

SCBA
MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE MEETING
Held on Thursday 20th July 2017

PRESENT:

Trevor Hobson (Chair); Tim Green; Jeffrey Allerton; Tim Warren; Douglas Wright; Gail Norman; Shirley Pritchard.

APOLOGIES: Mike Clements

IN ATTENDANCE: Brian Adlam; Amanda Dowding.

<p>Trevor welcomed Tim Green to his first meeting as the new President. He also welcomed Brian Adlam and Amanda Dowding who had accepted the Committee's open invitation to Surrey members to attend our meetings. Trevor updated the meeting on the health of Richard who has now resigned from the committee due to ill health.</p> <p>1. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING These were agreed.</p> <p>2. MATTERS ARISING Under Item 3 there had been comments from 2 previous committee members about the comment that "the calculation of the Victor Ludorum requires a large amount of manual input" It was pointed out that a feature of the previous website was that this was automatic. Trevor would have a meeting with Ian at which he would ascertain how much extra time is involved in this calculation. [Post meeting note: Trevor Ian and Victoria (Trevor's youngest daughter) had a useful meeting at which Ian described his approach to the Victor Ludorum calculations following which Victoria created a spreadsheet which will require little manual effort to maintain. This spreadsheet together with another spreadsheet created by her to keep our members database in line with that of the EBU are now available on the shared data drive complete with full instructions] The EBU Laws and Ethics committee at their meeting on 1st Feb responded to Jeffrey's comments on the reporting of psyches as follows "The secretary had received an e-mail from Mr J Allerton, on behalf of Surrey County, regarding the recording of psyches at club level. He suggested that, since there were many players that played at multiple clubs, it was in the interests of the clubs that psyches should be recorded centrally (i.e. by the EBU), so that any frequent psyching at different clubs could be tracked. The committee observed that although most TD reports came from EBU events, clubs and counties should be welcome to submit such reports to the EBU, which would then be put on file. However, we shouldn't actively encourage clubs to do so."</p> <p>3. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT Trevor reported that most of his time recently has been taken up with documenting the Surrey website. [Post meeting note: this documentation is now complete; it has been sent to all Committee members and is also available on the shared data drive. Edits and corrections should be sent to Trevor].</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">ACTION</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Trevor</p>
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Issues with the database had also occurred where members with duplicated names and anonymous members had caused complications. This has been raised with Gwynne Hughes at Bridgewebs.

He reported from the EBU Chairmen's meeting and highlighted some initiatives from other counties notably a development committee in Yorkshire, and training courses run by Gloucestershire.

Some counties also have Facebook accounts.

Counties required volunteers to carry out these and other tasks, and he felt that visiting clubs and approaching people was a more productive way of achieving this than blanket emails to chairmen which produced almost no response and he asked each committee member to be on the lookout in the clubs they visit for people with energy and new ideas that might be able to help us with our work.

Douglas said that the County was in the forefront of youth development especially in Dorking/Farnham/Horsham/Wimbledon and Caterham. He mentioned the new Fast Track teaching programme being rolled out by EBED and suggested clubs could take advantage of this. He said Caterham were already doing so, and Wimbledon had plans to as well.

He suggested the county follow this up with smaller clubs.

All

Douglas

4. COMPETITIONS SUB-COMMITTEE

AGM

The AGM pairs attendance of 8 tables was the lowest recorded. Requests had been made for a Swiss Pairs at the AGM, and it was agreed that next year's AGM will be a mini Swiss of 36 boards (6x6 board matches) assuming that a director could be found. An earlier date than the beginning of July was thought to be a good idea, and Jeffrey said clashing with the Pachabo if necessary shouldn't be a problem. Shirley will ask Mike for the earliest date on which the audited accounts could be ready, and also investigate availability of the hall.

Competitions workload

Shirley complained that without more significant help either from volunteers or paid assistants, she would be unable to continue with the running of competitions. Attendance at every event was proving too onerous.

Jeffrey asked for a tick list of jobs to be provided so that other people were able to take the role on. Shirley said she would create one.

Douglas offered to make up the boards from September, but it was noted that this would cost the county more due to commercial rates for photocopying.

Shirley

Shirley

5. TREASURER'S REPORT

The financial statements circulated by Mike prior to the meeting were considered. Since it was early in the financial year no immediate concerns were identified.

6. MATCHES REPORT

Jeffrey reported that the Met Cup team captains had been chosen: Peter Lee had chosen the A Team; Gerard Thompson was making good progress in organising the B Team; and Tony Richards was arranging the C Team(s). Tony was still looking for additional pairs.

A question was raised regarding whether the County should organise training for players representing the County. Jeffrey reminded the Committee that Douglas had organised District Training a few years ago, but these sessions might not have been attended by the

<p>intended target audience. Jeffrey said that he would put this on the agenda for the next Matches Sub Committee meeting. If this idea were considered to be worthwhile, he would then liaise with Douglas to propose a training concept for players suitable to be chosen for the C team. They would come up with a proposal to embrace teacher's costs and the impact of full/part funding by the County. There would be no overlaps with existing courses.</p> <p>Jeffrey said that according to the rotation policy of selectors (4 years then 2 years before they can return), Graham Osborne's 4 years are now up. The Committee accepted the Matches Sub Committee's recommendation for Frances Hinden to join in his place.</p>	Douglas/Jeffrey
<p>7. YOUTH BRIDGE</p> <p>Tim Warren said that in addition to the schools mentioned in his report, Claremont Fancourt school would have bridge on the curriculum from next term.</p> <p>44 people turned up to the Train the Trainer sessions which was very well received. Follow up activities should be tracked to determine if this will result in a long term benefit.</p> <p>Trevor mentioned that Nicky Bainbridge from Northants was doing excellent work on teaching which had been highlighted at the Chairman's meeting, and it might be useful for Tim to get in contact with her.</p>	Tim W
<p>8. COMMUNICATIONS SUB COMMITTEE</p> <p>Douglas reported that a newsletter would be distributed in the first week of September and said that the website is now up to date with forward non county events.</p> <p>Douglas expressed concern at the low numbers currently signed up for the Green Point event; Jeffrey said yet again this year the Premier League clashed with the GP. He suggested this was something the EBU Shareholders could raise at the AGM?</p>	Shareholders
<p>9. VICTOR LUDORUM</p> <p>A spreadsheet has been produced by Ian, and Trevor will ascertain how much work is involved in updating it. [See post-meeting note above]. The qualifying events which must be open to all will be highlighted on the website, and its existence should be highlighted more. The committee were undecided about how much the VL encourages players to enter competitions. A final decision as to its future will be taken at the next meeting.</p>	Trevor
<p>10. EBU SHAREHOLDERS.</p> <p>Trevor reported that Richard said he would be happy to remain as a shareholder and would read the papers and comment as necessary. He would be unable to attend meetings.</p> <p>Douglas will take Charles share.</p> <p>Gail will inform the EBU.</p>	Gail
<p>11. UNDERSTUDIES</p> <p>Trevor said that every committee members should produce a hand over document to cover the "under a bus" scenario with jobs listed in detail. He said this had borne fruit when he had to take over the organisation of this year's Green Point event from Richard.</p>	All

12. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- Comments on the EBU website regarding changes to the laws on Data protection were noted: "General Data Protection Regulation that comes into force in May of next year is likely to require the EBU to contact members to ask them to agree to specific uses of the data we hold about them. Clubs and counties will also need to comply with this legislation."
- It was suggested that clubs could nominate directors who would be suitable for the county course. This could be a subject at this year's Chairman's lunch. Tim G had requested a list of current county directors from the EBU, but it is out of date as the EBU do not update it when directors retire.
- Tim W mentioned the holiday activities running for children at the Bourne, Wimbledon and Richmond. He suggested they should be mentioned on the website.
- There is an EBU club teacher training course beginning in August.
- Douglas mentioned including non affiliated clubs in county Sims - he will write to the EBU asking how this can be facilitated.
- In future our competition pages will include the following statement "Both members of a pair must have identically completed convention cards. Failure to do so may mean that a penalty is imposed. In the event of a dispute, if a partnership's convention cards contain inaccuracies, lack relevant information, fail to disclose explicit or implicit understandings, disagree materially with each other or disagree materially with any explanations given, TDs and Appeals Committees will give the benefit of doubt to the opponents. In potential misinformation cases, such shortcomings will prejudice any claim that it was the call rather than the explanation which was mistaken".

Trevor/Tim G

Tim W

Douglas

Trevor

NEXT MEETING - Wednesday 18th October at 7.30 p.m.