

LEICESTERSHIRE CONTRACT BRIDGE ASSOCIATION

MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Monday 7 September 2015 at 7.15 p.m.

Glenfield Memorial Hall, Stamford Street, Glenfield, Leicester LE3 8DL

Present: Neil Beasley, Pat Beasley, Dean Benton - Chairman, Henry Cooklin, Irene Krantz, Dick Pathan, Dave Pollard, Richard Smith, Simon Stokes and John Thompson

1. **Apologies for absence:** Brian Stockdale
2. **Minutes of the Executive Committee meeting of 11 May 2015:** these minutes were accepted unanimously – proposed by Neil Beasley and seconded by Henry Cooklin.
3. **Matters arising from the above meeting not covered elsewhere on this agenda:** none.
4. **Minutes of the Special Executive Committee meeting of 10 June 2015:** these minutes were accepted unanimously – proposed by Neil Beasley and seconded by Henry Cooklin.
5. **Confirmation of the LCBA sub committees as detailed on the above and any other arising matters:** the sub committees were confirmed. No arising matters.
6. **Minutes of the AGM held on 10 June 2015:** were accepted by the committee.
7. **Matters arising from the AGM not covered elsewhere on this agenda:** the subject of the outstanding updating of the LCBA constitution was raised. Pat Beasley reported that [Robert Northage had stated that he would carry out the required update agreed.](#)
8. **EBU matters to include:** a) Shareholder and County Chairmen's meeting expenses claims: the letter from the EBU outlining the details of the reimbursement of the expenses of one of the persons attending was reported. b) An updated version of the League Management system has now been released.
9. **Proposal to set up a 'Chairpersons of local clubs' meeting:** Dean Benton outlined his plan which arises out of his concern about the fall of the number of teams participating in the LCBA League. He suggests that the chairmen/secretaries of every club be invited to a forum to discuss the problem on Friday 30th October between 10.30 a.m. and 12.30 p.m. to be held at Rothley. [Pat Beasley agreed to help with the arrangements for the Forum – refreshments to be provided by the LCBA.](#)
10. **Treasurer's business:** Henry Cooklin reported that the balance is now at £5626 largely due to the purchase of the full set of Bridgemates at £3022. Nottinghamshire CBA had sent £296 from their Green Point event. The Bridgemates will shortly be fully insured.
11. **General secretary's business to include:** a) possible Dimmie Fleming awards – see attached paper: this matter was left until a later meeting as the deadline for 2015 recommendations for the award had passed. b) invitation from Derbyshire to enter the Midland Counties Clubs event: following a change of format for this event, Brian Stockdale had contacted the top league clubs with the aim of raising 4 teams of 4 for a match on Thursday 10th September at Spondon. No entries were received. c) 2017 Green Point events booking: the Saturdays for the March and June events in 2017 have now been booked. Both will be Pairs events with Bedfordshire running Teams events on the Sundays. There is an agreement that both counties will advertise each other's events.
12. **Fixture secretary's business:** Dick Pathan explained that he had very little business to report as the first County matches are now scheduled for Sunday 13th September. The LMS will be used for scoring. The LCBA will need to pay its share of the cost of engraving the Dawes trophies.

13. League secretary's business: Brian Stockdale had sent his report to the secretary. Dean Benton told the committee about the proposal for a teams of 4 league sent by Lucy Pathan for discussion at the recent League Forum. This suggestion seemed to override Dean's original proposal for an afternoon League. The Forum members requested that the LCBA put forward a plan for such a teams of 4 league. [Brian and Neil have agreed to do the research with the Tournaments subcommittee.](#)

It was pointed out that the requirement that the ruling re non barred persons becoming barred from playing for a lower club team because they had played for the higher team no longer applied. The committee was asked to approve that, despite the use of the LMS, all home team captains should continue to manually record match results and have them signed by the opposing team captain as has always been the case. This would act as a self-monitoring system. Acceptance of the request was proposed by Neil Beasley, seconded by Richard Smith and approved unanimously.

14. Tournaments secretary's business: Neil Beasley had circulated his report prior to the meeting. Neil asked the committee if, in view of the use of Bridgemates, competition results should go straight onto the website before checking. Simon pointed out that mistakes can be made when using Bridgemates. Such errors would be more quickly spotted if the results are quickly published. This course of action was agreed. Neil reported that the LCBA Honours boards are being updated and put onto the website. He reminded the committee that Robert Northage will be running the LCBA Green Point events for the final time in 2016. A volunteer for the role is needed hopefully in time to work alongside Robert.

15. Education Liaison business: Simon Stokes apologised for not producing a report for the committee. Attendance at the Paul Bowyer seminars was 37/43/36 for the first 3 seminars with one left to go. Simon had attended the EBU's Junior Teach-in held in Loughborough. The youngest entrants were 8 years old. Simon Barb (EBU) had described the proposed awards system envisaged for young learners and had announced that a club teachers training session will be held at the County BC on 28/29 November 2015 for around 12/15 persons at a cost of £106. Simon Stokes asked the committee if the LCBA would consider paying some of these costs. It was agreed to support a maximum of 10 persons bearing in mind that the EBU offered 1 free place per EBU affiliated club. Some concern was raised that the persons involved do actually set up teaching sessions once trained. Simon was pleased to have established new contacts with other counties involved with teaching bridge in schools.

16. Membership secretary's business – Pat Beasley had circulated the current membership figures prior to the meeting. The death of Barry Knight was added to the report.

17. Webmaster's business: Richard Smith had circulated a report of his work with the LCBA website prior to the meeting. A discussion ensued. Richard asked permission to publish club events and news on the club page of the website. This was agreed. Richard also told the committee that Ben Norton was in the process of writing a commentary as a member of the under 21 European Youth team. He planned publishing the report on the website. Richard further asked whether it was now the time to design a new LCBA logo.

18. Dates of further meetings Thursday 3 December 2015, Monday 7 or 14 March 2016 Tuesday 10 May 2016 - venue for last 2 to be booked.

19. AOB: None

The meeting closed at 8.45 p.m.

Pat Beasley

11/09/2015