

LEICESTERSHIRE CONTRACT BRIDGE ASSOCIATION MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Thursday 3 December 2015 at 7.15 p.m.
Glenfield Memorial Hall, Stamford Street, Glenfield LE3 8DL

Present: Dean Benton, Pat Beasley, Neil Beasley, Irene Krantz, Dick Pathan, Simon Stokes, Brian Stockdale, John Thompson and Steve Wright.

1. **Apologies for absence:** Henry Cooklin, Dave Pollard and Richard Smith.
2. **Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting of 7 September 2015** were agreed to be an accurate report of the meeting.
3. **Matters arising from the above not on this agenda:** none.
4. **EBU Matters:**
 - i) **Report of the EBU Shareholders Meeting held on 25 November 2015:** there were no additions to the report circulated by Richard Smith following the meeting.
 - ii) **Report of the Midland Counties Working Group held on 8 October 2015:** there was one addition to the notes circulated after the meeting by Darren Evetts of the EBU – Paul Hammond of Worcestershire has now taken over the responsibility for organising the Midlands Bridge League fixtures.
 - iii) **EBU Score availability:** the program is available to CBAs as well as affiliated clubs without charge.
5. **Review of the Leicestershire BCs Chairmen and Secretaries Forum:** A report of the event had been published before the meeting. Dean Benton thanked all the officers – particularly Pat Beasley – for their contributions to the event. A wide ranging discussion followed highlighting: the usefulness of the meeting – the case made for EBU/LCBA membership – the possibility of organised visits by committee members to clubs – the scope of the proposed LCBA Teams of Four League – the problem of the travel involved with league bridge.
6. **Treasurer's business:** see the report submitted by Henry Cooklin.
7. **General Secretary's business to include:**
 - a) **2016 LCBA Green Point events:** as this will be the last year that Robert Northage will act as the organiser for this event, it was agreed that [an advertisement for a new organiser should be placed on the LCBA website](#).
 - b) **Draft 2016/17 League programme:** the committee accepted the proposed League programme knowing that minor changes may be required from March 2017 when other dates are available.
 - c) **Paul Bowyer Seminars 2016:** [Simon Stokes agreed to contact Paul about seminars for 2016](#). Venues may then be booked.
 - d) **AGM venue 2017:** it was agreed that the [Rothley Centre will be booked for the 2017 AGM](#).
 - e) **LCBA Constitution update:** the constitution has now been amended as agreed at a previous AGM and will be placed on the LCBA website. [A further review will be undertaken by Dean Benton, Pat Beasley and Dave Pollard \(to be confirmed\)](#). The EBU will then be informed of the changes via the 'County Constitution Self Certification' form.

f) Communication with BCs: this item arises from a concern raised by Irene Krantz that not all clubs circulate information from the LCBA among their members – e.g. the proposed Teams of Four League. [It was agreed that individual LCBA committee members would try to remedy the situation where possible.](#)

- 8. Fixtures Secretary's business:** Dick Pathan reported that Leicestershire were part of a strong field in the Tollemache Qualifier event finishing 4th. Simon Stokes and Yasser Haider had performed particularly strongly. The Dawes Team are now in the lead in the MBL matches. The EBU's LMS is helping scoring the event. Issues with the award of Master points and the payment of the £30 fee are in hand.
- 9. League Secretary's business:** Brian Stockdale had circulated a report prior to the meeting. He reported that one problem faced was that team captains did not always know their password for accessing the LMS to record results. Just one postponed match is scheduled to be played after Christmas.
- 10. Tournaments Secretary's business:** Neil Beasley had submitted a report prior to the meeting. He explained that the LCBA had been fortunate to be given a discount on the purchase of the set of Bridgemates. This discount to CBAs has now been discontinued. However, despite this, a commission of 15% is being offered to the LCBA on orders from clubs up to the end of 2016. The commission will only apply to the Bridgemates and not to the supporting laptop or carrying case. [It was agreed to pass the commission on to the clubs.](#) Steve Wright was thanked for his sterling work demonstrating the LCBA's Bridgemates to so many clubs. He was urged to claim for his travelling expenses. Re the Leicestershire Cup, Simon Stokes enquired whether there was any way of organising the event to prevent less than half the field progressing to Round 2 when there was a need to have a triella in Round 1. Re the Pairs League, disappointment was expressed with the level of promotion for the event. [Irene Krantz agreed to contact Mike Ayers, the organiser for the event, about this.](#)
- 11. Education Liaison business:** Simon Stokes reported the success of the recent Teacher Training Seminar. 10 Leicestershire delegates attended some of whom had no previous teaching experience and some from unaffiliated clubs. [Simon plans to maintain links with the delegates and probably organise a second training event. He next plans to establish links with local schools.](#) A debate followed relating to the charging policy, the hire of premises, the payment of teachers and the equipment needed when setting up lessons.
- 12. Membership Secretary's business:** Pat Beasley reported the deaths of Jean Wightman and Bill Gray of the County BC. Two eligibility checks have been made. Some clubs have not entered the names of League match team members on to the LMS. [The League secretary offered to look into this matter.](#) No other problems remain.
- 13. Webmaster's Business:** Richard Smith had sent his report to the committee. With respect to his question about 'Competition entries', it was decided that it would be inadvisable to place lists of competition entrants on the website before an event was played from a data protection point of view.
- 14. Dates of further Meetings:** no problems were raised.
- 15. AOB:**
 - 1) John Thompson pointed out that, re Item 10, it would give an unfair advantage to persons playing in a triella if two of the three teams qualified regardless of their scores.
 - 2) The question of the purchase of Bridgemates by clubs rather than the cheaper alternatives was raised.

The meeting closed at 9.00 p.m.