

**CHELMSFORD BRIDGE CLUB  
COMMITTEE MEETING**

*30<sup>th</sup> September 2020 7-00pm via Microsoft Teams*

**MINUTES**

**Present**

Valdie Poter (Chair), Denis Anderson, Ted Cockle, Cath Fox, Daphne Hunt, Julie Payne, Colin Peden

**1. Apologies**

None

**2. Previous minutes to be agreed**

Minutes agreed. Proposed by Colin. Seconded by Daphne.

**3. Matters arising**

The David Wing charity event had been proposed for Monday 12<sup>th</sup> October. However the format of the event remains uncertain. This was discussed further under agenda item 6.

**4. Membership**

**a. Maintenance of Records**

Due to the transition between face-to-face and online bridge, membership records are split between paper-based records (now held by Valdie), and online records on BridgeWebs (BW).

Also, there are some previous face-to-face members who have not played online, but who may wish to retain their club membership in anticipation of face-to-face sessions recommencing. For these members, Cath suggested a category of “sleeping member” with membership fee waived, which would enable them to stay informed about club activities.

Julie and Colin agreed to review the membership list in BW and update it to reflect the current status (Member/Visitor).

Julie agreed to contact potential “sleeping members” to ask if they wished to remain club members.

Colin agreed to consolidate the membership records on BW.

Daphne asked whether it was worth maintaining the cross-reference list of members names to BBO names which is currently on the website. This was generally agreed to be useful, and is also common practice at other clubs, so will be maintained.

The arranged pairing sessions on Thursdays are not currently advertised on the website. It was suggested, and generally agreed, that this would be a good idea.

**b. Responsibilities for GDPR (accuracy and communication)**

Several aspects about GDPR were discussed. For example, is there a need for an annual renewal of the agreement from members, what records do we need to keep, is our process in line with EBU advice? Daphne agreed to check the advice currently provided by the EBU.

**c. Zoho Housekeeping**

Daphne appealed for help with housekeeping of the Zoho email account, in particular the deletion of emails once they had been actioned, provided they were not required to be kept as records, in which case they should be filed in an appropriate folder.

**5. Support for members' partnership requests**

When Denis is unavailable on Mondays, Daphne and Julie cover partnership requests. Julie alone similarly covers Thursdays. Denis stated that he would be able to check the Zoho account more frequently in future, so this level of cover should be sufficient.

**6. Policy for Charity Requests/Donations/Fund Raising**

Three requests for support have been received from members to date.

- Fund raising for a bowls club (Jeff Jones)
- Fund raising for Broomfield Hospital (Denis Anderson)
- Macmillan Cancer Support (Maureen Hodge)

More requests are anticipated, and it had been previously suggested that we should develop a policy on how to handle such requests.

Following discussion there was no consensus or agreement on a policy or the development of one. However, several specific points emerged.

- We could ask requesters to compose an advertisement with contact details that we could post on the website for a limited time.
- We could hold specific events with an entry fee payable direct to the club (in addition to the normal BBO event fee) and which would then be passed on to the requester. (It was noted that as these monies would be passed through the club accounts, contributions could not be considered for Gift Aid irrespective of their original source).
- There was discussion about whether we could distribute details of the request to members via email.

The club had already been planning to hold an open (David Wing) charity event on 12<sup>th</sup> October. It was decided to postpone this until Monday 19<sup>th</sup> October starting at 7-30pm.

The dominant view was that this event should be Swiss Pairs run along the lines of the second point above, with the entry fee proceeds entirely in support of Broomfield Hospital. The additional entry fee was not agreed.

Denis agreed to provide details of the event to Colin and Cath by email.

Colin agreed to forward Denis' email to club members.

Cath offered to forward Denis' email to her external contacts.

## **7. Events / Sessions**

### **a. Review of existing calendar**

No specific issues raised.

Ted will update the calendar to reflect current plans.

### **b. Teams events – using BBO or otherwise**

Ted reported that the setup of Swiss teams events on BBO is somewhat convoluted, involving old versions of BBO software. Cath has some instructions for doing this, which she will distribute to the committee.

Due to the unsatisfactory teams support on BBO, the teams event (Peter Castle Cup) will now be replaced by a Butler Pairs event starting on the first Monday in November (2<sup>nd</sup>).

Denis suggested, and it was generally accepted, that running a pilot teams event to evaluate the process would be useful before committing to holding a teams competition.

### **c. Sessions for inexperienced players**

Ted offered to set up some supervised sessions, lasting a couple of hours, for less experienced players. Valdie believes that there are many members who are eager to improve. It was generally accepted that setting up these sessions is a good idea.

### **d. RealBridge options**

It was agreed that we should continue with the RealBridge taster sessions on Tuesday evenings at least until the software is released (expected towards the end of October 2020).

Following release, we will be charged by RealBridge. It is understood that the rates will be as follows:

30p (+VAT) per person for up to 20 boards

40p (+VAT) per person for 21 to 32 boards

70p (+VAT) per person for all-day access

(The EBU UMS fee of ~50p pp would need to be added if we decide to submit the results to the EBU).

It was suggested that we should start to charge for the taster sessions prior to the software release, but after discussion, agreed that the taster sessions should remain free of charge to members. The fee to charge following release was

discussed without consensus. We will need to agree on the fee prior to the release.

**8. Other online software experiences / options – e.g. StepBridge**

Some of the committee had tried StepBridge. It was considered to be inferior to current options. No other experiences.

**9. A.O.B.**

- a. Cath asked whether CBC could be set up as a charitable or non-profit organisation, which could bring financial benefits when raising funds, and also potentially reduced fees from EBU and BBO. Julie has some experience of this in another organisation. All committee members will investigate, and report back to the next meeting.
- b. Denis asked what should be done about the competition trophies. For example, in future are they going to be engraved, or a certificate presented instead? The idea of holding the trophies centrally, and awarding certificates met with general approval.
- c. Valdie mentioned that discussion between committee members on multiple subjects by email is not very efficient. Daphne suggested we try using WhatsApp and will set up an initial group for the committee to use.

**10. Date of next meeting**

Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> November 2020 @ 7-15pm