



MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SELECTION COMMITTEE
HELD ON TUESDAY 6TH JANUARY 2015
AT BAKER TILLY MANAGEMENT LIMITED, LONDON

Present:

Andy Bowles	(Chairman)
David Burn	
Gillian Fawcett	
Dawn Mertens	(Secretary)
Ian Payn	(EBU Vice-Chairman)
David Price	
Gordon Rainsford	(EBU Chief TD)
Nick Smith	
Tom Townsend	(Vice-Chairman)

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Jeremy Dhondy and Paul Hackett

2. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN FOR THE YEAR 2015

Andy Bowles was nominated by Ian Payn, seconded by David Burn and duly re-elected as Chairman.

3. ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN FOR THE YEAR 2015

Tom Townsend was nominated by Andy Bowles, seconded by Ian Payn and duly elected as Vice-Chairman.

4. COMMITTEE PROCEDURES

4.1 Changes to the Committee's membership

The Committee thanked Simon Cochemé for his hard work and commitment over the past eight years. Gillian Fawcett and David Price were welcomed to the Committee.

4.2 Committee responsibilities for the year

Committee members were allocated the following responsibilities:

Budgets – David Price

Youth Liaison – Tom Townsend

Women's Team and U25 Girls Liaison – Gillian Fawcett

Open Team Liaison – Andy Bowles

Seniors Liaison – Paul Hackett

Invitational events – Andy Bowles

Simultaneous Pairs – Nick Smith

Schedule of events and Trials – Paul Hackett

Player database – Andy Bowles

Conditions of Contest – Andy Bowles and Gordon Rainsford

Documents and Proof Reading – David Burn

BBO Operators – EBU to appoint for the Lady Milne Trials (to be reviewed for future events at next meeting).

5. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 16TH SEPTEMBER 2014

5.1 Accuracy

There were no matters of accuracy.

5.2. Matters arising

There were no matters arising.

6. REVIEW OF DECISIONS TAKEN BETWEEN MEETINGS

Decisions taken by the Committee between meetings, 6th September 2014 – 6th January 2015 were as follows.

The following teams were selected:

Bermuda Bowl:

Andrew Robson & Tony Forrester
David Gold & David Bakhshi
Jason Hackett & Justin Hackett
NPC: Simon Cope

Venice Cup:

Sally Brock & Nicola Smith
Fiona Brown & Catherine Draper
Heather Dhondy & Nevena Senior
NPC: Derek Patterson

D'Orsi Bowl:

Paul Hackett & David Mossop
Gunnar Hallberg & John Holland
David Price & Colin Simpson
NPC: Simon Cochemé

Camrose, first weekend:

Sally Brock & Barry Myers
Heather Dhondy & Brian Callaghan
Jonathan Mestel & Paul Barden
NPC: David Burn

Camrose, second weekend:

Andrew Robson & Alexander Allfrey
Tony Forrester & David Gold
David Bakhshi & Andrew McIntosh
Captain: Andrew Robson
Assistant Captain: Godfrey King

Hluk Junior Tournament (Czech Republic)

Freddie Illingworth & Ben Norton
Laura Covill & Stephen Kennedy
NPC: Michael Byrne

Channel Trophy, U20:

Freddie Illingworth & Ben Norton
Sam Behrens & Nick Dean
Oliver Powell & Jonathan Derrick
NPC: Michael Byrne

Channel Trophy, U25:

James Paul & Alex Roberts
Tommy Brass & Ankush Khandelwal
Toby Nonnenmacher & Michael Alishaw
NPC: Mike Bell

Channel Trophy, U25 Women:

Sarah O'Connor & Sinéad Bird
Laura Covill & Carina Negreanu

One junior pair, and one pair comprising a junior and a mentor, were offered free entries to the Lady Milne Trials.

The timetable for the Teltscher Trophy Trials was agreed, with the first day's play to occur in the afternoon. Brown Sticker conventions would be allowed in the Teltscher Trophy Trials, in keeping with the principle that the trial should replicate the conditions of the event to which it related.

The Premier League regulations had incorrectly been changed to say that the second-placed team would not receive automatic selection for the Camrose. This would be corrected in 2015.

David Price was appointed to manage the Selection Committee budget.

7. FINANCES

7.1 2014-2015 Budget

David Price tabled the accounts to the end of October, and reported no major changes from the accounts presented at the previous meeting. He will liaise with Gail Nancarrow to show a more detailed breakdown of the expenses in future.

7.2 2015-2016 Budget

The Simultaneous Pairs has been included in the budget for this financial year as expected income. In future any monies raised from the Simultaneous Pairs will not be included and will show as additional income. The budget for the forthcoming year for International and Junior events will be restricted to that of four years ago plus 15%. The World Championships will be accounted for separately. AB, GR and DP will work with the EBU Treasurer to identify any areas where savings can be made.

8. OPEN EVENTS

8.1 Premier League 2014-2015

The 2014 event had run smoothly. In order to make the movement workable, only one Junior team was granted free entry to the second division. In future a similar policy would be adopted, of varying the number of junior teams depending on the total entry. The Committee felt that the format could be expanded to three divisions if the entries merited it, but that there was no reason to push for expansion. Mike Bell's suggested format for dealing with an awkward number of entries would be reconsidered if necessary when numbers were known for 2015.

One team had expressed a preference for holding all three weekends at the West Midlands Bridge Club. However, the new Young Chelsea should be available for the London venue for 2015 and hopefully sixteen teams can be accommodated, which will be an improvement on the 2014 arrangements.

GR asked if the correction period for scoring errors should be lengthened. It was agreed that if the event continued on the following day the correction period would extend to the start of the next match. On the final day of a weekend, the correction period would still be 30 minutes.

8.2 Coach for Bermuda Bowl

Ben Green is not available for the Bermuda Bowl. AB will liaise with the team regarding their preference in respect of the two people who have indicated they would be available.

8.3 Open Team preparations for the World Championships

No plans at present, but the team will be offered the opportunity to participate in the Swedish Chairman's Cup.

8.4 Player Contracts

It was agreed that the requirement for a physical signature was too onerous and had little benefit, so in future it would be sufficient for players to confirm their acceptance of the terms by email.

8.5 Selection of Team for the Yeh Brothers Tournament

Applications to play in the Yeh Brothers Tournament had been received from four pairs and one team. The Committee agreed that the following team of six be invited to participate, without any subsidy beyond that provided by the event's organisers:

Sally Brock & Barry Myers
Heather Dhondy & Brian Callaghan
Mike Bell & Michael Byrne

9. WOMEN'S EVENTS

9.1 Lady Milne Trials

Entries for the Trials are now closed and entries have been received from 22 pairs. The Committee had previously agreed to accept all the entries and GR will book an additional room at Richmond Bridge Club to accommodate 11 tables, however with 6-board rounds this will mean a fairly lengthy event.

9.2 Coach for the Venice Cup

DB left the room

David Burn was appointed as Coach to the Women's team for the Venice Cup.

9.3 Women's Team preparations for the World Championships

The Women's team have recently returned from the SportAccord Mind Games in Beijing and the Committee congratulated the team on their win and also Nicola Smith and Catherine Draper who won Gold and Bronze medals respectively in the Individual event. Congratulations also to Sally Brock and Nicola Smith who were part of the Gold medal team at the Red Bull World Bridge Series in Sanya. No other preparations are planned at present.

10. SENIORS EVENTS

10.1 Teltscher Trophy Trials

The Committee congratulated the Irens team on winning the Teltscher Trophy Trials. The team of five players; Nick Irens, Tony Forrester, David Kendrick, Norman Selway and Brian Senior will represent England in the Teltscher Trophy, at their own expense. DM to consult with the team to enquire if they are happy to play the event as a team of five, and if a NPC is required.

10.2 Seniors European Trials

As the dates previously suggested for the first weekend of the Senior European Trials now clashed with the US Nationals and the second weekend with the Lady Milne Trials, TT agreed, in the absence of PH, to check the suitability of January dates for the event. The idea of combining the Trials for the Teltscher Trophy and the Europeans was rejected.

11. JUNIOR EVENTS

11.1 Squad Leaders Honoraria

The Committee approved the payment of the honoraria to the two Junior Squad Leaders in respect of 2014/15.

11.2 NPC reports – Channel Trophy

The Committee thanked the NPCs of the U25, U20 and U25 Women's teams for their very thorough reports.

11.3 Selection of Teams for Junior Camrose and Peggy Bayer

Following recommendations from the Squad Leaders the following teams are selected:

TT left the room prior to captaincy of the Junior Camrose Captain being determined

Junior Camrose:

Tom Paske & Shivam Shah
James Paul & Alex Roberts
Toby Nonnenmacher & Michael Alishaw
NPC: Tom Townsend (TBC)

Peggy Bayer:

Freddie Illingworth & Ben Norton

Laura Covill & Stephen Kennedy

Nick Dean & Sam Behrens

NPC: Michael Byrne

11.4 U15 and U25 Women categories

The Committee agreed that we should endeavour to send an U15 team to the inaugural “Kids” event at the European Youth Bridge Championships in Tromso in July. The EBL are providing accommodation, food and covering entry fees. GF to speak to the Junior Squad Leaders and Sarah O’Connor who is interested in assisting with an U15 squad, and also liaise with Simon Barb, EBED, regarding recruiting squad members at the Junior Bridge Challenge which takes place in February.

It was agreed that we would not send an U25 Women’s team to the Junior Europeans, as unfortunately there are not enough suitable players available at present to make this viable, but that the Committee should consider sending a team to future events. GF to investigate options for preparing U25 Women’s teams in the future.

12. SIMULTANEOUS PAIRS

The Bridge England Simultaneous Pairs take place on the 3rd / 4th of February and at present there are 11 clubs entered on the Tuesday and 12 on the Wednesday. AB and NS to write to all Premier League players to ask for their assistance in promoting the event at their local clubs and Peter Stockdale to be asked to direct mail all affiliated clubs reminding them that this event is supporting our international teams.

13. VIEWGRAPH AT SELECTION COMMITTEE EVENTS

As discussed under item 4. The EBU will appoint operators for the Lady Milne Trials and Darren Evetts has agreed to organise operators for the Lady Milne Trophy in Birmingham in April, but has declined to do so for any future events. The situation will be reviewed after the Lady Milne Trials at the next meeting.

14. DATES FOR NEXT SEASON

14.1 Proposed 2015-2016 timetable

The proposed dates for the Premier League and Lady Milne Trials were approved:

Premier League
1st Weekend 12th -13th September 2015 – London (TBC)
2nd Weekend 31st October – 1st November 2015 – Manchester (TBC)
3rd Weekend 6th-8th November 2015 – Solihull (TBC)
Lady Milne Trials
22nd-24th January 2016

The dates for the Seniors Trials to be decided - as item 10.2.

15. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting will be decided after the Junior Camrose event.

16. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business and the meeting closed at 17.45pm.