

LEICESTERSHIRE CONTRACT BRIDGE ASSOCIATION
MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Thursday 18 May 2017 at 7.15 p.m.

Memorial Hall, Stamford Street, Glenfield LE3 8DL

Present: Neil Beasley, Pat Beasley, Dean Benton – chairman, Henry Cooklin, Dick Pathan, Dave Pollard, Brian Stockdale, John Thompson and Steve Wright

- 1. Apologies for absence:** none received
- 2. Minutes of the Executive committee Meeting of 7 March 2017:** were unanimously accepted subject to the correction of Simon Stokes inaccurate surname.
- 3. Matters arising from the above which are not on this agenda:** none raised
- 4. EBU Matters:** Dean Benton and Richard Smith had attended the recent EBU Shareholders meeting. Two votes were taken regarding the power of proxy and the dispatch of nomination papers rules. As neither ruling directly affected the running of the LCBA, no voting preference was required from the committee. As Barry Capal will soon retire, Gordon Rainsford has been appointed as the EBU General Manager. Dean also reported that he had attended the recent Midland Counties Working Group meeting. There was general disquiet at the meeting and no minutes have yet been published.
- 5. Treasurer's business:** Henry Cooklin had circulated his final report for the 2016/17 season in advance of the meeting. At the AGM, the accounts will show a loss of around £900 for the year allowing for £602 depreciation on the LCBA's Bridgemates. It was agreed that there would no increase in subscriptions for 2018/19.
- 6. General Secretary's business:** Pat Beasley on two amendments to the 2017/18 calendar. The League Forum will now take place on Thursday 7 September and not on 31 August due to an availability problem. At the request of the County BC, the Students Mercury Cup event will take place on Tuesday 20 March 2018 which is much closer the completion of the teaching programme. Pat also reported on the outcome of her research into her proposal to request EBU registered LCBA clubs to nominate a representative to attend committee meetings. The LCBA constitution point 3.3 states 'the Executive Committee shall have the power to co-opt' persons to the committee. So the proposal does not require any constitutional change. After discussion, it was agreed that Dean will announce the proposal as part of the Committee's report at the AGM. The wording will be agreed between Dean and Pat.

Pat went on to report that the AGM Preparation is all in hand. There are nominations for all the officers except that of Vice chairman. Irene Krantz has accepted the invitation to be the Guest of Honour at the AGM. A book token will be purchased as a 'thank you' to her. The trophies are currently with the engravers.

- 7. Fixtures Secretary's business:** Dick Pathan again expressed his disappointment with the season's County Match results. The dates of next season's matches have now been confirmed. It was agreed not to increase the charges to players at home matches despite the rental increase at Greenfields. A question was raised regarding possible reasons for the season's results which could not be explained.
- 8. League Secretary's business:** Brian Stockdale reported that he has already been in discussion with John Wilcox who will take on his role next season. Dean thanked Brian for all his hard work whilst in office.
- 9. Tournament Secretary's business:** Neil Beasley had circulated a report detailing the final results of the season's events and other matters following the recent Tournaments sub-committee meeting. The changes to the money prizes for events were accepted. After discussion of the proposal for changes to the number of boards to be played in the semi-finals of Josephs Bowl Teams event, Neil agreed to circulate the idea among entrants to the event and ask for their views. It was agreed that the bidding cards at Greenfields will be replaced. Neil was asked to investigate a bulk purchase of the new Law Books for LCBA/club use. He was also asked to purchase a copy of the new Blue Book to be kept at Greenfields.
- 10. Education Secretary's business:** None received
- 11. Membership Secretary's business:** Pat Beasley explained that the EBU now provide statistics for just three player categories. The LCBA now has a total of 908 players – 847 Pay to Play members, 27 Direct Members and 34 Students members. There is to date 1 Dual member to add to the total above. Four further deaths were reported: Garry Duddle of several BCs, Bob Seymour of Loughborough BC, Phil Holdsworth of JSH and Ashby BCs and Mike Cockayne of Bradgate BC. Pat also raised the question of the charge to Dual LCBA members following a discussion with a LCBA member who told her that Warwickshire CBA have now dropped their Dual charge. It was agreed that the LCBA charge will also be dropped as there are so few Dual members of the Association. This will be reflected in the charges agreed for subscriptions for the 2018/19 season at the AGM.
- 12. AOB:** none raised
- 13. Date of the next meeting:** Wednesday 7 June at the Rothley Centre following the AGM

The meeting closed at 8.30 p.m.