A discussion took place on the roles of Squad Managers and Coaches, and the Chairman agreed to consult with the current personnel on plans for the future.

9 CHARTING OF PLAYERS' PERFORMANCES

David Burn said that in conjunction with Paul Hackett, he had put together a list of players (other than juniors) who had represented England in recent years, and participants in the Premier League, so that performances could be monitored.

He produced a sample from a database that he had been working on, and it was agreed

that results could be submitted for inclusion and that the information should be in the public domain via Bridgewebs, but details could only be updated by David Burn or a member of the Selection Committee.

10 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting was fixed for Monday 6th June at 1.00 p.m, in the Fountain Room, Imperial Hotel, London.

11 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Sally Bugden reported that the Board had been made aware of a disagreement between the WBF and the EBL regarding a European team who wished to change its country of allegiance to compete in Europe as members of Monaco. Max Bavin pointed out that the rules on eligibility were clear, and this should not be permitted. Paul Hackett concurred, and said that it would not be in England's interest to support a relaxation of the current regulations.

ACTION LIST

Item		Responsibility
2.2.1	Report on future format of Gold Cup Finals & Final stages of Spring Foursomes	Andrew Petrie
2.2.3	Publicity of 2012 February Simultaneous Pairs	Simon Cochemé
2.2.4	Pro-Am event	David Burn
2.2.6	Events in Netherlands & Sweden	Paul Hackett
5.1	Letters to NPCs	Secretary
5.2	Invitations to team	Secretary
5.3	Confirmation to team	Secretary
5.4	Confirmation of additional team	Paul Hackett
5.5	Announcement of Premier League	Secretary
	Conditions of Contest	Secretary & Max Bavin
	Venues	Secretary & Max Bavin
6.1	Announcement of Seniors Trials	Secretary
7.1	Letters to NPCs	Secretary
7.2	Letters to NPCs	Secretary
7.5	Junior Squads standard system	Heather Dhondy
7.6	Consultation with Squad personnel	Heather Dhondy

Selection Committee Minutes – 9th March 2011

APPENDIX A

SENIORS CAMROSE TRIAL

Young Chelsea Bridge Club, 18th & 19th December

Saturday

Pat Collins , John Short, David Kendrick and Charles Chisnall	+46
Richard Palmer , Phil Thornton, Mike Robinson, Robert Procter	-49
Paul Hackett , Gunnar Hallberg, John Holland, Roger O'Shea, David Price and Colin Simpson	+ 3

Sunday

Pat Collins , John Short, David Kendrick and Charles Chisnall	124
Paul Hackett , Gunnar Hallberg, John Holland, Roger O'Shea, David Price and Colin Simpson	157

JUNIOR CHANNEL TROPHY

Lille – 18th – 19th December

Juniors

1 st	France	109 VPs
2 nd	Netherlands	109 VPs
3 rd	England	77 VPs
4 th	Belgium	60 VPs

England: Chris Owen
Tom Dessain
Ben Paske
Graeme Robertson
Dan McIntosh
Alice Kaye
NPC: Simon Cope

Under-20s

1 st	France	113 VPs
2 nd	Netherlands	86 VPs
3 rd	England	75 VPs
4 th	Belgium	75 VPs

England: Shivam Shah
Basil Letts
Tommy Brass
Alex Roberts
Simon Spencer
Ankush Khandelwal
NPC: Michael Byrne

Women's

1 st	France	123 VPs
2 nd	Netherlands	103 VPs
3 rd	Belgium	94 VPs
4 th	England	18 VPs

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

NEC BRIDGE FESTIVAL
Yokohama, 8th – 15th February

England:

Heather Dhondy & Nevena Senior
Fiona Brown & Susan Stockdale

LADY MILNE TRIAL

Young Chelsea Bridge Club, 22nd & 23rd January

1 st	Dinah Caplan & Lizzie Godfrey	101.58
2 nd	Sally Brock & Susanna Gross	78.84
3 rd	Alice Kaye & Bryony Youngs	75.68
4 th	Christine Duckworth & Nicole Cook	60.30
5 th	Anne Rosen & Sarah Teshome	59.42
6 th	Carole Kelly & Sandy Davies	56.83
7 th	Catherine Draper & Catherine Seale	42.93
8 th	Nevena Senior & Sandra Penfold	19.47
9 th	Helen Erichsen & Margaret Nygren	7.43
10 th	Susan Stockdale & Fiona Brown	5.39
11 th	Heather Bakhshi & Heather Dhondy	-6.85
12 th	Gitte Hecht-Johansen & Terry Hewett	-10.23
13 th	Marietta Andree & Janet Cahm	-31.50
14 th	Pauline Cohen & Ruth Henig	-57.48
15 th	Muriel Bailey & Valerie Benson	-64.07
16 th	Jill Feldman & Tracy Capal	-85.23
17 th	Georgia Ray & Pat Barton	-109.71
18 th	Laura Bonney & Alice Kaye	-156.73

CAMROSE TROPHY

1ST Weekend

7th – 9th January, Ireland

	Scotland	N Ireland	Ireland	WBU	England	Wales	Total
Scotland		18	11	15	11	14	69
N Ireland	12		8	5	6	14	45
Ireland	19	22		21	13	5	80
WBU	15	25	9		9	18	76
England	19	24	17	21		11	92
Wales	16	16	25	12	19		88

England:

Peter Crouch & Derek Patterson
 Glyn Liggins & Willie Whitaker
 Norman Selway & Espen Erichsen
 NPC: David Burn

2ND Weekend

4th – 6th March, Wales

	Scotland	N Ireland	Ireland	WBU	England	Wales	C/F	Total
Scotland		23	17	11	24	10	69	154
N Ireland	7		14	22	9	2	45	99
Ireland	13	16		13	13	25	80	160
WBU	19	8	17		16	11	76	147
England	6	21	17	14		15	92	165
Wales	20	25	3	19	15		88	170

England:

Norman Selway & Espen Erichsen
 Neil Rosen & Martin Jones
 Michael Byrne & Mike Bell
 NPC: Simon Cope

JUNIOR CAMROSE & PEGGY BAYER TROPHIES

Ayr, 18th – 20th February

Junior Camrose

		Total VPs
1 st	England	157
2 nd	Scotland	148
3 rd	N Ireland	122
4 th	Ireland	88
5 th	Wales	77

England:

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

Peggy Bayer

		Total
1 st	England	222
2 nd	Scotland	159
3 rd	N Ireland	87
4 th	Ireland	31

England:

Basil Letts & Shivam Shah

Alex Roberts & Tommy Brass

Toby Nonnenmacher & Michael Alishaw

NPC: Michael Byrne