

NORTHERN IRELAND BRIDGE UNION

(Emergency) MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Minutes of a meeting held outside Belfast Boat Club on Thursday October 1st, 2020

Present: Heather Hill (Chair), John Murchan, Michael McFaul, Harold Curran, Anne Fitzpatrick, Ian Hamilton.

1. **Apologies**

None

2. **Minutes of the meeting held on August 6th, 2020**

The Minutes were agreed by all present.

3. **Matters Arising.**

MMcF agreed to check the status of the agreed financial support to the University of Stirling.

Action: MMcF

4. **Congress Review**

Feedback had been generally very positive. IH was congratulated on the work he had done. It was noted that the various events had attracted entries from all Home Nations and Ireland.

5. **Recent and Forthcoming Competitions**

IH reported that the **Inter-Club** event had been only partially successful with only 4 clubs participating. A question arose as to whether a TD should be allowed to play while directing. It was agreed that this would be acceptable in the imminent **East Down Pairs** but that, as far as possible, directors would be non-playing in all future events. The **Belfast Pairs** would be run as a Swiss event using IMP scoring. It was agreed that all future events would be open to members of all 5 'Home' Unions. HC proposed that a second leader board of NIBU players only be made available. HH proposed that online directors be awarded a £25 fee per 2-session event and this was accepted. HC to submit details of the **IBU Simultaneous Pairs** on November 3rd, to Helen Hall for posting on the website. HC also agreed to co-ordinate the setting up of an **online league** based on the SBU model i.e. to include teams at all levels and run on a Swiss basis over a 10-week period. There would be no entry fee and only NIBU teams would be eligible for inclusion.

Action: HC

6. **Online Club Registration**

It was agreed that all new clubs must list at least 20 members and that all dealings would be solely through the club Secretary.

7. **Affiliation**

MMcF reminded members that fees would be due from October and that he would be sending details to all clubs. He asked that consideration be given to allowing membership of multiple clubs without the need to make multiple payments, but this was not accepted. The fee to remain at £5 per member per club membership.

8. **Correspondence**

An email to Council from Rex Anderson was circulated in which the legal status of the Union was questioned following failure to hold the AGM in June. Members strongly felt that to have done so would have been against the law on Covid-19 prevention prevailing at the time. Reference was made to the UK Governments circular allowing the postponement of AGM's until late September.

9. **Inter-Provincials**

This event would be run online. HC agreed to liaise over team selection.

Action: HC

10. **Complaint**

A member had complained in writing that there was evidence of online collusion in a recent event. A range of options was discussed as to how the matter be addressed and it was agreed that the EBU be asked for details of their procedures in handling such situations.

Action: MMcF to contact EBU

11. **Outstanding Home Internationals**

MMcF confirmed that BGB were proposing to hold the 2020 Teltscher and Lady Milne events via 'Real Bridge' online at the end of October. Full details would be given in the minutes of the BGB meeting held earlier in the day. It was also confirmed that both Camrose weekends and Junior Camrose/Peggy Bayer events would be held online at the usual time.

11. **Trials**

A decision on holding Camrose trials was postponed pending a review of the Teltscher/Lady Milne experience later in the month.

The meeting ended at 4.10pm.

Michael McFaul
Hon. Secretary.