

LEICESTERSHIRE CONTRACT BRIDGE ASSOCIATION MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Monday 11 March 2019 at 7.15 p.m.
Memorial Hall, Stamford Street, Glenfield LE3 8DL

Present: Neil Beasley, Pat Beasley, Dean Benton, David Betterley, Dick Pathan, Dave Pollard – Chairman, Richard Rees and John Thompson.

1. **Apologies for Absence:** were received from Henry Cooklin, Simon Stokes, John Wilcox and Steve Wright.
2. **Minutes of the Committee Meeting of 29 November 2018:** were unanimously approved and signed by the Chairman as a true record of the meeting.
3. **Matters arising from the above not on this agenda:** none were raised.
4. **EBU matters:** Dave Pollard reported that the EBU have taken the decision to hold just one Shareholders meeting annually in future. This meeting will be the EBU AGM. Instead there will be an extra County Chairman's meeting which will be held in May in 2019.
5. **Report of the recent Midlands Working Party group meeting:** No new items were raised at this meeting. Efforts are being concentrated on identifying successful ways of helping the recruitment of new EBU members.
6. **Chairman's visit to the County BC's new venue:** Dave Pollard and Dick Pathan had met with Ian Walkerdine at St Oswalds – the new County BC venue. Dick estimated that the area identified as suitable for hosting the home MBL matches was over 1000 square feet in size. This is a similar size to that of the area currently used at the Greenfields Sports and Social Club. The charge for hiring the room was not discussed. The LCBA also own the 12 tables with bidding boxes and cloths bought for £800, and also currently stored at Greenfields. New modern bidding cards were recently purchased for the boxes at a cost of £200. This kit cannot remain at Greenfields if the venue is not to be hired in the future, and, after 7 years use, does not have any great value. Dick had also established that, if required, Karen Kinach is happy to continue providing teas for the MBL home matches. It was agreed that the way forward is for Dave Pollard and Richard Rees to arrange a further meeting with the County BC to find out what the proposed charge for hiring the premises for MBL matches and other events is to be. Robert Northage has already made arrangements to hold the June Green point event at the premises.
7. **Treasurer's business:** Henry Cooklin had circulated his report prior to the meeting. The current balance is £8621 including most of the £2500 allocated to education.
8. **General Secretary's business:**
 - a) **Proposed 2019/20 Calendar:** Pat Beasley reported that the LCBA events have been scheduled in a similar pattern to those for the current season. The Rothley venue has been booked provisionally for events due to be played there. The Glenfield club is aware of the dates proposed for the 7 Stanley trophy heats. It was agreed not to include any venue for the events previously scheduled to be played at Greenfields at this stage. Pat was asked to contact Paul Bowyer re his Lectures although it is believed that he feels they should probably not take place this summer.
 - b) **2019 AGM preparation: Guest of Honour:** After discussion, it was agreed to contact Robert Missenden as a representative of the Ashby BC to find out if he would be kind enough to take on the role.

Prospective vacancies 2019/20: are for a Chairman, a Vice-chairman, a Treasurer and a General Secretary. Richard Smith and John Wilcox are both happy to continue with their roles as Webmaster and League Secretary respectively. Dean Benton very kindly agreed to take on the role of Chairman for the 2019-21 period. Dave Pollard is prepared to take on the role of General Secretary and Richard Rees that of Treasurer.

Officer's input to the Committee's report: Dave requested that all reports be sent to him in good time

Life membership proposals: no one suggested

Trophies: will be collected as usual. The plinth for the Wilde Cup is currently being replaced after accidental breakage.

9. **Fixture Secretary's business:** Dick Pathan reported that, currently, the 1st team are in 1st position with 98 VPs. Gloucestershire have 96 VPs so everything depends on the last match results. The 2nd team are 5th and the 3rd are 6th=. Dick has also decided that Leicestershire will not enter this year's Presidents Cup, which is being held in Yorkshire, due to the travelling distance.
10. **League Secretary's business:** John Wilcox had circulated his report prior to the meeting. No major problems have been encountered. He has now received replies from most clubs re the Grantham BC's request to move their home match venue to their home club.
11. **Tournaments Secretary's business:** Neil Beasley had circulated his report prior to the meeting. He further commented that the new format for the Josephs Bowl event seems to be successful. Alan and Linda Lord, Brian and Sheila Stockdale have now accepted invitations to represent Leicestershire in the Midland Counties Fitch event.
12. **Education Liaison business:** Simon had circulated a report prior to the meeting and Dave Pollard had circulated notes of the subcommittee meeting held on 9th February. At that meeting Paul Bowyer presented the teaching materials he has written for Somerset CBA. Further resources are available on VUBridge. Another meeting is planned for 16th March. Dean Benton expressed his disappointment that the LCBA had not yet organised its own Teacher Training course. As a result, EBED have organised one at Spondon which two Ashby BC people will attend and another County BC member is going to a course in Solihull. Dean proposed that some of the Education budget should be used to reimburse these people with the fee for the course. One person pays £140 with the second person free on this occasion. Neil seconded this proposal which unanimously agreed. A query was raised as to the cost of running a Fast Forward Weekend in September.
13. **Membership Secretary's business:** Pat Beasley reported the new subscription rates for the 2019/20 season. The EBU have increased the P2P rate by 1p and the Direct subscription by £1. The LCBA rates are unchanged. Pat further reported the deaths of Basil Lilley formerly of Thurnby BC and the Goodwood League team and Anne Kind of the County BC
14. **AOB:** John Wilcox had asked the committee's opinion re the possible use of the BBO robots designed to avoid a 'sit out' where there are an uneven number of pairs at an event. After discussion the view was that they were not appropriate at this stage.

The meeting closed at 8.55 p.m.

Date of next meeting - Tuesday 21 May 2019