



MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE EBU LAWS & ETHICS COMMITTEE HELD VIA ZOOM ON MONDAY 19TH JULY 2021

Present:	Heather Dhondy (HD) Chairman & Elected Member
	Robin Barker (RB) Deputy Chief TD
	Sarah Bell (SB) Elected Member
	David Burn (DB) Elected Member
	Gillian Fawcett (GF) EBU Vice Chairman
	Frances Hinden (FH) Vice Chairman & Elected Member
	Ian Payn EBU Chairman
	Gordon Rainsford (GR) EBU Chief Executive
	Tim Rees (TR) Elected Member
	Alan Wilson (AW) Elected Member
	Nick Doe (ND) Secretary
	Jeremy Dhondy (JD) Deputy Secretary
	Heather Sanderson (HS) New Secretary

1 **Apologies for Absence** None

2

2.1/2 **Minutes of the previous meeting and accuracy**

The minutes of the meeting of April 8th 2021 were approved and signed. There were no points of accuracy.

2.3 **Matters arising**

Some contacts had been established by HD and SB to assist with statistical work.

Chris Chambers had been approached and agreed to help with a program which would ensure that BBO hands were not lost after a period of time. This will go back for 13 months of data.

DB suggested we needed an improved procedure for capturing hands such as a database which both adds new people and updates data for those previously added.

At present data from RealBridge was harder to come by. Thus far no cases have arisen from RealBridge.

The Prosecution manual was distributed to members of the PP in May. Some possibilities for updates were discussed. JD will look at a V2.

3 Appeals to the National Authority: None

4 Disciplinary Matters

4.1 There was a discussion about recently concluded cases and lessons to be learnt from them.

There should be good reasons why late submission of evidence should be allowed. There is normally a 2 week deadline for both sides to ensure evidence can be properly studied. It helps if agreement can be reached not only by statisticians but also with regard to the hands to be used, in advance.

4.2 Live Cases

The progress of cases currently under consideration was discussed.

4.3 Cases where a charge was to be brought were discussed

4.4 Other concluded matters where the defendant was charged.

A report was made on these cases.

4.5 Cases not proceeded with

There were some cases which did not move forward after an OEIG investigation.

5 Disciplinary Procedures

5.1 Disciplinary Panel documents

- We need to improve what we send to defendants. There is a revised and updated Disciplinary Procedures Manual which will replace the existing version. It will be sent out on request.
- If there are disputes about the admissibility of data any challenge needs to be made before the case.
- Someone from the OEIG might appear at cases if appropriate.
- If there are experts used in hearings then there should be the ability to cross examine them

5.2 Prosecution Manual (This item was also discussed in matters arising)

It was thought a good idea to add a section covering

- Whether to prosecute or not?
- How to evaluate the strength of evidence
- Has all evidence needed been collected?
- Should we go ahead?

5.3 Extent to which documents should be in the public domain

Partly discussed in 5.1. The meeting felt that defendants had the right to see documents that pertained to their case whether as evidence or procedure but putting documents on the website encouraged people to seek to pick holes. Documents would be available on request to anyone who had a reasonable need which included all defendants and their representatives. Some documents may be summarised on the website.

5.4 Policy on Confidentiality

All cases should remain confidential to the people who need to know. New committee members would be reminded of this when first starting. Case names are used to avoid revealing who defendants are.

5.5 Other issues

No comments

6. Technical Matters

6.1 White Book

Changes for 2021 were agreed. RB would send the updated version to HS for the website.

6.2 Blue Book

Some minor changes only for 2021 but a discussion needed on

- More substantial changes for 2022
- Any changes to the announcing regulations for 2022
- Any merger of Blue Book and Sky Blue Book
- Disclosure regulations. Should these be changed?

The Autumn meeting was the place for this discussion to start.

7. Applications for new permitted methods None this time

8. Reports from Tournament Directors Deferred

9. AOB

There was discussion about co-opting or appointing for the vacancy. If this was done for the remainder of this year up to the AGM then the Board needed give their approval to any appointment (the difference being regarding voting rights). Even if this was not done it might be a good idea to consider possible candidates to stand. GR mentioned one possible candidate who might be approached.

The Chairman offered her gratitude to Nick Doe whose last meeting this was. This was echoed by the whole committee. The new secretary (Heather Sanderson) was welcomed.

10. Date of next meeting

To be decided. Probably F2F at YCBC. JD to canvas possible dates in the 2nd half or October.

The meeting closed at 5.10pm.