

LEICESTERSHIRE CONTRACT BRIDGE ASSOCIATION MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

**Monday 5 December 2016 at 7.15 p.m.
Glenfield Memorial Hall, Stamford Street, Glenfield LE3 8DL**

Present: Neil Beasley, Pat Beasley, Dean Benton (chair). Henry Cooklin, Dick Pathan, Dave Pollard and Brian Stockdale.

- 1. Apologies for absence:** were received from Simon Stokes, John Thompson and Steve Wright.
- 2. Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting of 15 September 2016:** were unanimously approved.
- 3. Matters arising from the above not on this agenda:** none were raised.
- 4. EBU Matters: Report of the EBU Shareholders Meeting held on 23 November 2016:**
Dean Benton had attended the meeting and reported that nothing of significance to the LCBA had been raised. Brian Stockdale asked what the procedure is for the casting of the LCBA votes. It was pointed out that the agendas for EBU Shareholders meetings are usually sent out when no LCBA meeting is scheduled. The consensus was that the LCBA shareholders should contact the committee when advice is needed.
- 5. Treasurer's business:** Henry Cooklin had sent out his report prior to the meeting. Funds in hand are £7739. Henry reported that he had sent the 'missing' £40 prize money that did not reach its destination to Peter Helford. He remains concerned that such a situation should not recur. After discussion, it was agreed that, in future, prize monies will only be given to either the prize winner or his/her advanced nominated representative at an AGM.
- 6. General Secretary's business to include:** a) **Draft 2017/18 League programme:** the draft was unanimously approved following a discussion as to the practicality of possibly starting the second half of the programme on the 3rd rather than the 10th January 2018. It was also agreed that no other event should be scheduled for 3 Jan 2018 b) **Paul Bowyer Seminars 2017:** it was accepted that the General Secretary would not personally contact Paul Bowyer about any 2017 seminars at this stage.
- 7. Fixtures Secretary's business:** Dick Pathan expressed his disappointment with the current MBL results. Similarly, the county team's performance in the Tollemache trophy was disappointing as the team seemed to lack sufficient strength or depth. A discussion followed about the use of Bridgemates in the county matches following a problem when they were recently used. The committee confirmed that the LCBA had already contributed towards the costs of engraving the Dawes, Porter and Markham trophies. As this engraving has not yet been carried out a little extra may well be required.

- 8. League Secretary's business:** Brian Stockdale raised the problem of a recent League match where a pair failed to appear to play. Unfortunately, the new League rule developed specifically to cater for such a situation was not applied. This led to an adjustment to the score for the match by the League sub-committee. A response from the clubs involved is still awaited. Brian asked Pat to investigate the possibility of changing the date of the end of season League forum as it is now a date he is unable to fulfil.
- 9. Tournaments Secretary's business:** Neil Beasley had provided a report prior to the meeting. He further reported that 15 teams had entered the Josephs Bowl event. Neil was pleased that Andrew Billson had kindly agreed to direct the event so making it possible for both Robert Northage and John Wilcox to enter. The problem with recruiting sufficient TDs was raised in view of John Wilcox's proposed retirement from directing. Dave Pollard said he would be interested in becoming a qualified TD when he retires in the not too distant future. Dick Pathan expressed his disappointment with the ruling that more than four persons may not be used in any one Josephs Bowl match albeit six persons may be named for a team.
- 10. Education Liaison business:** in Simon Stokes absence none was raised. Simon is hoping to arrange a meeting for the Education sub-committee subject to his dealing with his current work pressure.
- 11. Membership Secretary's business:** Pat Beasley had provided a report prior the meeting which included the names of the 20 members who had joined the LCBA this season. Sadly the recent death of LCBA Life Member Tony Odams needed adding to the list of deaths. Simon Stokes will be preparing an obituary to Tony who had served on the committee for 22 years in total including service as chairman, treasurer and fixtures secretary.
- 12. AOB:** Pat Beasley voiced her concern at the current situation with the membership of the LCBA committee which currently including several persons with 20 years+ service who may want to retire in the not too distant future. She proposed that now may be the time to re-introduce the representation of every LCBA club on the committee. This was a part of the way the LCBA was originally set up and was only discontinued when the number of clubs grew. That situation has now changed. Currently only six of the nine EBU registered clubs, who enter LCBA events, are represented on the committee. The chairman proposed that the future of the committee should be formal item for discussion at the next committee meeting. This was agreed.

The meeting closed at 8.30 p.m.

Pat Beasley 12 Dec 2016