

IRISH BRIDGE UNION MINUTES

The 61st annual meeting of The Irish Bridge Union was held in the Crowne Plaza Hotel, Dundalk on Monday 10th of August 2015 at 7.00 p.m.

The meeting was attended by Liam Hanratty, Michael Mc Faul, John Murchan, Ciara Burns, Emer Kee, Colin Jeffries, Martin Brady, Ian Lindsay, Gordon Lessells, Kay Downes, Freda Fitzgerald, Rita Cassidy, Anne Fitzpatrick and Harold Curran.

IN ATTENDANCE

Paul Porteous.

1. APOLOGIES

Joe Moran, Aileen Timoney and John Bergin.

2. MINUTES OF MEETING OF 2nd MARCH 2015

These were circulated prior to the meeting and taken as read. The minutes were passed on a proposal by John Murchan and seconded by Anne Fitzpatrick.

3. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Paul Porteous is attending to the IBU promotional banner. He informed the meeting a new Chain of Office had been commissioned.

4. HON. SECRETARY'S REPORT

This was circulated prior to the meeting and taken as read.

5. HON. TREASURER'S REPORT

This was presented by Gordon Lessells. The surplus in the accounts this year was 22,455 euros. Ian Lindsay congratulated Gordon on his good work. This was partly due to increase in Competition Income from the O'Connor trophy with nine extra teams. Thanks to Paul, Kay and the Head Office staff for their hard work during the year. In future competition income is to be shown net in the accounts. The report was passed on a proposal by Ian Lindsay and seconded by Michael McFaul.

6. OUT- GOING PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

This was presented by Ciara Burns. Ciara said it was an honour to hold the position of President and thanked Harold and Gordon for their support. It was a quiet year with the Seniors Congress being the main event. She welcomed Liam Hanratty and wished him well.

7. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

a) PRESIDENT

Liam Hanratty ; proposed by John Murchan and seconded by Harold Curran.

Liam thanked Ciara for all her hard work during the year especially for the efficient meetings.

b) VICE-PRESIDENT

John Bergin; proposed by Anne Fitzpatrick, seconded by Michael McFaul .

c) JOINT HONORARY SECRETARIES

Harold Curran; Gordon Lessells; proposed by Ian Lindsay, seconded by Colin Jeffries.

d) HONORARY TREASURER

Gordon Lessells; proposed by Ciara Burns, seconded by Rita Cassidy.

8. ELECTION OF REPORTING ACCOUNTANT

B. Dolan; proposed by Gordon Lessells seconded by Martin Brady .

9. ELECTION OF HONORARY LEGAL ADVISER

Ms E Joyce; proposed by Emer Kee, seconded by Freda Fitzgerald.

10. ELECTION OF EMERGENCY COMMITTEE

The President, Vice-President, and the Joint Hon Secretaries were appointed as the Emergency Committee; proposed by Ian Lindsay, seconded by Anne Fitzpatrick .

11. ELECTION OF FINANCE COMMITTEE

Treasurer Gordon Lessells, Joe Moran, Ian Lindsay, Anne Fitzpatrick and Harold Curran; proposed by, Ciara Burns seconded by Martin Brady.

12. ELECTION OF INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE

- Martin Brady: Convenor
- John Murchan
- Anne Fitzpatrick
- B J O'Brien
- Kay Downes
- Ciara Burns
- Diarmuid Reddan; proposed by Harold Curran, seconded by Gordon Lessells.

13. IRISH YOUTH BRIDGE COMMITTEE

- Thomas MacCormac: Convenor;
- John Connolly
- Ciara Burns
- Marcin Rudzinski
- David Synott
- Patricia Kelly
- Liz Ann O'Reilly
- Elva Gannon proposed by Anne Fitzpatrick, seconded by Martin Brady

IYBC report will be presented by the new Committee at the next meeting.

14. IBU COMPETITIONS: Senior Congress, Club Pairs, All-Ireland Teams (Egan)

The Egan was a ten Team Event this year, and was won by Team-Captain Mark Moran, Rory Boland, Hugh McGann and Tommy Garvey.

Seniors Congress this year will be held at La Mon Hotel, Belfast on 1st, 2nd & 3rd March 2016. The event will be organised by Anne Hassan and Ciara Burns. There will be separate sections for Inter A's and B's subject to entry. A brochure is to be prepared now. Entry for Club Pairs was down due to clashes with other competitions. Gordon Lessells is to carry out a review and supply figures to November meeting to have new system in place for May 2017.

Burke and O'Connor Trophies. It was stressed that entry conditions of all competitions must be adhered to going forward. Information sheet to be prepared.

15. CORRESPONDENCE

An email was received from an Intermediate B player who was pleased to play and enjoyed taking part.

All correspondence to be forwarded prior to the meeting.

Alan Hill had requested funding for TD course in Prague and the meeting was informed the NIBU would be supporting him. Diarmuid Reddan will also be attending.

16. AOB

Paul Porteous informed the meeting of online teaching project in Holland with 13,000/14,000 younger players. He was to enquire about the possibility of this being translated into English. Council was in favour of this proposal

Congratulations to Paul on his appointment as Hon Secretary to the EBL. A tremendous honour to both Paul and Irish bridge. Fearghal O'Boyle has been appointed as Assistant chief Tournament Director in the EBL - a well deserved honour for Fearghal.

Congratulations to Alan Hill on receiving an invitation to participate in the Advanced TD course to be held in Prague.

John Murchan advised of the need for Youth Committees to have a database of information eg dates of birth of Junior players. This to be readily available to the Joint secretaries of the IBU.

Margot McClure will be 100 next year. Ciara Burns said this tremendous achievement should be recognised.

19. DATE AND VENUE FOR NEXT COUNCIL MEETING

This will be held at Crowne Plaza Hotel, Dundalk on 16th November 2015.



16th November 2015