

North Eastern Bridge Association

Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting held on Tuesday March 29th, 2022 at 9.15 by ZOOM

Present: Nigel Durie, Sue Davies, Bill March, Dave Thompson, Graham Cox, John Portwood, David Gold and Adrian Darnell

1. Minutes of last meeting

The minutes of the January 26th Meeting were approved.

2. Matters Arising

a) Item 1 b)

the proposed Constitutional amendments, most notably concerning the definition of 'NEBA member' were approved, and are now to be circulated to all Clubs for distribution to their members in preparation for the AGM.

b) Item 3

the 2022 AGM Agenda was approved for circulation (having added the Appointment of an Independent Examiner); all current officers confirmed they were prepared to stand. The Secretary has received no nominations for any positions, but will recirculate all Club Secretaries.

[Secretary's Note: Since the meeting Marion Curran has been approached, successfully, to be nominated as the incoming Vice-Chair and her name will appear on the AGM papers]

c) Item 4

Dave Thompson was formally co-opted to the Executive and welcomed as the new Congress Secretary.

d) Item 5

It was agreed that the Competition Secretary and InterClub Secretary would construct a draft Calendar for the coming year. Mary Page was formally thanked for having constructed the last Calendar.

e) Item 6

agreed that GC would invite entries for the Inter Club Competition and construct the Leagues for 22/23 informed by 21/22 and 19/20 results in order to deliver the appropriate level of competition. Thanks are recorded to both Brunton and Hurworth Clubs who played a 'dead' rubber.

f) Item 7I

agreed that the Secretary would write to all Club Secretaries asking them to look carefully at their membership lists to ensure they are up-to-date, and inform the EBU to ensure the records held by the EBU are themselves maintained as up-to-date.

3. Congress

Agreed: arrangements for the 2022 NEBA Congress, which will by default be face-to-face. The NEBA will oversee all the costings, and will liaise with the EBU as necessary, but will delegate all other arrangements (as previously) to a third party. Members' uncertain appetite to play f2f is recognised, as are the additional costs of running an f2f event, but the social advantages of returning to f2f are great. It is hoped that we can learn from the numbers at the April Ilkley event and the August Scarborough Festival before we make a final decision. The deadline to cancel our (currently provisional) booking with the Hotel is after the Scarborough Festival.

4. Chronicle Cup

Agreed

- a) all future major online NEBA events should be provided with a non-playing director, reflecting our traditional f2f practice. If an NPD is not immediately available within NEBA's resources one will be secured from a neighbouring county or from the EBU. An NPD protects the Director from any aspersions and the Director, free from playing, can focus exclusively on Directing.
- b) in the case of, for example, a small online tournament, where there is a single director who would not have the option of discussing difficult judgement decisions (such as hesitations) immediately with fellow Directors, it is necessary that NEBA have a written procedure by which any appeals would be handled online. The Chief Tournament Director will formulate a draft procedure for discussion at the next meeting.

5. AOB

- a) 2022 Summer pairs: it was agreed this not be held this year.
- b) The Website: grateful thanks are recorded to Pauline Durie for her excellent work in maintaining the NEBA website and for agreeing to continue as the Webmaster for the foreseeable future.