

NORTHERN IRELAND BRIDGE UNION

SELECTION COMMITTEE

(Draft) Minutes of a meeting held on Wednesday August 9th 2017 at Derryvolgie from 3pm.

Present: Paul Tranmer (Chair), Nuala Mooney, Sam Hall, Ken Hammond, Eric Lesage.

In Attendance: Michael McFaul (Hon. Sec.)

1. Apologies

There were no apologies

2. Minutes of the meeting held on July 11th 2017

Subject to correction of typos, the minutes were agreed on a show of hands.

3. Matters Arising

Item 4: PT confirmed he had circulated Sandie Millership's NPC report on the 2017 Junior Camrose.

Item 5: MMcF confirmed he had circulated the updated version of the Manual but added that a couple of changes still needed to be made.

Item 6: MMcF said that Paul Porteous had clarified the situation regarding the standard of the 'Masters' team for the NS match. The designation was unchanged and not to be confused with the new 'Masters' grade adopted by the CBAI.

Item 7: NM had contacted Donegal and was waiting to hear from the other Ulster Counties re possible representation in the Inter-Regionals.

Item 8: MMcF had contacted the Organisers of the 2018 Commonwealth Bridge Event to say that the NIBU would not be sending an official team

Item 9: MMcF said that players canvassed over the format of the Camrose trials had overwhelmingly favoured Pairs over Teams

4. Camrose 2018

It was agreed that any pair requesting an exemption from the trials should do so as part of their application to enter the trial. Any exempted pair would still be liable for the entry fee. The closing date for entries would be August 27th.

Neither Alan Hill nor Sandie Millership was available for the first weekend. Following discussion it was decided to approach Eric McNicholl in the first instance, then Brian McDowell.

Action: MMcF to issue Notice of Trials.

Action: MMcF to recruit TD for first weekend.

Action: MMcF to check that KM has been booked for both weekends.

Action: EL to liaise with Liz Scott over dealing of boards.

5. Coaching

PT drew attention to John Ferguson's NPC reports for the 2017 Camrose series in which he drew attention to the need for NIBU players to undertake coaching. He also felt that the top players should be entered for the Gold Cup in order to expose them to competition at a high level. MMcF said that Council would decide whether or not it would continue to match-fund coaching.

Action: MMcF to take to the Management Committee.

6. Manual

MMcF said that the Calendar of tasks needed amended to show the Lady Milne team being named in November or as soon as possible after the trials had taken place. Also that the selection of the Intermediate teams for the Inter-Regionals should include the winners of the Inter 'A' league (and not 'B' as currently indicated)

7. Teltscher Trials

PT referred to correspondence from Harold Curran and it was agreed that the dates chosen for the 2018 trials were too early. It was agreed to ask the Tournament Committee to move the trial dates to February if possible.

Action: MMcF to refer to Tournament Committee.

8. Inter-Regionals.

The Camrose Trials notice would ask pairs entering whether they would be available to play on one of the Senior teams for this event on November 18-19th. NM would recruit the Intermediate teams and KH would look after the three 'Masters' equivalent Ulster teams.

Action: MMcF to send members' database to KH.

9. Sonya Britton Trophy

MMcF referred to the late withdrawal of Tyrone Currie from the Open Team. He stated that it had been general Custom & Practice to accept a substitute for the remaining player, should they still wish to play and should the substitute be of an appropriate standard. However it was conceded that a case could be made for replacing both players with another regular partnership if the substitute was not a regular partner of the remaining player. Following discussion it was agreed that, following withdrawal of a player, the remaining single selected player would be permitted to play with a suitable substitute partner, unless a reserve pair had been selected initially.

10. Any Other Business

SH informed the meeting that he had been asked to serve on the IBU International Match Committee. This news was welcomed by all.

11. Date of Next meeting

Monday August 28th 2017 at Derryvolgie from 11am. KH submitted apologies in advance.

The meeting ended at 4.55pm.

Michael McFaul

Hon. Secretary.