



## MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE EBU SELECTION COMMITTEE HELD VIA ZOOM ON WEDNESDAY 6<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2023

<b>Present:</b>	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
	Patrick Shields (PS) Appointed Member
	Gordon Rainsford (GR) EBU Chief Executive
	Louise Crisp (LC) Secretary

### 1. Procedural Matters

- 1.1 Apologies for Absence: Jeremy Willans (JW)
- 1.2 DBa thanked PB and AW for their service as Chair and Vice Chair.

### 2. Minutes and Matters Arising

- 2.1 The minutes of the meeting of 25<sup>th</sup> January 2023 are still awaiting approval.

**Action:** LC to correct the spelling of JW name and change Heather Sanderson's title to Acting Secretary for the Selection Committee.

- 2.2 Still an ongoing discussion regarding the SC Terms of Reference.
- 2.3 There was no invite to the Wuhan Cup.
- 2.4 The Open Team Squad proposal was not completed as was superseded by other events.
- 2.5 PB did not take anything forward regarding the Team Working Software. PB still thinks that this is a worthwhile issue to look into but will leave it down to DBa to decide.

**Actions:** PS & GR now following up on Junior Squad Sim Pairs. PS has asked Tony Russ to actively remind Counties that events run on behalf of the EBU are half price for juniors

following issue with Yorkshire and to encourage CBAs to consider adopting the same policy. DBa to ask Heather Sanderson regarding the safeguarding test she has used in the past.

### 3. Review of decisions taken between meetings

- 3.1.1 Finalised the position on [safeguarding and alcohol](#).
- 3.1.2 SC declined a Team Invitation for the Tel-Aviv International Bridge Festival.
- 3.1.3 Clarified for the Board the set of candidate International Championships for them to consider the funding of.
- 3.1.4 NPCs for LM/TT were selected/arranged.
- 3.1.5 Agreed teams and numbers for the Channel Trophy.
- 3.1.6 Teams and officials for were selected for all four categories at the World Youth Team Championships. This was revised after one official stepped down.
- 3.1.7 Venues were arranged, and the teams were sorted into their appropriate divisions for the 2023 Premier League.
- 3.1.8 Dates and venues were arranged for the Lady Milne and Teltscher Trophy Trials.
- 3.1.9 A new Chair and Vice Chair were appointed.
- 3.1.10 AS spoke with Sam Kelly to have the website updated.
- 3.1.11 A Subcommittee for the Bursary fund made up of AS, JW & AW was created. AS spoke about the EBU funds, fundraising and bursary. If a player cannot afford the expenses associated with representing England at a championship, they can apply for a bursary. The fundraising money will be split between the teams and if there is any money left in the budget this could be used towards other junior events.

**Actions:** PS has confirmed with the Board that the SC current priorities for use of different funding sources for Junior Internationals are:

- a. Funds budgeted/allocation by the EBU are used first (entry fees, uniforms, officials)
- b. Any Junior-Team-specific fund raising proceeds go to support that team.
- c. Then any generic Junior Fund raising proceeds are divided between the teams, aiming to give some support to all but taking into account differing needs.
- d. Where this does not cover all expenses, and a player cannot fill the gap themselves, they can approach the bursary fund and if a suitable case is made they will receive a contribution from there.

### 4. Selection Committee Conflict of Interest Policy

- 4.1 A discussion was had about Conflicts of Interest, following the circulation of a paper written by DBa following discussions with DBu and CR.

**Actions:** PS and DBu to liaise with the Board about possible revisions to the Board's Conflict of Interest policy. DBu to draft a revised Conflict of Interest policy, by October 2023, to propose to the Board and the SC. DBu to write guidelines to interpretation of the Conflict of Interest policy and best practice in following it.

### 5. European Championships 2024

- 5.1 The Open Team is to be fully funded. The other three teams will be part funded to the extent that EBU finances permit. A decision was made that the selection process for each team could be different.

5.2 A discussion was had at the best way to select a team for the Open category. The decision was made to approach nine pairs which were voted for in the meeting (DBA did not vote for his own pair but was present for the vote of the remaining pairs) to see if they would be willing to accept an invitation and then once the answers are collated the format for the trial would be established.

**Actions:** LC to invite the selected nine pairs and collate their responses.

## **6. Junior Matters**

6.1 SC committee accepted U26W and U21 teams and NPC's for the Channel Trophy 2023. Michael Byrne will be submitting his squad suggestion after the training weekend being held on 23<sup>rd</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> September.

**Actions:** LC to send invites out to U26W and U21 players and NPC's.

6.2 Henry Rose and Tom Furness put forward for Young Pair of the Year and Imogen La Chapelle put forward for the Young Player of the Year.

**Actions:** PS to take to the board for approval.

6.3 DBa thanked PB, CR and Michael Byrne for their NPC reports from Veldhoven. Ewa Wieczorek is still to send her report.

**Actions:** Ewa Wieczorek's report is to be discussed at the next meeting.

## **9. AOB**

9.1 The need for an EBU Team for the Camrose 2024 was briefly discussed.

**Actions:** DBa to send a proposal to SC with suggestions before the Premier League starts on 9<sup>th</sup> September.

## **10. Date of next meeting**

10.1 Continuation of meeting to be held on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> September at 9am on Zoom.

Louise Crisp  
Secretary to the Selection Committee  
September 2023