**KENT CONTRACT BRIDGE ASSOCIATION**

**COMMITTEE**

Minutes of the meeting held at the Hilton Hotel, Maidstone, at 10 a.m. on Sunday 4th January 2015.

**Present**

Geoff Smith (Chairman)

David Anning

Keith Ashcroft

Sharon Bayne

Brian Crack

Colin Crouch

Paul Gibbons

Phil Jones

Mike Rafferty

Jeremy Willans

Malcolm Lewis (Secretary)

**ITEM 1 – APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Anita Asparo and Diane Rogers.

**ITEM 2 –MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

Page 3, line 4 was confirmed as correct. BC queried p3, l6 “Anyone …….final.” It was agreed that the wording should be “Anyone who wishes to qualify for the final of the Larsky Cup must be a primary member of Kent at the time of the heat.”

Subsequently, the minutes of the previous meeting held on Sunday 14th September 2014 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

**ITEM 3 – MATTERS ARISING**

Item 4b, p2. GS was very pleased that the EBU had upgraded the award applied for on behalf of Brian Crack to a Silver Award. It is highly merited.

Item 4d. GS now has directors for all Kent events for the year. A discussion about electronic entry for Kent competitions followed. DA said it was possible and MR agreed that a reference, Sort Code and Account Number would be supplied on future entry forms. Entry on line is already possible by email.

Item 4e. JR confirmed that the movement for the Metropolitan Cup will be changed.

Item 6 GS informed the Committee that the disciplinary matter was now closed with no further action by KCBA, though the actions of the individuals concerned and the way the club dealt with the matter were not up to the standard expected.

**ITEM 4 – REPORTS OF OFFICERS**

**a. Chairman**

GS dealt with Item 6. KCBA has frequently used Martin Lee as a supplier of equipment, but it was now known that he would be giving up his business later this year. There was a question of whether the Committee should sanction the purchase of some or all of his stock for its own use with the possibility of renting it out to other counties. It was agreed that there were areas where Kent needs some extra equipment but that storage and people to handle it would be a problem. After considerable discussion, a sub-committee comprising PG, JW and chaired by BC was appointed to make as rapid a decision as possible, knowing that a decision must be communicated to all the Committee for final agreement before the next scheduled Committee meeting.

**b. Secretary**

It was agreed that the County p2p rate would remain at 6p. There was one abstention in the vote.

ML reported that numbers had dropped to 2619.

**c. Treasurer**

DA reported that the current financial situation was very solid with income from P2P being on a par with previous years.

Stephen Pierce asked through MR if the entry fee for the Mitchell Salver should be £45 (half the Corbett Plate entry fee) not £60. It was agreed that £60 was the correct and reasonable amount.

**d. Competition Secretary**

MR introduced a written report showing that some numbers for competitions were slightly down on the previous year.

It was agreed that, with current numbers in the Mitchell Salver, it was right that there should be two up and two down between the Corbett Plate and the Mitchell Salver.

**e. County Captain**

JW was pleased that Kent had won its heat of the Tollemache Cup and that the team for the final in February was on the website.

He also confirmed that the Metropolitan Cup will be held at Leatherhead on Sunday, 11th October this year, thus avoiding a clash with the Crockfords Cup final.

**f. Archivist by Report**

PJ indicated that he and Gerald Soper were now collating information on previous Tollemache teams.

**g. Education Officer**

The letter that should have gone out to Clubs about payment Teacher Training had not gone. GS and ML agreed to ensure that it was sent. BC felt DR should be checking that Clubs should be clear what they expect of new teachers.

It was observed that TWBC make a small contribution to teachers who introduce new members to the club. This could be a way of ensuring teacher’s loyalty to clubs, KCBA and EBU.

**ITEM 5 – GREEN POINT EVENTS**

There had apparently been a mix-up over who should book the Maidstone Leisure Centre for GP events. This was now sorted out.

**ITEM 6 – EQUIPMENT**

This was dealt with under Item 4a

**ITEM 7 – DATES OF NEXT MEETINGS**

Sunday, June 14th 2015 and Sunday, September 13th 2015 at the Hilton Hotel were confirmed.

**ITEM 9 – ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 12.25 p.m.

J. M. Lewis (Secretary)