

NORTHERN IRELAND BRIDGE UNION



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

3RD JUNE 2018

NORTHERN IRELAND BRIDGE UNION

ANNUAL REPORTS OF THE OFFICERS.

To be presented to members at the NIBU Annual General Meeting 2018

Contents:

<i>Page 1</i>	<i>Agenda</i>
<i>Page 2</i>	<i>Chairman's report</i>
<i>Page 4</i>	<i>Honorary Secretary's report</i>
<i>page 6</i>	<i>Honorary Treasurer's report</i>
<i>Page 7</i>	<i>Extracts from the Financial Accounts</i>
<i>Page 9</i>	<i>Honorary Competition Secretary's report</i>
<i>Page 11</i>	<i>Competition Winners 2016-17</i>
<i>Page 12</i>	<i>Honorary Master points Secretary's report</i>
	<i>Re-gradings</i>
	<i>Promotions list</i>
	<i>Chairman of the Selection Committee's report</i>
	<i>Chief Tournament Director Report</i>
	<i>Chairman of the Laws & Ethics Committee's report</i>
	<i>Chairman of the Youth Committee's report.</i>
	<i>EGM Notice</i>

NORTHERN IRELAND BRIDGE UNION

2018 Annual General Meeting of the Executive Council

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of the Union will be held from 2.30pm on Sunday June 3rd 2018 at La Mon Country Club Hotel.

A buffet lunch will be provided for members attending, from 1.30pm

AGENDA

1. Chairperson's welcome
2. Apologies
3. Minutes of the 2017 Annual General Meeting
4. Matters Arising
5. To receive the report of:
 - a. The Chairperson
 - b. The Honorary Secretary
 - c. The Honorary Treasurer
 - d. The Honorary Masterpoints Secretary
 - e. The Honorary Competitions Secretary / Chair of the Tournament Committee
 - f. The Chair of the Selection Committee
 - g. The Chair of the Laws & Ethics Committee
 - h. The Chair of the Youth Committee
6. To receive and pass the Financial Accounts if thought fit, for the year ended March 31st 2018
7. Outgoing Chairpersons address
8. The Outgoing Chairperson (Anne Hassan) hands over to the Incoming Chairperson (Harold Curran)
9. President's Address
10. To elect nominees to the office of:
 - a. Honorary Secretary
 - b. Honorary Treasurer
 - c. Honorary Competitions Secretary
 - d. Honorary Masterpoints Secretary
 - e. Honorary International Match Manager
11. To elect twelve representatives of affiliated clubs to serve on the NIBU Council.
These to include the Immediate Past-Chairperson as ex-officio.
12. Presentation of trophies
13. Any other business

Michael McFaul

Honorary Secretary.

Report of the Honorary Chair

I have enjoyed my time as chair and now it is time to hand over to Harold who is already a great asset to the NIBU and will continue to promote the game of bridge and sympathetically respond to members concerns and suggestions.

Visiting clubs was a delightful experience, the highlight of my two years and I cannot express deeply enough my gratitude for the warm welcome I received from the secretaries and club members. Liz joined me for these visits and I can't thank her enough for her support. We had great fun and enjoyed meeting lots of new friendly players. We managed to visit most but not all clubs and hope to visit the rest this year.

I am sorry that Robin has had to tender his resignation as Master Points Secretary. He has been a stalwart of the Union in many ways over the years but especially in this post. Robin created his own program for recording/updating Master Points and we have all enjoyed the privilege of being able to access our MP details on the website. Thank you Robin for the massive contribution you have made to the NIBU and I hope you will continue to assist us in the future.

The death of Joe Fee was a shock to us all and he will be missed especially by Cookstown Bridge where he served for many years. He was an avid supporter of the NIBU over many years and is a great loss to the game of bridge. Derryvolgie Bridge Club also lost a founder member, Joe Rodgers, who will be fondly remembered by all the members.

I am delighted to welcome Carrickfergus Bridge Club, who have now joined the NIBU and have two representatives here today and Quoile Bridge Club – our new online club founded by Harold Curran.

The NIBU is made up of many parts and is complicated with a council, sub-committees and additional volunteers, numbering about 100 in total including the Secretaries of the Clubs of whom there are 41. Its function is basically to promote the game, assist and encourage affiliated clubs, provide competitions and ranking levels for members and select teams to represent our small country. The Club Secretaries play a vital role in liaising with the members and, as such, are an important section of the management team of the NIBU.

The NIBU provides complimentary 'Directors & Officers' Insurance Cover for all affiliated clubs and has negotiated a special deal for clubs who wish to purchase Public Liability Insurance for circa £50-£60 per annum. (Details on the Website)

The clubs are the backbone of the Union and it is my passion to continue to increase awareness and communication between the management and the clubs, to discover the needs of clubs and endeavour to satisfy those needs – all suggestions welcome.

There is a myth that a lot of money is spent on the international players representing our country. The players pay to play in trials, raising funds for the matches and those successful also pay their own hotel expenses personally. I take this opportunity to thank all those who transported players to and from the airport and those who volunteer their services every year at international matches. At least 24 volunteers are needed at each of these weekends.

Competition Bridge is vital to the success of our Union and I plead with you all to participate. Meeting new people and improving standards are the rewards.

To all those who attend competitions, presentation of prizes is now held immediately after the session due to improved technology in scoring and I ask, therefore, that all players remain until after the presentation to congratulate those who were successful. Sometimes it is sadly only the volunteers and the winners that are present.

I thank all those who supported me during the past year, especially the management committee, Michael McFaul, Anne Fitzpatrick, Liz Scott, Robin Burns, Harold Curran and all of Council.

I also thank the sub-committees, Tournament, Selection, Laws & Ethics and Youth whose members worked tirelessly throughout the year.

The Youth Committee works in conjunction with the schools to organise coaching and selection of teams for national and international matches. The work undertaken by this committee is vast and the team are dedicated and deserve our support. They work on a very tight budget and need more financial support from all of us.

I thank our Tournament Directors – especially Alan Hill who gives freely of his time organising seminars for those wishing to improve their directing skills and Sandie Millership, who, with her vast experience in Junior International Bridge, is a vital member of the Youth Committee.

Tournament Directing is a very special role and is vital to the game the bridge – we need more people who are willing to train in order to provide this service. Alan Hill is an expert in this field and is willing to help in any way he can. (see Page 21)

I pay special tribute to Ian Hamilton who dedicates an enormous amount of his personal time to the Inter Club competition, League and now Master Points.

We are still trying to recruit a magazine editor and committee - I hope someone will volunteer to take up that challenge soon.

I look forward to the new season with hope and enthusiasm.

Anne Hassan

Hon Chair NIBU (hassan.anne@gmail.com)

Report of the Honorary Secretary 2017-18.

I am pleased to report another year in which the Union was largely free of controversy and discord. This is reflected in the absence of any complaints taken to Council and referred on to the Laws & Ethics Committee.

Council

Council met 6 times during the year. At the first meeting in June 2017 it was agreed to standardise meetings on a bi-monthly basis and on the 2nd Wednesday of the month. This was to allow members to plan their travel arrangements more easily and in general the plan has worked reasonably well.

Selection Committee

The committee met 9 times during the season. The smaller membership quota has worked well and I am pleased to report that all members contributed meaningfully and constructively to the work of the committee.

Tournament Committee

The committee met twice during the season. Details are covered in the report of the Honorary Competitions Secretary.

Laws & Ethics Committee

The committee met once during the season. Details are covered in the report of the Committee Chairperson

Youth Committee

The committee met twice during the year. Details are covered in the report of the Committee Chairperson

Management Committee

The Management Committee meets immediately before each Council meeting in order to discuss and prepare its proposals and recommendations to be put to the governing body. The committee also had 2 separate meetings during the season.

Voting Rights

The attendance level at several Council meetings was disappointingly low and on one occasion business could not be transacted as the meeting was inquorate. The 2017 Constitution requires at least 6 voting members of Council to be present in order to make a meeting quorate. Council is comprised of 18 members as follows:

Councillors -12 (Club representatives plus the Vice Chair OR Immediate Past Chair)

Officers – 6 including the President and Chairperson

The Management Committee is comprised of 4 officers (Honorary Treasurer, Secretary, Competitions Secretary and Masterpoints Secretary. The President and Chairperson may attend the committee but do not have a vote. Conversely the President and Chairperson may vote on Council business but the other officers do not have a vote in that forum.

The reason for this is to ensure good business practice is followed. The Officers take their decisions and recommendations to Council and it is for Council to vote on whether to accept or reject them.

However the fact that the Constitution only counts voting members as contributing towards the quorate requirement has caused problems during the year. For this reason Council is asking the AGM to amend the constitution to allow ALL members present to count towards making a meeting quorate.

It is important to stress that no change in voting rights is being proposed.

The amendment will be put to the members immediately following the 2018 AGM.

Affiliation

The number of affiliated clubs remains unchanged at 41. The affiliation year runs from September 1st – August 31st each year in tandem with what is generally considered to be the bridge 'season'. Fees are paid between November and February each year.

Data Protection

In order to comply with good practice, email correspondence within the Union should be blind-copied when it is sent to a number of individuals. An exception can be made when the members have a common interest e.g. as a committee.

Michael McFaul

Hon Secretary NIBU (mjmcfaul@gmail.com)

HONORARY TREASURER'S ANNUAL REPORT

3rd June, 2018

Our gross income has increased by £2,767 in the year. This increase is explained by sponsorship for the congress and improvement in competition income together with small increase in Interclub and Celtic Pairs income. The tournament committee continues to oversee the promotion of events and have made some impact but further efforts are required to encourage attendance at competitions. The Helm Cup has already been cancelled again in the coming year and attendances at the Spring Congress were very disappointing. Ian Hamilton deserves great praise for his continued work with the Interclub and Celtic Pairs which contributed £4,740 to net funds.

Competition expenses have increased as prizes for Leagues have been accrued in this year. Our biggest expense is representative matches with both Peggy Bayer team and Junior Camrose being fielded 2018. Next year we host the Lady Milne competition with consequent increase in costs. The cost of entry fee in respect of the Interprovincials competition increased due to more teams taking part.

Our expenditure for home international matches remains very competitive due to the continued efforts of Anne Hassan and Harold Curran with the support of La Mon Hotel.

A decision was made during the year to replace payment of Honoraria by reimbursement of expenses. No claims have been received yet.

A net surplus of £3,239 was achieved for the year with our reserves increasing from £51,631 to £54,60.

I would like to thank Alan Hill, Sandie Millership, Colin Jeffries, Michael McFaul, Norma Irwin, Eric McNicholl, Helen Cole, Wilson Hanna, Liz Scott, David Leeman, Anne Hassan and all the Club treasurers who lodge money for me.

If you have any queries, I can be reached at annefitzpatrick@bakertillymm.co.uk

Anne Fitzpatrick

Hon Treasurer NIBU

N.I. BRIDGE UNION

BALANCE SHEET 31 MARCH 2018

	Notes	31.3.18 £	£	31.3.17 £	£
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	4		6,689		8,100
Chain of office			575		575
CURRENT ASSETS					
Stocks		3,230		50	
Debtors	5	1,235		1,362	
Investments	6	11,000		11,000	
Cash at bank		44,276		36,210	
		59,741		48,622	
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	7	8,188		1,719	
NET CURRENT ASSETS			51,553		46,903
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES			58,817		55,578
RESERVES					
Junior Bridge Reserve	8	4,217		4,217	
Profit and loss account	8	54,600		51,361	
		58,817		55,578	

The financial statements were authorised for issue by the Treasurer on 24th May 2018.
and were signed by:

Anne Fitzpatrick

Mrs Anne Fitzpatrick (Treasurer)

N.I. BRIDGE UNION

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2018

	31.3.18 £	£	31.3.17 £	£
Turnover				
Net Congress Income	1,080		(142)	
Competitions	15,005		13,805	
Trials	1,620		1,800	
Affiliation Fees	10,525		10,337	
Sale of stationery and requisites	459		384	
Interclub & Celtic Pairs	4,740		4,438	
		33,429		30,662
Cost of sales				
Opening Stock	50		100	
Closing Stock		50	(50)	50
GROSS INCOME		33,379		30,572
Other income				
Sundry Receipts	84		1,210	
Ulster Bank Savings account interest	14		15	
National Savings Income Bond interest	94		117	
		192		1,342
		33,571		31,914
Expenditure				
Insurance	1,132		1,082	
Venue Hire	1,325		925	
Competition Expenses	10,752		7,932	
Printing, Postage & Stationery	1,587		914	
Representative Match Expenses	9,903		7,858	
Affiliation Fees	2,600		2,600	
Honoraria	-		-	
Public Relations	421		196	
Officers Expenses	-		541	
Coaching	-		296	
Sundry Expenses	153		500	
Accountancy	600		600	
Profit on Sale of Fixed Assets	-		(403)	
Bank Charges	90		90	
		28,563		26,531
		5,008		5,383
Depreciation				
Depn of Tables	231		253	
Depn of Duplimate Machine	1,066		1,177	
Computer Equipment	472		629	
		1,769		2,059
		3,239		3,324

COMPETITION SECRETARY'S REPORT

My thanks are due to the Tournament Committee, comprising Anne Hassan, Ian Hamilton, David Leeman, B McDowell, M McFaul, S Millership and B Ewart for all their hard work. Special thanks to B Ewart who emailed everyone each month informing them of what competitions were on and when and for distributing flyers. David Leeman who kept an inventory of all our equipment and checked bidding box contents regularly and set up the tables for the Camrose match and Ian Hamilton for all his work as League Organiser and also for the work he puts in to organising the Interclub and Celtic Sims Competitions, never mind the other things he does for the Union. The TC met 3 times throughout the year.

To say that entries to the various competitions during 2017/18 is disappointing is an understatement, although numbers were slightly up in a few competitions. The Robb Cup (an Inter B competition) was organised by P Johnston & A Hassan and it was great that this competition was resurrected after a number of years. I extend my thanks and congratulations to all competition winners.

The Kelvin Cup and the Mackinnon Cup were both organised by Brian McDowell and I thank him for doing a grand job.

The Millership Cup was organised by Jeff Millership and again a grand job.

The Premier 1 League was organised by Ian Hamilton and TD'd by Sandie Millership, thank you Sandie and Ian.

The Premier 2 League, Inter A and Inter B Leagues were organised by Ian Hamilton and TD'd by Ian Lindsay, thank you Ian.

The Novice League was organised and TD'd by Pat Johnston, thank you Pat.

As usual all our Interclub and Celtic Sims competitions were organised by Ian Hamilton and the amount of work Ian puts into this is phenomenal. Ian produces all the booklets, having analysed all the hands and this prevents him participating which is unfortunate. Thank you Ian.

We hosted the First Camrose match this year, organised by Brian McDowell and Anne Hassan, another successful event TD'd by Fearghal O'Boyle and Mairead Basquille. Unfortunately, this was the last International competition too be managed by Brian as he has now retired, however Helen Hall has taken over the position and I am sure she will do an equally good job. Thank you Brian, on behalf of the NIBU.

Brian, assisted by Tom McKeever, also organised the NI Teams event in Portstewart and entries were disappointing – 7 teams, down 4 on last year, however the event was a great success, again my thanks Brian

Sandie Millership was our Congress Organiser this year and has worked tirelessly for the NIBU for many many years. Sandie also TDs an enormous amount of the competitions.

It has been suggested that perhaps there are too many competitions and that we should archive some of them, in particular the HELM cup which has had to be cancelled for the past 3 years as not enough teams entered. The TC has now finalised the diary, and we sincerely hope it is correct this year! Please let us know what your thoughts are. You can email me at lizscott@nibu.co.uk.

There were a few complaints about the lack of heat in the Boat Club. This we have addressed with the help of H Curran and the Boat Club has agreed to make sure that there is heat in playing rooms in future.

Sandie Millership TD'd the Provincial Mixed Pairs for me in Enniskillen, and numerous other events. For some events she stood in at the last minute. Eric McNicholl TD'd the Novice section of the Gala Pairs and also the Northern Pairs in Londonderry/Derry. Alan Hill TD'd the Gala Pairs and numerous others competitions and I thank all of them for their time and commitment. Thank you does not seem enough for all the work they do. Please if you are a TD at your club think about assisting us with our competitions, we do not have enough TDs.

The NIBU needs some more TDs to come forward. Alan Hill has run many classes on the rules etc and I hope some of those who attended his classes will volunteer to TD some of our competitions.

On a personal note, I have been very disappointed by the lack of interest in our competitions. Is this because we have lost our competitiveness or is it just a case of no new blood playing bridge? I do know that a few of our Grammar Schools hold classes so perhaps there is a future in bridge! Having said that, once our senior pupils move on to University, alas bridge seems to be lost forever to them within our Province.

I would also like to welcome to the NIBU two new clubs, Quoile and Carrickfergus. Unfortunately Downpatrick club has had to close, this will be a big loss to the Union.

Throughout the season 2017/2018 I have been able to visit some clubs in the Province with the help of our Chair with the hope of encouraging many more people to enjoy our competitions and also to let us know what they want the NIBU to do for them.

Let me express my thanks to the clubs visited for their warm welcome and the friendliness that was expressed. It was a delight to visit you and perhaps I will get the opportunity to do so again during the incoming bridge year. To the clubs we didn't get around to, sorry, we did try very hard to get round all.

Liz Scott
Hon Competitions Secretary

June 2018 lizscott@nibu.co.uk

COMPETITIONS – 2017/2018

Gala Pairs Inter A	Won by C Crockett & E Cumming (13.5 tables)
Gala Pairs Inter B	Won by R & J Coulter (12 tables)
Gala Novice	Won by L Piper & M Cairns (7 tables)
NI Mixed Pairs	Competition Cancelled
Senior/Inter B	Won by E Walmsley & J Young (6 tables)
Mr Monty	Won by A Hassan & D Hutchinson (10 tables)
East Down Teams	Won by H Hill, C Watson, R Young & J Millership (6 teams)
Robb Cup	Won by A Turkington & G Markey (13 tables)
Mid Ulster A/B	Won by A & P Murdock (12 tables)
Belfast Swiss Pairs	Won by J Lavery & M Coffey (10 tables)
NI Pairs	Won by I Hamilton & S Hall (12.5 tables)
Provincial Mixed Pairs	Won by I Hamilton & C O'Donnell (5.5 tables)
Intermediate Individual	Won by R Caves (6 tables)
NI Teams	Won by H Cole, T Currie, D Leeman & K Ginn (7 teams)
East Down Pairs	Won by D Lindsay & B Scott (7 tables)
North Down A/B	Competition cancelled due to lack of entry
Louis Herbert	Won by R Kilpatrick & S Irwin (8.5 tables)
Mid Ulster Pairs	Won by R Burns & I Hamilton (13 tables)
Intermediate A/B Pairs	Won by R Kilpatrick & S Irwin (9.5 tables)
North Down Pairs	Won by E Whalmsley & S Lowe (7 tables)

Northern Pairs	Won by I Hamilton & C O'Donnell (19 tables)
Senior/Inter A	Won by E Lesage & J Collinson (10.5 tables)
Leagues:	Prem 1 – Team Anderson Prem 2 – Team Cramp Inter A – Team Crockett Inter B – Team McCabe Novice – Team Flanagan
Millership Cup	Won by Team Hassan
Mackinnon Cup	Won by Team Anderson
Kelvin Cup	Won by Team Anderson
Liz Scott (Hon Comp Sec)	

♣♦ NORTHERN IRELAND BRIDGE UNION ♥♠

Report of the Hon. Master Points Secretary 2017/18

My final year as Master Point Sec. has thankfully reached a successful conclusion. As usual, I would like to thank all the club secretaries, Alan Hill, Sandie Millership and Ian Hamilton for their efforts in getting all the results to me in a timely and efficient manner. At this point I would like to welcome the new Master Points Secretary and wish him well for the future.

The following 26 bridge clubs returned master points:-

Armagh	Ballymena	Bann	Boat Club	Brunswick	City of Derry
Cookstown	Derry Ladies	Derryvolgie	Devenish	Downshire	Dromore(Down)
Dungiven	Holywood	K&M	Kilrea	Killyleagh	Limavady
Lisburn City	Maghera	Portstewart	Portadown	Spa	St. Josephs
St.Michaels	Warrenpoint				

There are now 1804 members on the NIBU database. The grade break up is:-

75 Expert Players
132 Senior Players
347 Intermediate 'A' Players
1250 Intermediate 'B' Players

While the number of players in the various ranks are as follows:-

Premier Grand Master	3	Grand Master	11
Premier Life Master	7	Life Master	23
Premier National Master	13	National Master	13
Senior Provincial Master	17	Junior Provincial Master	26
Tournament Master	23	Master	420
County Master	191	Local Master	266
Club Master	372	Unranked	419

Players of the Year

Intermediate 'B'	Intermediate 'A'	Senior
1 st Christine Crockett	Joint 1 st	1 st Rex Anderson
2 nd Jim McDonald	Barbara Armstrong Yvonne Banks	2 nd David Greenwood

Billy Kelso Trophy

This year's winner is Ian Hamilton

Congratulations to all the above.

Robin Burns Hon.Master-Points Secretary

1st June 2018

♠♥ NORTHERN IRELAND BRIDGE UNION ♦♣

RE-GRADINGS EFFECTIVE FROM 1st SEPTEMBER 2018

INTERMEDIATE 'B' to INTERMEDIATE 'A'

4412 S Scullion	4443 A Kelleher	1529 S Muldrew
3617 M Kirwan	3672 D Johnston	4073 I Evans
4260 S McNicholl	4627 J Baker	4767 J Collier
4834 C Chivers	4835 P Chivers	4844 J Young
3616 S Turner		

INTERMEDIATE 'A' to Senior

3618 Y Banks	3619 B Armstrong
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SENIOR to EXPERT

2802 T Currie

All the above re-gradings are due for ratification by the Management Committee towards the end of August 2018 and any appeals must be made in writing to the Master Points Secretary and received before 20th August 2018. An e-mailed appeal is also acceptable.

Robin Burns
Hon. Master Points Secretary

☎ New M.P. Secretary
email ditto

NORTHERN IRELAND BRIDGE UNION

PROMOTIONS LIST JUNE 2018

1 Premier Life Master

1876 A Fitzpatrick

1 Life Master

1039 M Coffey

1 National Master

2155 G Irwin

1 4* Senior Provincial Master

1157 K Hammond

1 2* Senior Provincial Master

2667 T Young

2 1* Senior Provincial Master

1100 TJ Curran

4018 R Young

1 3* Junior Provincial Master

4277 JB Clarke

2 1* Junior Provincial Master

2148 J McGonagle

2860 R Hall

1 1* Tournament Master

1786 GR Clingen

1 Tournament Master

1828 J Kuriakose

5 6* Master

1425 M Merrick

1441 A Tombe

1941 K McCay

3832 C Byrne

3834 P Hamill

3 5* Master

2257 E McQuilkin

2557 J Montgomery

2651 O Comerton

7 4* Master

1711 M Donnelly

1819 E Cummings

1832 M McCourt

3619 B Armstrong

4278 G Mulholland

4289 M Warnock

4447 T Blackman

6 3* Master

1061 G Hegarty

2318 E Devlin

2487 H Booth

2491 H Peroval-Price

3598 PC McGarrity

3644 M Mollroy

8 2* Master

1062 M Hegarty

1652 EM Gilchrist

1853 M Bayliss

2111 M Mulholland

2580 S Wilson

3442 C Savage

4048 G Cairns

4419 E Thomas

13 1* Master

2186 M Diamond

2393 S Fyfe

2581 A Wilson

2883 V Young

2977 P Buckley

3148 C Gormley

3452 D Patterson

3480 G Henry

3599 H Priestly

3865 H Lowe

4402 P O'Doherty

4767 C Collier

4814 K McAllister

13 Advanced Master

1529 S Muldrew

2036 D Bradley

3617 M Kirwan

3672 D Johnston

4073 I Evans

4260 S McNicholl

4311 W McCormick

4412 S Scullion

4443 A Kelleher

4627 J Baker

4834 C Chivers

4835 P Chivers

4844 J Young

18 Master

1136 S Woodward

1434 PM McDowell

1972 R Caves

2798 M Colgan

3111 S Camson

3114 W Ellis

3523 M Shirley

3596 I McCartan

3630 R Duffy

3766 A Milligan

4111 P O'Reilly

4117 D Irwin

4380 O Hunter

4665 D Lawther

4728 B McCready

4766 A Bradley

4972 J Hutchison

5004 C Crockett

42 County Master

1105 D Jones

1340 F Young

1720 A Turkington

1729 P Harvey

2029 B Moore

2034 H Walsh

2053 C McAnemey

2290 PJ McGrory

2330 D McCaughey

2876 S Lowry

3327 M Flynn

3410 C Marquess

3698 V Russell

3899 J Boyd

3982 V VonHoff

4046 M Hendron

4047 M Long

4180 MK Groogan

4189 C Carlin

4199 A Stewart

4247 L Byrne

4254 B Irwin

4257 S Mullan

4291 A O'Reilly

4414 B Mullan

4434 J Ramsey

4439 P Blacker

4462 P Smyth

4643 J Crockett

4711 L Cunningham

4769 B Gillan

4956 R Crea

4993 G Daly
 4998 G Markey
 5053 S Farrell
 5072 P Barrett
 5119 J McDonnell
 5142 R Seaton
 5144 R Perrott
 5249 E Nauyokaitis
 5265 C Stewart
 5269 A Johnston

62 Local Master

1141 L Lister
 1197 N Martin
 1260 D McCaughan
 1296 F McLaughlin
 1369 J Flynn
 1622 M Morrison
 1796 J McVeigh
 2130 A Carolan
 2140 A Rowan
 2189 S Stevenson
 2354 F Wilson
 2396 B Cassidy
 2560 R O'Neill
 2584 H Wallace
 3026 A McFerran
 3031 N Houston
 3037 R Davidson
 3068 S Campbell
 3147 D Gilroy
 3183 D Gilroy
 3188 E Gregg
 3556 J White
 3639 U Watters
 4071 N Sheehy
 4115 R Vaughan

4151 E Vallely
 4253 R Hasson
 4258 J McAtamney
 4267 O O'Neill
 4268 B O'Kane
 4270 J Tierney
 4285 W Dick
 4329 S Dick
 4371 T Atkins
 4411 T Quinn
 4708 S Carr
 4712 J Lim
 4713 O Montgomery
 4850 J McGilly
 4851 R McGilly
 4896 H Fullerton
 4919 E Ewing
 4951 P Fitzpatrick
 5019 O Quigley
 5106 P Conway
 5109 D Marjoram
 5139 R Tully
 5141 G Byrne
 5156 M Cullen
 5211 N Lacey
 5227 T Megarry
 5228 J Forsythe
 5229 J McCaughan
 5230 N McCaughan
 5231 C Wade
 5232 C Bell
 5275 M Collier
 5278 L Homer
 5362 E McNickle
 5363 R Coulter
 5425 K Bialowas

5436 A Simpson
79 Club Master
 1030 K McCann
 1273 R O'Kane
 1366 A Harte
 1528 H Davison
 2232 M Moriarty
 2685 R Elder
 2715 J Shorten
 3041 F Butler
 3043 T Boyle
 3044 E Boyle
 3048 I Maxwell
 3061 I Gibson
 3091 S McGarrity
 3096 M Moore
 3097 M Tanney
 3118 L Dickson
 3293 A McMurray
 3301 P McDaid
 3454 J Price
 3986 J McGlade
 4043 C Reid
 4152 J Turon
 4248 K Colgan
 4314 K Hinds
 4551 E Slattery
 4634 P O'Dwyer
 4786 L Fillis
 4795 R McIntosh
 4894 A Morrow
 4988 M Higgins
 5024 J Duggan
 5029 M O'Hara
 5116 J Murray
 5135 A Pendlebury

5147 A Harrison
 5154 N Noble
 5166 O Downey
 5167 M Charteris
 5168 R McCullough
 5171 P Van Der Linden
 5180 J Jemphrey
 5212 D Mulholland
 5213 J Higgins
 5214 P Higgins
 5245 BJ O'Brien
 5246 R Elvin
 5251 C Jefferson
 5252 C Mulholland
 5262 M Keamey
 5270 T MacCormac
 5282 I Cosgrove
 5295 K Bogle
 5306 E Loughlin
 5310 E Milligan
 5311 C Mitchell
 5312 M Moore
 5315 M Smyth
 5337 M Bailie
 5342 N Shaw
 5360 P Flowerday
 5371 P Cooley
 5372 C MacAuley
 5377 D Williamson
 5379 B Fitzsimmons
 5386 M McDonnell
 5390 A Rehill
 5400 T Mackey
 5407 L Perry
 5438 A Russell
 5439 R Russell

5445	M	Piper
5447	Y	McGivern
5448	M	Johnston
5451	D	Caims
5462	R	MacNamara
5463	R	Flanagan
5465	J	Henessy
5468	J	O'Neill
5512	M	O'Brien

NIBU Selection Committee Annual Report 2017-18

During the year teams have been selected for two Camrose matches, the Lady Milne matches, the Junior Camrose, the Inter-provincials and the Teltscher Trophy. The 2018 North-South match has not yet been played and Teams are still to be finalised. Trials were held for the Camrose and the Teltscher Trophy. I am happy to report that the NIBU was again able to field a team for the Peggy Bayer. The constituent players for all the above competitions and the results achieved are all on public record so I will be repeat them here.

The Selection Committee has had a quieter and less fraught time of it this year I'm very glad to report. The only issue that raised one or two eyebrows was our selection for the Lady Milne team. Having been duly publicised in advance the SC only received entries from four pairs. After discussion we decided that it was unnecessary to hold a trial and did as our name suggested, we selected three of the pairs to make up the Lady Milne team. That decision was not universally welcomed, particularly by the fourth pair.

A personal observation is that reducing the number of members on the SC has worked extremely well. To the best of my knowledge none of the members has felt overburdened and ensuring meetings are quorate is much simpler with less members. I thus respectfully recommend to Council that five is the ideal number of members for the SC.

Finally I would like to offer my sincere thanks to my fellow Committee members Nuala, Ken, Sam and Eric, not forgetting the NIBU Hon Sec. , all of whom worked very hard to make the Committee a success.

Paul Tranmer,
Selection Committee Chairman.

Law & Ethics Committee – Report of Chair – 14 May 1018

1 The Law & Ethics Committee members appointed by Council on 28 June 2017 were Rex Anderson [convenor], Shelagh McCaughan, Ian Hamilton, Elbha Walmsley and Alan Sharp.

Council referred proposed amendments to the 'Code of Conduct' and Terms of Reference' to L&E for amendment. Council approved the amendments proposed to 'Disciplinary Procedures' and 'Standing Orders'. [Minutes Item 3]

Council referred to L&E the proposal that after a multi 2 diamond opening, players should have the right to consult their defence before bidding. [Minutes Item 14]

2 The L&E Committee met on 26 July 2017. Rex Anderson was elected as Chair.

The L&E Committee agreed a revised text for the 'Code of Conduct' and Terms of Reference'.

L&E recommended that there be no change to the present where players were not permitted to consult notes after a 2 diamond opening.

3 The revised text for the 'Code of Conduct' and Terms of Reference' were approved by Council at the 08 November 2017 meeting.

4 At the 15 March 2018 Council meeting a member of Council proposed that the L&E Committee be tasked with drawing up a NIBU policy on data protection. [Minutes Item 3]

All but one member of the L&E Committee considered that drawing up such a policy document for the NIBU was outside the L&E terms of reference. The Secretary of the NIBU was informed of that decision.

5 No appeals or matters within the current terms of reference were dealt with by the Committee other than as set out heretofore.

6 The European Bridge League and other prosecutions of bridge players alleged to be cheaters has shown that some National Bridge Organisations constitutions and regulations are deficient in that there are no powers for them to sanction players convicted by another Bridge Organisation.

Reciprocity of imposition of sanctions would require a change to the NIBU Constitution.

A change to the definitions in 1.1.1 of the NIBU Disciplinary Procedures to include contravention of Screen and Bidding Box Regulations and the addition of defining such contravention as reprehensible behaviour in Appendix One is also worthy of consideration

Neither of these matters has been referred by Council to the current L&E Committee or addressed by the current L&E Committee. The CBAI and the Irish Bridge Union intend to address these matters in the near future.

Rex Anderson

Report of the Chief Tournament Director

TD Training Sessions

Held centrally and locally where requested

Although these sessions were primarily for TDs and budding TDs, all players interested in learning more about the Laws and their operation were welcome. Members of more than 20 clubs attended one or more sessions.

I hope to be able to repeat these sessions as required. If any NIBU member is interested in attending any of them please let me know.

The following sessions were run (all but #4 in duplicate).

1. Laws 1 to 25 approx
2. Laws 26 to 50 approx
3. Laws 51 – end.
4. Laws 12, 16, some aspects of the new Laws, and making rulings.
5. 'Technical' – Movements, scoring programmes and electronic scoring.

I would also like to thank Bernard Davey of Newcastle Bridge Club and Dudley Marjoram of Armagh Bridge Club for arranging single session seminars for clubs in their area. Other clubs are welcome to arrange similar events with me.

The only costs for attendees are £2 towards room hire of the centrally organized events. Thanks to Kelvin and Malone for allowing me to use their premises.

Alan Hill

clubanddiamond@yahoo.co.uk

NIBU Youth Development Committee 2017 – 18

The Youth Development Committee was formed by the NIBU in 2014.

Chairperson – Pat Johnston

Committee members – Sandie Millership, Norma Irwin, Diane Greenwood, Barbara Lomas & Rosemary Kilpatrick.

Our Mission Statement

To encourage and develop bridge for primary school students in Northern Ireland.

To encourage and develop bridge for secondary school students in Northern Ireland.

To retain and coach bridge to under 25s in Northern Ireland.

Our youth have participated and been selected for National and International Events. It is vital that these young people have your support. The volunteers on our youth committee and in the schools give freely of their time and the IBU supports the teams selected to play for Ireland but the youth fund is small and the youth require your support both practically and financially.

Peggy Bayer

Molly O'Donnell, Lucy O'Kane, Conor Gallagher, Luke McGarvey, Xander Todd & Lauren Conville
NPC Sandie Millership

Junior Camrose

Ridwan Farouki, John-William Carey, Ryan Lightowler, Craig Smylie, Gavin Irvine & Phil Adams.
NPC Wayne Sommerville

BBO training was undertaken for all.

Whitehouse Junior Invitational Amsterdam

Two N Ireland pairs and one ROI pair were selected to represent Ireland

Ridwan Farouki & John William Carey

Ryan Lightowler & Craig Smylie

Sheila Walshe & Ariane Kane
NPC Diane Greenwood

BBO training undertaken for all.

European Youth Pairs Games.

Three pairs selected to play

Gavin Irvine & Ryan Lightowler

Mollie O'Donnell & Lucy O'Kane

Conor Gallagher & Luke McGarvey
NPC Sandie Millership

Unfortunately one pair are unable to accept the selection.

Training will be ongoing. Good luck to them all.

Diane and I have been part of the Irish Youth Committee this year and I must say it has been very rewarding as we were able to put forward pairs for selection for the different events.

Next year trials will be held 1st weekend in September in Dublin and all selection will be done on a basis of these trials. So all our youth need to enter regardless of their ability.

Coaching will be offered by IBU throughout the year.

Our coaching will continue on BBO thanks to Diane & Sandie.

Northern Ireland School Bridge

There are three secondary schools that have bridge clubs – Belfast Royal Academy (B.R.A.), Carrickfergus Grammar School (C.G.S.), Bangor Grammar School (B.G.S.)

Stuart Graham coaches in B.R.A.

John Reid coaches in C.G.S.

Andrew Walker coaches in B.G.S.

Coaching in schools & keeping the players who go off to University on board is an uphill struggle so anyone who could help in anyway would be much appreciated.

Primary School Bridge

Four local primary/prep schools were approached re “after school” Bridge club.

They would be interested if we went into the schools but not if we arranged the club in other premises, e.g. Derryvolgie Bridge Club.

Pat Johnston

Chairperson

NORTHERN IRELAND BRIDGE UNION

Notice is given that an **EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING** of the Union will take place immediately following conclusion of the 2018 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING on June 3rd 2018.

The Notice

That clause 3.1.5 (meetings of Council) of the Constitution be amended as follows:

3.1.5 A meeting shall be deemed to be quorate when 6 or more Councillors entitled to vote are present.

TO

A meeting shall be deemed to be quorate when 9 or more Members are present.

AND

That clause 4.1.5 (general meetings) of the Constitution be amended as follows

4.1.5 Each affiliated club may appoint a delegate or delegates ('the delegates') to attend a general meeting. Only such delegates are entitled to vote at a general meeting.

TO

Each affiliated club may appoint a delegate or delegates ('the delegates') to attend a general meeting. Such delegates must be members of the nominating club and only such delegates are entitled to vote at a general meeting.

Michael McFaul

Honorary Secretary.