

MINUTES IRISH BRIDGE UNION

A meeting of Council was held in the Crowne Plaza Hotel on Monday, 2nd March 2015 at 7.00 p.m.

Present:-

N.I.B.U Mr H. Curran (Jt. Hon. Sec.), Ms Ciara Burns (President), Mr Ian Lindsay, Mr John Murchan, Mr Michael McFaul, Mr John Bergin and Mrs Anne Fitzpatrick.

C.B.A.I. Mr G.Lessells. (Jt. Hon. Sec.) Mrs.K.Downes, and Mrs Rita Cassidy.
In attendance Mr P.Porteous (P.R.O.)

1. Apologies.

Mr Martin Brady, Ms Aileen Timoney, Ms Emer Kee, Mr Colin Jeffries, Ms Barbara Collins, Mr Liam Hanratty, Mr Fearghal O'Boyle and Mr Joe Moran.

2. Minutes of the meeting of 10th November 2014.

These having been circulated were taken as read. The minutes were adopted on a proposal by Mr John Murchan, seconded by Mr Michael McFaul. These were duly signed by the President, Ms C Burns.

3. Matters arising.

There was a discussion about the missing President's Chain of Office. It was decided that Mr Paul Porteous would look in to replacement and design of a new chain.

Consideration is being given to hosting the World Championships in Belfast in 2019. Mr Paul Porteous is to liaise with the WBF.

Mr John Murchan is to contact Mr Pat McDevitt re Cup for Senior Teams.

In the absence of Mr Martin Brady there was no report on a sports psychologist for the International Teams.

Mr Paul Porteous advised that the promotional banner would be available for the IBU Senior Teams.

4. Finance. – Grants to International Teams

It is likely that the Senior Team will be invited to take part in the D'Orsi Bowl on 26th September to 10th October 2015 in Chennai, India. Mr Gordon Lessells had calculated the cost to be in the region of €15,000. Ms Ciara Burns suggested the NIBU could be approached for a contribution.

After discussion it was suggested the normal grant for International Teams should be paid from present IBU reserve funds i.e. Entry fee \$4,500. Expenses €100 per day for eight days plus €500 for flights with full expenses for NPC.

If qualification for later stages was achieved additional funds would be provided.

Proposed Mr Harold Curran

Seconded Mrs Anne Fitzpatrick

5. Competition Reports

Mr Gordon Lessells distributed a report on the Burke and O'Connor Trophies which is attached. In total 61 teams participated compared to 45 last year. It was hoped that in the future, there would be more teams in the O'Connor with greater awareness by Intermediates.

An e-mail was received from Mrs Helen Holman re application of the rules of entry to the Burke Trophy. After discussion it was decided that the rules should be strictly adhered to i.e. Players must be members of an affiliated club in the county they are representing. A copy of conditions of entry is attached.

National points for O'Connor would be in line with the Burke but starting with a lower award for first place. It was decided in future Area Master teams would play in the Burke Trophy. The O'Connor Trophy would be restricted to Intermediate teams.

Proposed Mr John Murchan

Seconded Mrs Anne Fitzpatrick

6 International Committee.

In his absence, Mr Martin Brady nominated Mr John Murchan to be spokesman for the International Committee.

The Reserve Pair of Mr Pat McDevitt and Mr Gay Keaveney nominated by the Senior Team for the Europeans and ratified by the International Committee had been noted in the minutes of IBU Council of 24th March 2014.

Correspondence had been received from the Senior Team re possible D'Orsi place and was reviewed by Council.

After discussion Council saw no reason to change the Reserve Pair thus upholding the decision of the International Committee.

Proposed Mr Harold Curran

Seconded Mr Michael McFaul

Accepted by unanimous vote

7. Approval of payment of Grant of Expenses to Joint Hon Secretaries and Hon Treasurer and President

President €400

CBAI Joint Secretary/ Treasurer €750 plus expenses

NIBU Joint Secretary £500

This was agreed same as last year.

Proposed Mrs Anne Fitzpatrick

Seconded Mr John Murchan

10. Correspondence

Bridge 60+. G Lessells read information about a project running in Poland to encourage those over 60 to engage in bridge in order to ward off the effects of dementia and other diseases of aging. There was a proposal to seek European Union financial support for a Europe wide campaign. Council agreed to await further developments.

Alan Hill, Bernard Higgins and Eamon Galligan participated in an EBL Regional Tournament Director's Workshop in Alicante, Spain. Alan Hill received an A grade and would be invited to participate in the next EBL Main Course.

11. Any other business.

The IBU Senior Congress was to be promoted by all Council members and last year's website would be updated.

If an invitation comes for D'Orsi Bowl, a further unscheduled Council meeting will be convened.

12. Date and venue of 61st Annual meeting.

The next annual meeting will be held on Monday, 10th August at 7.00 p.m. in Crowne Plaza Dundalk subject to agreement with the incoming President.

