



MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE EBU SELECTION COMMITTEE HELD VIA ZOOM ON THURSDAY 21ST SEPTEMBER 2023

Present:	David Bakhshi (DBa) Chairman & Elected Member
	Abbey Smith (AS) Vice Chairman & Elected Member
	Alan Wilson (AW) Elected Member
	Paul Barden (PB) Elected Member
	David Burn (DBu) Elected Member
	Claire Robinson (CR) Elected Member
	Jeremy Willans (JW) Elected Member
	Patrick Shields (PS) Appointed Member
	Gordon Rainsford (GR) EBU Chief Executive

1. Procedural Matters

1.1 Apologies for Absence: Louise Crisp (LC) Secretary

2. Minutes and Matters Arising

2.1 The minutes of the meeting of 25th January 2023 and 6th September have been approved.

Action: LC to correct the spelling mistake in 2.2 of minutes taken on 6th September.

3. European Championships 2024

3.1 DBu took over chairing the meeting from DBa. The SC discussed the response received from players who had been invited to attend the Open Trial. A vote then took place as to whether more pairs should be invited, this was unanimously voted for. (DBa was excluded and left the meeting for the vote). A discussion was then had around the format, entry fee, dates for the trial and how the pairs will be selected from the trial. Everyone was in favour of the winners of the trial being selected and then the SC would select the other pairs.

Decision: A four-table cross IMPs pairs trial would be held on 12th-15th January. Applications will be opened asking for pairs to send in a CV with a high level of experience into the SC for them to review. Pre-selected pairs will also be asked to provide a CV nearer the time.

Actions: JW to write the advert and send it to GR to put on the website. LC to collate responses. Deadline is 28th September. LC to then communicate information to the pairs who have or have not been selected. GR to also find out about the Love Bridge technology.

- 3.2 DBU hands the chairing of the meeting back to DBA. The SC discussed whether each category should be look at individually or as a collective and whether they should be in a Teams or Pairs format. It was decided they should be looked at individually including the formats for each. The EBU will pay for the entry fee and any officials and if there is money left over then the players will be helped but SC is working on the assumption that there will not be any money left over. A vote was conducted regarding the format for each category (PB was excluded and left the meeting for the Mixed and Women's vote, CR was excluded and left the meeting for the Women's and Mixed vote and PS & JW was excluded and left the meeting for the Seniors vote).

Decision: The Mixed Trials will be a four-day teams of –(up to 6) trial held over four days. The Women's and the Seniors Trials will be a pairs trial that then becomes a team's trial at stage two and held over two weekends.

A discussion was then had about dates for each trial and any potential clashes that may happen. It was agreed that the Mixed Trial would be held on 2nd – 5th February, The Women's Trials would be held on 9th – 11th February and the 1st – 3rd March and the Seniors Trials would be held on 8th – 10th March and the 5th – 7th April.

Actions: JW to write advert for applications for the Mixed, Women's and Seniors Trials. GR to put it on the website. LC will collect the entries until the closing date of 3rd November.

4. AOB

- 4.1 GR to remind LC to update Lady Milne and Teltscher Trials entries.
- 4.2 The EBL have confirmed that tablets will be used for bidding in all stages of the European Teams Championships.
- 4.3 A discussion regarding the World Bridge Games should be had sooner rather than later. Suggestion that a self-funded Teams of 6 Trial would be good and maybe something put on the website for players to express an interest in playing.
- 4.4 Ollie Burgess expressed an interest in helping with the U16's squad. AS to arrange a DBS check.
- 4.5 Charlie Bucknell should be made a coach for the U21 team- This is to be referred to AS so that the website can be updated.

5. Date of next meeting

- 10.1 Face to Face meeting at TGR's on Wednesday 10th January 2024 at 1pm.

Louise Crisp
Secretary to the Selection Committee
September 2023