



**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE EBU SELECTION COMMITTEE
HELD ON TUESDAY 13TH NOVEMBER 2018
AT THE YOUNG CHELSEA BRIDGE CLUB, LONDON W12 8HA**

Present:

David Bakhshi	
Paul Barden	
David Burn	
Jeremy Dhondy	EBU Chairman
Gillian Fawcett	Chairman
Peter Hasenson	
Dawn Mertens	Secretary
Alan Mould	Vice Chairman
Ian Payn	EBU Vice Chairman
Gordon Rainsford	EBU CEO
Jeremy Willans	

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence. Apologies were received from David Bakhshi and Ian Payn who indicated that they would be late arriving to the meeting.

2. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 17TH JULY 2018

2.1 Accuracy.

There were no matters of accuracy.

2.2 Matters arising.

5.2 Selection and funding for Seniors World Championships

The Committee agreed to offer the NPC, David S. Jones, £1000 towards his expenses to be paid in advance of the event.

6.1 Mixed European Trials format

A Tournament Director from Iceland is available for the Mixed Trials play-off which takes place during the EBU Panel Training Weekend. The Secretary to write to the Hinden team requesting their choice of opponents for Trial.

7.1 Update on World Championship preparation

The Committee had given permission for the Juniors to wear hooded sweatshirts, purchased at their own expense, as part of their uniform. We were advised they had done so, but as far as we are aware the hoodies did not form part of the uniform for the World Championships.

7.2 Fundraising

The Committee thanked everyone involved in the fundraising for the World Championships. The amount raised was approximately £56,000 which almost matched the expenditure for the event, an excellent result.

3. REVIEW OF DECISIONS TAKEN BETWEEN MEETINGS

The Committee agreed that the following was an accurate record of decisions made by the Committee between meetings and also offered their congratulations to the Black team who finished in bronze medal position in the Champions Cup:

Neil Rosen and Andrew Murphy were appointed as NPC and Coach of the Open team for the Bermuda Bowl.

Premier League master points were amended in line with suggestions made by Frances Hinden.

The Champions Cup invitation was extended to the Black Team, following the unavailability of the Premier League winners and runners-up.

Nicola Smith & Yvonne Wiseman were invited to replace Sally Brock & Fiona Brown in the Venice Cup team.

Michael Byrne and David Burn were appointed as NPC and Coach of the England Women's team for the Venice Cup.

Invitations were accepted for practice matches against the Dutch for the Open and Women's Venice Cup teams.

Following Mr Cliffe's ban, the remaining members of the senior team were invited to suggest a solution for the Selection Committee's approval. *(DALB's, JD's and AM's views were recused due to potential conflict of interest).*

The U26 Women's team was approved for the Channel Trophy:

Ewa Wieczorek & Olivia Bailey
Siyu Ren & Laura Covill
Hanna Tuus & Daisy Dillon
NPC: Alex Roberts

The format of the Lady Milne trials was agreed – an 8 pair final, played over 2 days, with exemptions from the pre-trial which would be decided at the next Selection Committee meeting. *(JD recused for the initial discussion on exemptions).* All applicants for the trials were accepted.

The U26 team was approved for the Channel Trophy:

Jonathan Clark & Kripa Panchagnula
Will Roper & Louise Selway
Tony Ye & Stephen Kennedy.

The U21 team was approved for the Channel Trophy:

Oscar Selby & Harry Madden
Theo Anoyrkatis & Andy Cope
Jack Ronayne & Theo Gillis

The following items were discussed out of order before David Bakhshi arrived.

11. JUNIOR EVENTS

11.1 Selection of Teams for the Channel Trophy

David Bakhshi was formally approved as NPC of the U26 team for the Channel Trophy.

Ian Payn joined the meeting and Jeremy Dhondy left the room for the following item:

8. WOMEN'S EVENTS

8.1 Lady Milne Trials

After much discussion regarding the number of pairs participating in the Pre-Trials and Trials the Committee agreed to exempt one pair: Nicola Smith & Yvonne Wiseman. The remaining 18 pairs therefore will compete in the Pre-Trials. The Trials will consist of eight pairs; the one exempted pair and the top seven qualifiers. The Secretary to write advising all the entrants of this decision. In the unfortunate event that a pair drops out before the Pre-Trials the Committee reserved the right to exempt another pair to keep the numbers even and avoid a sit-out.

David Bakhshi joined the meeting and Jeremy Dhondy returned to the room.

4. COMMITTEE CODE

The Committee acknowledged receipt of the Committee Code. Ian Payn advised that there was an error in the version circulated, which has now been updated. Item 2 should read that if a complaint is received about the Board it should be referred to the Honorary Counsel and not the L&E as stated.

5. FINANCES

5.1 Report on 2018/2019 Open/Women's/Seniors budgets.

5.2 Report on 2018/2019 Junior budgets.

In addition to the accounts already circulated Gillian Fawcett distributed a simplified spread sheet summarising the accounts up to the end of September. Gillian advised that a further donation has been received for use by the U26 Women's squad for those players still in full-time education. Part of this donation will go towards the cost of sending the U26 Women's team to the Channel Trophy.

There are still funds available in the Junior squad training budget for use before the end of the financial year. It was suggested that this could be used for training at an EBU event or possibly sending extra pairs to the Junior Camrose in February if the hosts, Ireland, are unable to field a second team.

5.3 Funding.

The Committee needs to consider what events it wishes to fund in future having previously agreed with the board directors decision not to fund the Olympiad as a means of saving the £50,000 requested by the EBU Treasurer over the five-year cycle. Gillian Fawcett felt that not funding the Olympiad Open team was a backward step but it was pointed out that Olympic Committees fund success so the Olympiad Women's team might also have a claim on funding. Ian Payn thought we ought to try to obtain sponsorship for international events however the Board do not currently have a strategy for sponsorship. Peter Hasenson felt that receipts from the Premier League were increased, and this might help towards paying costs for internationals, plus we might raise more from increased division 1 entry fees.

6. TRIALS

6.1 General Policy for Trials and Pre-Trials

A paper was tabled outlining the proposed format of Trials and Pre-Trials (attached) and Gillian Fawcett asked if everyone agreed with the general policy. A query was raised as to why the final trials should be 8 pairs only and not 10. Some members of the Committee thought more pairs would be better if the standard could be maintained. However overall it was generally felt that 8 pairs x 16-board final trial was the best format with all entries being accepted for the Pre-Trials, although we could leave as an option to have 10 pairs depending on number of entries to Pre-Trials.

The general feeling that was there were too many trials but the Olympiad trials would only need to be held once every four years.

6.2 Conditions of Contest

The Conditions of Contest will need to be re-written again. The Committee agreed that they need to specify in advance the format when the applications for entry are invited. It was agreed that players should participate in 50% of the boards over the entire event.

David Burn agreed to update the Conditions of Contest and queried whether he should state that players should accept a place in the team for the first trial they won and thereafter could not participate in further trials. The Committee confirmed that this should be included. Alan Mould agreed to respond to a player who had written in stating that in his opinion anyone should be allowed to play in all of the Trials.

6.3 Dates for 2019/20.

The dates for Trials for 2019/20 were approved as follows:

2019

5 th - 6 th October	Premier League
26 th - 27 th October	Premier League
1 st - 3 rd November	European Open Trial Stage 1
9 th - 10 th November	Premier League
22 nd - 24 th November	European Open Trial Stage 2
14 th - 15 th December	Teltscher Trophy Trial

2020

3 rd - 6 th January	European Open Trial Final Stage
11 th - 12 th January	Lady Milne Trial Stage 1 (England to have two teams in LM)
17 th - 21 st January	European Mixed Trial (Only if the event is to be held in 2020)
25 th - 26 th January	Lady Milne Trial Final Stage (England to have two teams in LM)
31 st Jan - 4 th Feb	European Senior Trial
7 th - 9 th February	European Women Trial Stage 1
21 st - 24 th February	European Women Trial Final Stage
13 th - 17 th March	Olympiad Open Trial
3 rd - 7 th April	Olympiad Mixed Trial
24 th - 28 th April	Olympiad Senior Trial
8 th - 12 th May	Olympiad Women Trial
22 nd - 26 th May	Olympiad Trial (Reserve date)

7. OPEN EVENTS

7.1 Premier League 2018.

Feedback had been received from players that they liked having all three divisions at the same venue for the second and third weekends, although comments had also been received that it would be better if all the divisions played the same boards. The Committee agreed that Gordon Rainsford should use his discretion as to whether this was possible from a technical and security point of view.

Gordon thought that it would be possible to hold divisions one and two at the Young Chelsea Bridge Club with the third division at say Richmond Bridge Club for the first weekend. The second and third weekends could be held at West Midlands Bridge Club again if they were happy to host the event. The Secretary to enquire about availability on the approved dates.

7.2 Selection of Teams (England and EBU) for Camrose.

The Allfrey team as winners of the Premier League have been invited to represent England for the second weekend of the Camrose and the de Botton team as runners up invited for the first weekend. The Committee decided to defer the selection of the EBU teams until both England teams had accepted their invitations.

Ian Payn proposed that consideration be given to the Women's and Seniors teams representing the EBU in the Camrose as preparation for the World Championships. It was agreed to discuss this later after Gillian, who is conflicted, had left the meeting.

7.3 Selection of NPCs for Camrose.

The Committee agreed to defer the appointments of NPCs until the two England teams were confirmed.

7.4 Team preparation for the Bermuda Bowl.

Two pairs from the Open team have accepted the invitation for the practice match against the Netherlands. The Committee felt that the NPC should be involved in the preparation and Gillian agreed to email the NPC in this regard.

8. WOMEN'S EVENTS

8.1 Lady Milne Trials. *Discussed out of order earlier in the meeting*

8.2 Practice events for Venice Cup team.

Alan Mould agreed to email the Venice Cup NPC regarding preparation for the Venice Cup including the practice match against the Netherlands.

9. SENIORS EVENTS

9.1 Teltscher Trophy Trials.

Ten teams had originally applied for the Trials and their applications were approved. One team subsequently withdrew and the Committee had recently been advised that a further team would be dropping out due to illness. This would leave eight teams playing seven x 16-board matches over the 2 days.

Alan Mould recused himself from discussion and vote on next item

9.2 D'Orsi Bowl.

Alan Mayo has indicated that he does not wish to play in the D'Orsi Bowl with a new partner and the team therefore requested approval for the replacement pair of John Holland & Alan Mould. The Committee agreed to this request.

10. MIXED EVENTS

10.1 Mixed Trials.

As discussed above.

11. JUNIOR EVENTS

11.1 Selection of teams for Channel Trophy.

Michael Byrne was formally approved as NPC of the U21 team.

11.2 Selection of Teams for Junior Camrose and Peggy Bayer.

David Bakhshi advised that he should be able to recommend the team for selection for the Junior Camrose shortly when the teams qualifying for the Tollemache Final are known. The U21 Squad Leader is to be asked for his recommendations for the Peggy Bayer by the first week in January.

11.3 Junior Liaison.

Paul Barden advised that he was happy to continue in this role if required. He felt that if the Squad Leader and the Junior Liaison agreed on a selection and then recommended a team the Committee should then approve their recommendations. Several long term partnerships have changed recently due to players moving up to the next age group and the Committee requested that they get periodic updates on the squads including such information before Committee meetings to enable them to approve team selections without hesitation.

12. SELECTION GENERALLY

12.1 Procedures for Selection and Appointment of NPC and Coach for International Events.

12.2 Guidelines for Players, Coaches and Captains.

It was agreed to distribute copies of the latest guidelines for players, coaches and captains to the Committee members to review for their comments.

Gillian Fawcett left the meeting

7.2 Selection of EBU Teams for the Camrose

The Committee then returned to the discussion regarding the selection of the EBU teams for the Camrose and voted unanimously to invite the Small team (the third placed team in the Premier League) and the Women's Venice Cup team.

The Committee agreed that the NPC for the Venice Cup should be invited to be NPC for the Women's team if they are available.

Ian Payn left the meeting

13. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

13.1 Bridge England Sim Pairs

Paul Barden confirmed that he would produce the booklets again and asked the Committee for assistance by agreeing to each write commentaries on four hands.

14. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date for the next meeting to be arranged.

DRAFT

EBU TRIALS 2019-2020

The EBU Selection Committee has undertaken to hold trials for all international events, and we have agreed dates and the provisional format for trials to select the England teams for the European Championships and the Olympiad in 2020. More information will be supplied once applications for these trials are open.

Proposed Formats

These formats are provisional and may be amended should entries be more or less than anticipated. For series that are played at the same time (Open, Women and Senior Europeans; and all events in the Olympiad) players who qualify for an event will not be accepted into trials for later events. We will be flexible with closing dates and with changes to pairs/teams as a result of this. **Full conditions of contest will be published as soon as is practicable.**

European Championship Open Team – Pairs Trial

- Stage 1: 3 day qualifier, open to all.
- Stage 2: 3 day 16 pair semi-final (with a number of pairs exempted directly to this stage).
- Stage 3: 4 day 8 pair final (with a number of pairs exempted directly to this stage).

European Championship Women's Team – Pairs Trial

- Stage 1: 3 day qualifier, open to all.
- Stage 2: 4 day 8 pair final (with a number of pairs exempted directly to this stage).

European Championship Mixed and Senior Teams

& Olympiad Open / Women / Senior / Mixed Teams – Team Trials

(Please note that the EBU does not fund teams in these events, other than to pay entry fees and provide uniform)

Single events, open to all.

If 2 teams enter then 2 day KO only.

If 3 teams enter then 2 day round robin followed by 2 day 2 team KO.

If 4 to 8 teams enter then 3 day round robin followed by 2 day 2 team KO.

If 9 or more teams enter then 3 day round robin followed by 2 day 4 team KO.