



**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE EBU TOURNAMENT COMMITTEE  
HELD AT THE IMPERIAL HOTEL ON WEDNESDAY 22<sup>ND</sup> OCTOBER 2008**

<b>Present:</b>	Andrew Petrie	Chairman
	Brian Crack	Vice-Chairman
	Max Bavin	Chief Tournament Director
	Sally Bugden	EBU Chairman
	Barry Capal	EBU General Manager
	Margaret Curtis	
	Paul Hackett	
	Mike Hill	EBU Treasurer
	Philip Mason	
	Alan Nelson	
	Addis Page	
	Peter Jordan	Secretary

**1. ELECTION OF COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN FOR THE YEAR 2008/9**

Mr Petrie was proposed for Chairman by Mr Crack and seconded by Mr Page. There being no other nominations for Chairman, Mr Petrie was duly elected.

**2. ELECTION OF COMMITTEE VICE-CHAIRMAN FOR THE YEAR 2008/9**

Mr Crack was proposed by Mr Petrie and seconded by Mr Mason. There being no other nominations, Mr Crack was duly elected.

**3. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** none.

**4. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING (29<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2008)**

**4.1 Accuracy**

One misspelt word was corrected and the minutes of the previous meeting were then passed as accurate.

**4.2 Matters arising**

4.2.1 Before discussion Mrs Bugden proposed a vote of thanks to the outgoing Chairman Alan Nelson for all his hard work on behalf of the Committee; this was seconded by Mr Petrie and Mr Nelson was thanked by all those present.

4.2.2 Following discussion it was agreed to leave any decision on fractional green point awards until after the trial of this facility at the Ranked Masters.

4.2.3 Mr Mason together with Mr Page offered to review the Master Point handbook with a view to having a revised addition ready for 2010.

4.2.4 Mr Petrie said that he wanted to survey the membership on the event programme and this would be used together with consultation with the Club Committee when planning the said programme for the future.

**5. TOURNAMENT REPORTS**

Mr Bavin gave a verbal report of tournaments, which included the 'Scorecard Rating System' from June through October.

- 5.1** Special mention was given to the Riviera Congress which was proving to be a success and Scarborough which continues to perform well.
- 5.2** Discussions on the Summer and Northern Seniors Congresses, the National Women's Teams and the Great Northern Pairs were deferred as they were separate agenda items as were other items relating to the Brighton Summer Meeting.
- 5.3** The news of the change of venue for the Autumn Congress from Bournemouth to Birmingham was apparently received without the objections that had occurred at Eastbourne. Mr Bavin was asked by the Committee to set the session times as his experience dictated.
- 5.4** The Secretary was asked to minute the fact that when the Autumn 2009 Congress date was set and a clash became apparent with the Malvern Congress, the Worcestershire Secretary was informed. The then Secretary Mr Mitchell was told that there was no problem as the Malvern date was only provisional and we were thanked for the information.

**6. REVIEW OF EVENTS**

- 6.1** It was noted that since the last meeting a decision had been made to continue the Summer Seniors at Eastbourne rather than move to Birmingham. The decision to finish the Northern Seniors was not changed.
- 6.2** A discussion followed on the future of the National Women's Teams with particular reference to an offer of support in the staging and running of the event from Sarah Teshome. Mr Petrie said that he would write to Sarah thanking her for her offer and that the Committee would like to explore her ideas further. It was decided that Mr Hackett & Mr Mason should liaise with Sarah on behalf of the committee and Aylesbury.
- 6.3** It was decided after a vote of 5 – 2 to keep the Great Northern Pairs in the calendar for at least one more year but to move away from Risley. Mr Bavin was asked to find an alternative venue. Mr Mason suggested the Cairn Hotel at Harrogate especially after the closure of the Northern Seniors Congress.

**7. 'BALANCED SCORECARD' RATING SYSTEM FOR TOURNAMENTS**

This had been used by Mr Bavin in his Tournament review and was welcomed by members as a useful aid to tournament performance.

**8. CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

It was agreed to institute the week number system for the events calendar to take effect from 2012.

**9. TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR ASSESSMENT**

Heather Dhondy had asked for help with the evaluation of TDs. It was felt that the best practical way to assist would be to make adjustments to the congress return form. Mr Petrie agreed to contact Heather and discuss this with her.

**10. CROCKFORDS PLATE**

A suggestion from Malcolm Pryor that the final rounds of the Crockfords Plate competition should be run concurrently with the Crockfords Final at the same venue was adopted. Aylesbury was asked to ensure that a play by calendar was in place so that this could be implemented for the 2009/10 competition.

**11. CONGRESS HOSTS**

Reports from Vicky Hirst (Scarborough) and Kevin Comrie (Brighton) were received and both were commended. It was unclear if Vicky has been fully briefed and the Secretary and

Mr Hackett said that they would ensure that future hosts were appointed in good time and fully briefed.

A general discussion followed regarding the Brighton Summer Meeting and Mr Nelson said that the event had improved in recent years despite continuing problems with the hotel, mainly air-conditioning and toilets. He thought that announcements regarding these problems should be made where possible to the players, thereby reducing the amount of complaints that TDs and EBU staff had to deal with. The Secretary said that there were proposals to revamp the Brighton Bulletin for next year and these would include more general news and information.

Dress code was also discussed and it was thought that the wording of 'tailored shorts' was correct and that it should be highlighted on the web-site

Also a proposal for 'hospitality', which was only partially implemented this year, would be prepared for the next meeting by Mr Nelson in consultation with the Secretary.

## **12. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

**12.1** Mr Nelson asked that Mr Bavin's reply to the perceived anomaly between full congress charges at the Summer Meeting be recorded.

The explanation from Mr Bavin pointed out that the Seniors received a 'proper', fully green pointed, competition to play in on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday afternoons whereas the vast majority of the rest of the players only have a non-green pointed open pairs to play in.

**12.2 Portland Pairs venues.** It was agreed in principle to introduce a new venue in South Oxfordshire to serve the central southern area. The long term venue was to be Steventon village hall but as this was not available until 2010; it was agreed to use Blewbury village hall for 2009. Mr Page said that he would finalise the details with Mr Bavin. Mr Page was thanked for his work in researching this venue.

It was also agreed to move the Manchester venue to Brierfield with effect from 2010. It was agreed that Mr Bavin would write to Brierfield to make arrangements with the new venue.

**12.3 Prize Vouchers.** Ian Mitchell was thanked for his paper and this was accepted as the way forward. At Mr Capal's request, Mr Petrie said that he would write a policy document for Aylesbury to implement; which would be with effect from the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2009.

**12.4 Master point promotion.** A paper from Mr Page was considered and it was agreed in principle that players achieving a promotion to a rank from Local Master through to Premier Master would receive an offer of 50% reduction to the Ranked Master's entry fee. This was also to be offered to a player on reaching the rank of Regional Master. The maximum numbers of offers a player could receive would be two (including the Regional promotion offer).

**12.5** A suggestion from Mr Crack regarding the awarding of Master Points at stages during the period of a knock out event was accepted. Mr Bavin said that he would consult with Aylesbury as to the feasibility of the implementation of the proposal.

**12.6** Mr Nelson asked if some clarification could be made as to the '2 year joint venture trial' and its success. Mr Bavin said that he would collate information on this for the next meeting.

**12.7** Mr Hill said that the Aylesbury office was 'storing' a number of trophies that came from Rixi Markus, and that as we were paying insurance on them would it be better to see if they could be allocated to EBU events where currently there was no trophy available. The Secretary said that he would bring details of the trophies and said events to the next meeting.

**12.8** The dates for the meetings in 2009 were set for:

Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> March, Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> June & Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> October.

The Secretary was asked to book McAlpines for the meetings.