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Minutes of the Committee Meeting held at 19.30 on Wednesday 19 June 2019 at

Paul and Val Mollison’s house – Tekoa Lodge, Mayes Lane, Sandon, Essex, CM2 7RW

**Present** Linda Fleet, Bernie Hunt**,** Pat Johnson, Paul Mollison, Val Mollison, Sue Thorburn

1. **Welcome** Paul Mollison welcomed those present. Apologies received from Petra Bromfield and Dennis Valtisiaris
2. **Minutes of the last meeting held on Wednesday 24 April 2019** These had been circulated prior to the meeting. It was agreed that the minutes were a correct record of the meeting. A copy was signed by the chairman.
3. **Matters arising from the minutes not already included in the agenda** Minute 7 A more precise statement of the qualification requirements for the Fletcher and Cornell has been produced and will be included on the website.
4. **Reports from Officers**
5. **General Secretary** (Sue Thorburn)

Nothing to report

1. **Treasurer** (Linda Fleet)

**Bank Balance** (at 15.06.2019)

£10,118- Barclays & Lloyds (Compared to £9,565 at 27/06/18)

£15,994 – Skipton

**Competitions** Championship Pairs entries were higher than 2018. The B Flight was cancelled again as no entries were received. As the top four pairs all decided to enter the Corwen Trophy the entry was £432. This and the prizes resulted in a deficit of £407 (not including the £300 subsidy). **Later** The EBU have refunded £112 as one pair withdrew.

The Mixed Teams made a profit; the Club pairs was very well attended but due to having to use the big room just broke even.

There are still some UM charges to come in from EBU. Charges have been estimated for this and for the First Class Bridge invoice for quarter ended 30/06/19

**UM** The amount of UM from each club for the three months April/June received by ECBA is £700 (£690- 2018) This increase on last year’s figures is despite 4 clubs disaffiliating at the end of the year. There are now 22 affiliated clubs. The four clubs who have disaffiliated are Ann Owen, Brentwood and District, Old House Friday and Rochford and Rayleigh.

**Electronic Banking** Online banking is working very well with Lloyds. There are three authorised signatories, Val, Sue and Linda. We still must pay in a cheque to transfer money from Barclays. During the eight months we have been operating Lloyds we have paid in a total of £9,500. Barclays will be asked to set up a Direct Debit to transfer £1,000 a month to Lloyds and if they won’t agree, then perhaps the request will be from Lloyds to Barclays.

Linda said it was not practical to run a single account.

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1. **Tournament Secretary** (Val Mollison)

**Events The** latest two Warboys sessions ran smoothly. For the last one, Cath Fox did the computer set up as a training exercise.

There were better turnouts for Mixed Teams and Club Pairs than last year which is encouraging

Richard Banbury is booked to direct the Mixed pairs this year. Cath Fox has been briefed on the computer scoring for the Margaret Curtis and Bernie knows the number of boards required. Alan Rodger is directing and will coordinate any significant changes to numbers. Even if there are more than 12 teams it will not be a Swiss event as Cath is too inexperienced.

Last year’s knockouts are complete. Entries are down for both events this year. 8 instead of 11 for Teams of 4 and 5 instead of 7 for Switch Cup. The competition descriptions covering the changes in the number of boards agreed at the last meeting will be updated.

**County matches** The software change including the flag regarding player line-up has been delivered but not yet fully tested.

**Directing and Scoring** Work on the Event Computer Guides.is on target.

Payment for Alan Rodger was discussed. In line with EBU recommendations it was agreed the payments would be:

Warboys £50

Daytime and Club Pairs £60

2 session events £100

These sums include travel and refreshment expenses. It was also agreed that, for a two session event, a scorer would be paid £60.

1. **League Secretary** (Bernie Hunt)

Preparation for the Premier League is almost complete with seven teams entering. It is still looking unlikely that there will be a West Division so there will probably be a single Essex league structure. There had been some interest in resurrecting the Friendly Fours. This may be satisfied by creating Division 3.

Teams should be encouraged to have completed their entry by end July so the leagues are finalised by mid-August.

1. **Webmaster** (Petra Bromfield)

No report as Petra was unable to attend the meeting.

1. **Shareholders**

Nothing to report. Keith Thompson‘s registration as a shareholder is complete

1. **Herts/Essex joint venture**. Entries are coming in very slowly. We have 43 Pairs and 19 Teams compared to 39 Pairs (6 from Essex) and 14 Teams (6 from Essex) at the same time last year. We look to be on target to match last years’s total of 98 tables so should achieve a similar profit to last year. The breakeven point is 80 tables.

Petra will be asked to promote the event in the same way Herts do.

1. **Catering at events** It was agreed at the AGM that there would be no food at the Daytime pairs. The restaurant at Barleylands will be asked to quote for catering at county matches.
2. **Contribution to equipment costs at Barleylands** Two tables have been bought.
3. **Cup for Clubs 2020**  It was agreed the Fletcher should be moved to Barleylands and the Cup for Clubs would take place on a different date, probably in November. Players would be eligible to play in both competitions providing they were not members of the A or B squads.
4. **Switch Cup** As long as there are 4 or more entries this will continue to be a knockout competition but if numbers drop further a on day “all play all” event may need to be considered.
5. **AGM** Both resolutions had been passed. There were a number of problems associated with the prize envelopes. Bernie offered to help ensure that everyone received the correct envelope. Cheques may be written for larger prizes
6. **AOB** No other business.

1. **Date of next meeting** The next meeting will be held at 7.30pm on Wednesday 30 October 2019 at Val and Paul’s home. Paul then closed the meeting. The committee would like to thank Val and Paul for their hospitality.



