


Meeting on 12 March 2024

<p>Sent out 13 Mar 2024 (draft)</p> <p>Revised on 5 June, and sent out again.</p>	
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No	Notes	Actions
Apologies for absence	Apologies: JL, Victor L, Sati (joined later), Heather joining later. Attendees (as photo above, Chris D there too)	
Minutes from the AGM and meeting on Dec 2023	No comments	
Matters arising from the above		
3 Treasurer's Report	Quite a lot down from last year. £10,200 now. A large amount of that is because this time last year many entries showed up in the account. Earlier in year £1,000 sent to charity, some spent on Tollemache.	
4 Membership report	No report (no meeting with Kath yet)	Steve to action in April
Tournaments	(see selection too)	
5 Championship Pairs	The decision to cancel (now just 4 pairs). Suggestion to schedule online in 4 weeks. Corwen is 15 th /16 th June (in Staffordshire) ... so decision needs to be made soon. Perhaps mid-May?	David M to find date and organise. David M to contact all the players ASAP, and YCBC. Refund (or transfer entry to online event). Publicity to notify on FB, website and YCBC
Garden Cities	Chris D reported. Expecting 4 teams, possibly a 3 rd team (doubtful)	
Café Bridge	Victor said slow (see report). Expecting more to take part. Chris said slowness due to the lack of an email sent to all previous entrants, as was done in the past. For September one, date discussed.	
Leagues	Sue explained. See Appendix A	Payments to be checked Sue/Brian
Congress	Brian said forms and posters done, no entries yet (takes place in July). JL to direct.	
Teams of Four	Report in Appendix. Question raised about shall we continue with this? Maybe online?	
Lederer	Report due. Some expenses need to be paid and then recharged.	Brian
National Pairs	Sati and Shireen running, Harish (from Middx) handling entries and finances. Some discussion about how confusing it was. Chris thought the poster did not highlight the event first stage.	

No	Notes	Actions
6 Newsletter editor's report	Confirmed went out. One new contributor	
7 Website	Skipped	
8 EBU Matters	See Sue's report. Reducing focus on money raising. Still want to raise the money. Plan to support Cancer Research again, as was done before. Combine the Sept event with the Festival? Possibly Mixed Pairs too? Counties are meant to ask unaffiliated clubs to support (something more gentle than serious?) James reported that previous chair meeting discussed aging population and dwindling numbers. David Guild did a good presentation.	Sue to write to all clubs. Sue to write to Andrew Robson
9 Selection matters	Ian Payne report (see appendix). Current policy discussed and view is to keep that (only those who play in Qualifier get to play in the Final , if qualify). Brian said: poor performances from the lead 2 pairs meant did not do as well as expected. All round, disappointed. Amicable team. Follow up email told participants that £60 per person were given.	
10 Disciplinary matters	Nothing	
11 Dates meetings	11 June 2024 – 7pm	
12 Any other business	When Sue B contacts clubs as part of festival, offered to check details. All agreed. Calendar: suggest to go as far at end of Dec 2025 (agreed). To be discussed at next meet. D King suggested as suitable person for committee	Sue to contact Sati to contact D King

Appendix A

David Muller Report

London teams of Four Qualifying Round.

7th January 2024

Ian Gardiner Teams Overall

Pos	Cat	Prize	Team	Team	Players	Wins/ Draws	IMPs	Green Points
1	L	L	1	King	Phil King & Kevin Castner Sebastian Atisen & Stefano Tommasini	4	129	0.75
2			4	Shashou	Nathalie Shashou & Nick Sandqvist Nathan Piper & Natalie Hoff	5	123	0.50
3	L	L	2	Rainsford	Gordon Rainsford & Brian McGuire David Muller & Trevor Mathews	2	79	
4	L		3	Brenner	Eve Brenner & Rosalind Simpson Sean Mekié & Rachael Wilkinson	1	52	

Teams 1 and 3 qualified for final. King defeated Rainsford in the final.

Accounts:

Income:

Entry Fees @ £72 per team		£288.00
Expenditure:		
TD Fee (William Clennell)	£140.00	
Room Hire and Board Dealing (Richmond Bridge Club)	£250.00	
Prizes:		
Heart winners 4 x Free entry to one LMBA event (No expense but notional value of up to £104).		
Total:	£390.00	£288.00
Net Loss	£102.00	

Report on event:

1 4 teams entered, two down on 2023. The event was advertised in two mail shots to all LMBA members. It had been mentioned on both the LMBA and YCBC Facebook pages, on the LMBA website and in the LMBA Newsletter. I sent personal emails to every player who has played since it went back to being a face-to-face event. The event made a loss of £102.

- 2 The event was played at Richmond Bridge Club, as Young Chelsea was unavailable. It was efficiently directed by Will Clennell.
- 3 The heat was won by the King team. The Sandqvist team came 2nd but were not London Allegiance so the 3rd team Rainsford were the other team to qualify for the final.
- 4 One of the King team, Kevin Castner was going to be out of the country for the foreseeable future, but by mutual agreement of the two team captains and me the Final was played on Realbridge. The final has been played and the King team won.
- 5 The winners will be invited to represent LMBA in the Pachabo, as far as I am aware they are able to play in it. They will also be invited to play off against the winners of the 2024 YCKO for a place in the 2025 Lederer as the London team.

David Muller 12.3 24

[Su Buchan Report- League](#)

Notes for London League

Matches continue to be played although probably slower than expected.

As at 5pm on 11 March the games played are as follows

- Division 1 Played 8 out of 21
- Division 2 Played 8 out of 15
- Division 3 Played 4 out of 15

[Su Buchan Report- Festival](#)

Notes for Bridge - Its a Big Deal

I have attended a number of zoom calls and presentations on this festival (September 9th to 15th, 2024 in aid of Cancer Research). This is the starting link is useful for resources. <https://www.ebu.co.uk/festival>

Although the intention is to raise money for the charity the other objectives are to try to increase the number of people playing bridge and to have fun.

There will be a map of events during this period.

We need to confirm if we are doing anything other than make Cancer Research our charity for the Chiswick Cafe Bridge.

[Victor Lesk Report](#)

A few Cafe Bridge things, not sure if they're worth discussing at the meeting (I won't be there)

-We have 8 tables so far for Tonsleys CB and booking rate still healthy, expect to match previous years.

-September Cafe Bridge, presumed Chiswick, if date is normal it will be in the Bridge It's a Big Deal week. However if we want to tie in with BIABD, then we have to support Cancer Research. I'm not enthusiastic about that constraint although I can see it would be nice to tie in.

[Ian Pan Report](#)

From: Ian Payn <iandpayn@gmail.com>

Sent: 18 February 2024 20:47

To: James Smith <jamesrsmith82@outlook.com>

Subject: Tollemache

James,

Good morning. You may have seen that London came last in the Tollemache final. This is disappointing, of course, but to give it some sort of positive context, they still came ahead of the two dozen teams that didn't qualify for the final.

It seems that only Binkie and Burn were actually positive on the x-imps. Norton and Tommasini (star pair) confess to a poor performance on the Saturday, which didn't help the score and won't have done much for morale, either.

Losing two decent players (Nicola and Kieran) from the qualifier didn't help matters, as it meant that everybody had to play throughout, as well as weakening the team. Kieran's withdrawal was, unfortunately, late: I made myself available to play with Burn if Binkie could have found another partner, but that didn't happen. I could see no point in hunting around for a sub-standard pair to augment a team which was already perhaps not the strongest. There was also the danger of a gratuitous fifth pair disrupting what was a reasonably amicable team.

So, what now? Well, I still don't think it's right to allow people to refuse to play in the qualifier and expect to swing back in for the final. I think we want to make it clear next year that selection for the final will give priority to those who have played in the heat, and invite applications. We might also say something about the Met Cup being considered to be a (non-binding) aid to selectors.

Basically, nothing is going to change. The prima donnas will still refuse to play in the qualifier, so any programme for improvement will be gradual, but I think that in a few years we'll get there. We didn't send a team this year that couldn't win: we just sent a team that didn't.

I could solicit a captain's report from Burn but don't see much point. The buck stops with me. If the committee thinks someone else could do better they can by all means sack me. No hard feelings! Let me know if you want something from Burn.

Regards

Ian