

**LEICESTERSHIRE CONTRACT BRIDGE ASSOCIATION**  
**MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING**

**Monday 11 May 2015 at 7.15 p.m.**

**Memorial Hall, Stamford Street, Glenfield LE3 8DL**

**Present:** Neil Beasley, Pat Beasley, Dean Benton, Henry Cooklin, Dave Pollard - chairman, Richard Smith, Brian Stockdale, Simon Stokes and John Thompson

The chairman informed the committee that Robert Northage has decided not to stand for re-election but is happy to carry on with his Laws and Ethics role and as organiser of the 2016 Green Point events.

- 1. Apologies for absence:** Irene Krantz, Robert Northage, Dick Pathan and Steve Wright
- 2. Minutes of the Executive committee Meeting of 5 March 2015:** were accepted as a true record of that meeting.
- 3. Matters arising from the above which are not on this agenda:** none
- 4. General Secretary's business:** Pat Beasley
  - a) The AGM agenda was agreed and will be published on the website and sent to clubs. Henry Cooklin told members that there will be a change of name to company authenticating the LCBA accounts due to mergers. The committee agreed to the change.
  - b) The nominations and vacancies for the Executive Officers and Committee were reviewed. Possible ways of encouraging more LCBA members to join the committee were discussed.
  - c) Notification of Prize winners and their invitations to attend the AGM - Neil Beasley reported that these are well in hand.
  - d) Guest of Honour – Pat reported that Phil Watts has accepted the Committee's invitation to fulfil this role. [A voucher will be purchased for him.](#)
  - e) Preparation of the room at Greenfields, Loughborough – [there are volunteers to help with this task](#)
  - f) Officers input to the Committee report – [to be sent to the chairman in good time please](#)
  - g) Trophy Engraving – all trophies are now either engraved or ready to be engraved
- 5. EBU Matters:** The EBU's new Youth Policy has been circulated to all clubs. Both the LCBA's EBU Shareholder delegates plan attending the meeting on 13th May. Robert Northage will not stand for re-election to the role for 2015/16.
- 6. Treasurer's business:** Henry Cooklin reported that the current balance is £10,315. There are outstanding commitments of around £800 with £2500 dedicated to Education projects. The cost of the small League team trophies have been written off leading to a loss for the year of approximately £600.
- 7. League Secretary's business:** Richard Smith reported on the outcome of the April League Forum. The League team captains are happy to adopt the League Management system that Richard had successfully set up for a trial just before the season ended.

After discussion, it was agreed that John Storer House should be encouraged to enter a second team into the League next season possibly in collaboration with the Kegworth players.

The League clubs were in favour of adopting an 8-7-7-7 structure for a 29 team entry and a 7-7-7-7 structure for a 28 team entry. This format was agreed by the committee.

Similarly, the committee agreed that the winners of Divisions 2, 3 and 4 should be ensured of promotion to Divisions 1, 2 and 3 respectively.

It was agreed that the League rules should state that the first free Wednesday should be included in the dates offered when a match has to be postponed.

The rule that requires an un-nominated player who has played 7 times for a higher team to become a barred player for that team will no longer apply.

The current nomination rules will still apply.

With the LMS, the Match Result Forms will become redundant.

Dean Benton would like to continue the discussion on the feasibility of an afternoon League.

The treasurer is happy for clubs to be offered direct payment to the LCBA Account for entry fees to events.

- 8. Tournament Secretary's business:** Neil Beasley had circulated the minutes of the TSC meeting. A survey indicated that Stanley players wished to retain the current number of heats.

Regretfully, no team was available to enter the Pachabo.

Robert Northage requests that someone should join him at the 2016 Green Point events with a view to taking over the organisation of the event in the future.

Thanks were expressed to Richard Rees for handling the Pairs League review so efficiently. The committee unanimously accepted the recommendations from the review group. A small committee will now run the event. Mike Ayers is happy to continue as organiser with Irene Krantz acting as the link with the committee. John Wilcox as TD will be the third committee member. John Thompson offered to update the event's scoring program. [Pat will now confirm the new dates for the event with the Rothley venue.](#) [Neil will pass the committee's thanks to Richard Rees and his committee who organised the survey.](#) [He will ask Richard to pass the committee's thanks on to those people who completed the questionnaire.](#)

- 9. Fixtures Secretary's business:** Dick Pathan sent in a report saying there was no specific business to report as all the County matches have been played and the results are on the website.

- 10. Education Secretary's business:** Simon Stokes had circulated a progress report prior to the meeting. [He is in the process of agreeing the dates for Paul Bowyer's four Seminars](#), two at the County Club and two at Greenfields. It is hoped to identify Leicestershire support for the 'Bridge in Schools and Universities project to be run at Loughborough University at the end of August. Simon was thanked for running both the Leicester Mercury Trophy and Yates Cup events both with good entry numbers. [He is now trying to organise an education sub-committee meeting before the AGM.](#)

- 11. Membership Secretary business:** Pat Beasley had circulated the 2014/15 membership totals prior to the meeting. Since April 1<sup>st</sup>, Howard Stevens has very sadly died. Obituaries for both Howard and Arthur Bowyer are now on the website.

- 12. Webmaster's business:** John Thompson reported that the website calendar is now almost up to date with several competition results now posted directly.

- 13. Mission Statement update:** Dave Pollard had circulated his thoughts aimed at starting discussion. It was agreed that there was not sufficient time to do such a discussion justice so it will be deferred to the first meeting of next season in September.

- 14. Dates of further meetings:**

Wednesday 10 June 2015 – LCBA AGM and the Presentation of Prizes at Greenfields, Loughborough followed by the Special Meeting to select sub-committees for 2015/16

Tuesday 8 September 2015 – Committee Meeting at Glenfield Memorial Hall

Thursday 3 December 2015 – Committee Meeting at Glenfield Memorial Hall

- 15. AOB** – there was none

Henry Cooklin expressed thanks on the committee's behalf to Dave Pollard for his two year's term as chairman.