

**Report to OBA Committee
16th November 2016**

A team was convened in October 2015, comprising:-

Peter Finbow,
Claire MacDonagh
Sandra Nicholson
Mike Robinson

Due to absences, the team had not met in person before 3rd November (three members) but have exchanged e-mails on a number of issues.

The key first task is to compile a budget as this process forces the resolution of numerous issues. Update is as follows:-

Congress Issues	
Date	11 th and 12 th June 2016 seem to have been researched and agreed upon before the team was convened.
Venue	Marlborough School is thought to be a good venue and PF will approach them to agree a price and other details. PF to investigate whether they have upgraded chairs so that we don't have to hire extras. It is anticipated we will have to commit the smoking will not be allowed anywhere on site. Agreed to carry out a review of other options for 2017.
Catering- Food	Last year's catering costs were at an inappropriate level. The team have decided that food should not be included in the price. It should be either optional or not offered. MR and SN to meet with the caterers to discuss options (Diana Nettleton arranging).
Catering- drinks	Not yet resolved whether tea and coffee would be included or separate. Will listen to the caterers first and research other possible providers.
Pricing and Prizes	Working on £24 per player per day without food or tea/ coffee. If we decide to include these refreshments, the price would be £25. Prizes – EBU scale as last year.
Directors	MR to speak to Stephen Brown- hoping to explore the option of 3 rather than 4 directors.
Organiser	Haven't yet spoken to Gary Conrad. Not aware of any other reasonable options. MR to contact ASAP.
Juniors	Interested to hear opinions as to what we can do to encourage juniors. At a minimum a heavily-reduced

	entry fee for under 20s.
Marketing	<p>SN to produce the flier/ brochure.</p> <p>Planning on 2 ads in EBU quarterly. This may be impacted by the electronic nature of the document. To discuss- others' thoughts welcomed.</p> <p>SB has added congress to OBA website. It is on EBU site but more details will be needed on both in due course.</p> <p>To explore on-line entry with SB.</p>
Licensing	MR to check position with EBU.
Organisation Issues	
Entries Secretary	CM is concerned at the workload. SN and MR to take over or assist as required. To discuss.
OBA members	To discuss mobilisation of these nearer the time.