



**MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF SELECTION COMMITTEE
HELD VIRTUALLY VIA ZOOM
ON MONDAY 22nd FEBRUARY 2021, COMMENCING AT 11.30 AM**

MINUTES

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None.

2. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 16th DECEMBER 2020

5.1 Accuracy

Accepted as a true and correct record.

5.2. Re 5.2

Action: Paul Barden, Michael Byrne, Giorgio Provenza, David Bakhshi and Sally Brock to discuss the issue and report back to the next meeting.

The SC determined to allow for an 18 month year this year to begin a seasonal proposal to consider when a year should end. The SC resolved to ask the Squad Leaders their opinions on different number of awards and what categories they should be awarded for, and when a “season” should end.

This matter has been deferred until the issues around the squad system have been resolved.

Re 7

Action: The SC resolved unanimously that players cameras should be on at all times unless technical issues arose.

Complete. This has occurred in all future trials

Action: Gordon Rainsford to ask BGB to amend or consider their CoC for RealBridge Camera usage.

Complete. This is now in the BGB regulations

Action: AM to write to Brock-Myers re sound issue.

Complete. The Committee has received an appropriate response from Brock-Myers.

Re 8.1

Action: AM to draft changes and then get agreement from the Committee

Complete. Changes written and agreed by the Committee.

Re 9

Action: AM to draft changes and then get agreement from the Committee

Complete. Changes written and approved by the Committee.

Re 13

Action: CR to discuss with Sally Brock how to revitalise the U26W squad.

Subsumed into the junior report.

3. REVIEW OF DECISIONS TAKEN BETWEEN MEETINGS

The Committee selected the following teams to the Leszek Nowak memorial event:

- Venetia Anoyrkatis - Raffy Sinclair, Charlotte Bedford - Lucy Norman, Aman Parekh - Ben Cadge, Rufus Barnett - Marco Vann

And

- Amelia Mauve, Nina Mauve, Harriet Cork, Will Battersby, Andrew Bradkin, Thomas Bradkin, George Niedringhaus, Phedra Kingston

The Committee appointed Jeremy Willans as NPC for the Camrose weekend 1 and Claire Robinson NPC for the Camrose weekend 2.

The Committee appointed Paul Barden as NPC of the Open team for the European Championships 2021.

The Committee appointed Simon Cocheme as NPC for the senior team for the European Championships 2021.

The Committee agreed that Patrick Shields – Richard Chamberlain could be added to the Pryor team in the Polish seniors event.

The Committee agreed on a paper to the Board on which events were covered by the new 10 year ban on representing England should a player be found guilty of cheating.

The Committee received an invitation from the Scottish Bridge Union to send a junior team to the Scottish Winter Foursomes and selected:

- Filippus Kritsalis - Eshan Singhal, Jonathan Clark & Kripa Panchagnula

The Committee thanked the SBU for the invitation

The Committee selected for the Junior Camrose:

- Eshan Singhal – Filippus Kritsalis, Kripa Panchagnula – Jonathan Clark, Charlie Bucknell – Ewa Wieczorek, NPC: Simon Cope

The Committee selected for the Peggy Bayer Trophy:

- Andy Cope – Theo Anoyrkatis, Harry Madden – Oscar Selby, Jasmine Bakhshi – Imogen La Chappelle, NPC: Mike Bell, Coach: Michael Byrne, Reserves: Henry Rose, Liz Gahan

The Committee noted the resignation of David Bakhshi as U26 open squad leader and thanked him for his time and work during his tenure.

The Committee selected for the Teltscher Trophy:

- England team: Alan Mould – John Holland, Patrick Shields – Richard Chamberlain, David Mossop – Gunnar Hallberg, NPC: Simon Cocheme
- EBU team: Trevor Ward – John Hassett, Nick Smith – Roger Bryant, Clive Owen – Nick Stevens, NPC: Alan Wilson

The Committee selected for the Lady Milne Trophy:

- Helen Erichsen – Fiona Brown, Sally Brock – Natalie Shashou, Diana Nettleton – Nevena Senior, NPC: to be determined, reserves: Christine Jepson – Catherine Curtis

The Committee received an invitation to send a junior team to an Italian online event. The Committee selected:

- Jonathan Clark, Kripa Panchagnula, Aaron Hutton, Oliver Powell, Stephen Kennedy, Charlie Bucknell, Ewa Wieczorek, Filippos Kritsalis, Eshan Singhal. The team to captain itself

The Committee thanked the Italian Bridge Federation and Alfredo Versace for the invitation.

The Committee received and reviewed the following NPC reports:

- Channel Trophy reports from Shahzaad Natt, Sally Brock, Michael Byrne, and Giorgio Provenza.
- Camrose weekend 1 report from Jeremy Willans

The Committee thanked all the NPCs for their reports.

The Lady Milne team was determined directly from the trial. The question of NPC raised whether the SC should always consult the team or assign an NPC without consultation. The SC determined to make it on a case by case basis. It was suggested to ask for opinions in the invitation to any team, which may be disregarded at the discretion of the SC.

A list of candidates would be discussed by email for the LM NPC.

ACTION: AM to start email chain for suggestions for LM NPCs

4. RESPONSE FROM THE COMMITTEE TO THE BOARD POSITION ON THE 2021 EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS AND 2021 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

The SC determined that it was for the players to respond to the board as the SC's role was to select and that was unchanged. It was also considered that this stance could undermine future trials. It was suggested to send the Board a letter with considerations for how there may be knock on effects.

ACTION: AM to draft a letter to send to the board

5. STRATEGY FOR INTERNATIONALS AND FUNDING PRIORITIES

Funding internationals helps promote juniors for motivation and encouragement. Funding based on strength for results was also considered alongside the accessibility to each event.

Some members of the Committee felt that funding the women's and open teams would increase their strength whilst the same would not be true for mixed and senior.

It was considered whether it would be helpful for the teams to play in a game with members to help the members see where their money was being spent.

The following priorities were roughly agreed

Priority 1: Entry and uniform

Priority 2: Juniors

Priority 3: Open

It was considered to ask the board what their opinion was on the funding priorities. CoC were considered to add a funding cap.

6. RESPONSE TO THE LETTER IN ENGLISH BRIDGE CONCERNING DEFUNDING INTERNATIONALS

It was decided not to respond to the letter in English Bridge

7. REPORT FROM JUNIOR LIAISON OFFICER (CR)

Well done to the Junior Camrose team in regaining the trophy and to the Peggy Bayer team in retaining it. Note though the standard was not as high as it will be in the forthcoming World Championships. Strategies that were successful in JC/PB may not be so successful in higher standard events.

CR is doing different work with different squads.

- First U16 Play with the Experts was very popular and successful. Plan to run these events every 2-3 months.
- U26W have mentors appointed by Sally who coach their pairs on topics each week. Claire, Ollie Burgess and Paul Barden are running regular teams matches with Zoom to talk through the boards. Two of these have already happened, another in a couple of weeks' time.
- U21s and U26s - still considering what age appropriate development could be done here. Considering masterclasses/seminars on different topics by a series of experts.

CR is starting to build picture of the juniors we have and the depth of talent. However, squad lists are not up to date and squad leaders may in fact be missing some players in their age categories who are quite capable. CR needs to liaise with CB and squad leaders to get more contracts signed and lists updated.

A popular U26 duplicate is happening on Fridays at Young Chelsea online. Turn out is great and many of the players CR has not heard of. They seem to be the 'university crowds', a whole bracket of 20-23 year old players who we haven't got at all on our radar and are in danger of being missed. Need to think how to assess and bring in more of these players to our squad system and one day maybe representing England. Looking through the boards and results, many look like they have a good idea about the game and would be at home in our junior squads.

The Committee needs to consider selection of an U26 team for Worlds. Unlikely that squad leader will be in place enough in time to be able to have an informed view on selection. Neither do we as a committee have a proper view on who should be selected. CR suggests some form of trial similar to that which has taken place in the past and in line with the way we have moved for adult events to choose an U26 team. PB ran a successful trial for this squad in the past.

Action: PB to put together some ideas for what a trial for the U26 team might look like.

8. JUNIOR SQUAD SYSTEM REVIEW

In the light of the need for a new U26 junior squad leader, the Committee took the opportunity to discuss whether the current squad structure was still the most appropriate. Several options for restructuring had been proposed by members of the Committee. It was determined that these options had merits and it was decided to discuss the main possibilities with the squad leaders.

Action: CR to discuss restructuring the squad system with the remaining squad leaders.

9. (REDACTED ITEM)

10 A.O.B.
None.

11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING
To be determined.

Meeting ended 13:45