

## MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE LCBA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF 27 JANUARY 2022 ON ZOOM

1. Present: Dean Benton (chair), Dave Pollard (minutes), Richard Rees, Anne Wright, Steve Wright, Anthea Byrne, Charles Gurr, Dick Pathan, Bill Barclay.
2. Apologies: John Wilcox.
3. Minutes of the meeting of 29 November 2021 accepted as accurate. There were no matters arising.
4. Dean Benton reported that meetings are held monthly with broad support from counties. Consideration is being given to the Midlands Counties League 2022-3.
5. Treasurer's business. Richard Rees reported that we have £11195 in the bank, up £1000 from the beginning of the financial year. This is because expenditure is very low in the absence of face to face bridge.
6. General Secretary's business. Dave Pollard referred to his report of the EBU AGM and he and Dean discussed a very long meeting, much of which was taken up with debate about how to deal with online cheating. The EBU has promised a membership strategy with collaboration between it, counties and clubs, but no further information has been received. Dave had contacted non-affiliated clubs in Leicestershire re the EBU's offer of affiliation but has received no reply. Dave to draft a calendar of events for 2022-3 season for agreement at the next meeting.
7. Vice-Chair's business. Anne Wright introduced her paper. We agreed that the aims of the LCBA in the Constitution were adequate. Various strategies were proposed; a meeting for clubs to find out what they need from LCBA, a forum for directors and personal contact with clubs which have not offered online bridge and/or are not affiliated. Several members agreed to contact named clubs and Dave will look at the list of non-affiliated clubs to identify further candidates. Turning to bridge teaching, we saw LCBA in having a coordinating role to facilitate sharing of teaching materials. All agreed to report back to the next meeting.
8. Fixtures Secretary's business. Dick Pathan reported that there was no interest in competing the 2019-20 MCL matches. Two matches have recently taken place. In the first, the 1<sup>st</sup> team won and the others lost and in the other, the 3<sup>rd</sup> team won and the others lost. Leicestershire stands 5<sup>th</sup> in divisions 1 and 3 and last in division 2. Dick is anxious to hear of any additional pairs who would like to play.
9. League Secretary's business: none.
10. Tournament Secretary's business. Steve Wright reported that because of the abandonment of face to face bridge the programme has been delayed by one month. New dates are on the website. The Josephs Bowl will now start with an all plays all on 2 March 2022. The first four

teams will contest the semi-finals and the others will play in the Butterworth Langley. The club Swiss teams is running smoothly. We agreed to proceed with the Green Point Swiss Pairs event on 5 March on the basis of non-profit making with an entry fee of £30 per pair, with entries via the website. If we don't get a minimum of 22 pairs the event will be cancelled.

11. Education Secretary's business. Dean agreed to contact Simon Stokes re arranging a sub-committee meeting.
12. Membership Secretary's business. Richard Rees referred to three deaths, including Robert Northage and David Betterley. We paused at the start of the meeting to reflect on this and LCBA will be represented at Robert's funeral. The EBU says LCBA has 978 members but Richard questioned whether this list is current. There is a problem to resolve with EBU that is difficult to do when clubs don't know how many members will return to bridge.
13. No other business.
14. Next meeting 29 March 2022 via Zoom.