

# NORTHERN IRELAND BRIDGE UNION

## COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the NIBU Council held at Corrs Corner Hotel on Wednesday February 1<sup>st</sup> 2017 from 7pm.

### Councilors present:

President: Ian Lindsay (IL),

Chairperson: Anne Hassan (AH)

Harold Curran (HC) , Sandie Millership (SM), Pat Johnston (PJ), Toni Sproule (TS), Ken Hammond (KH), Rosemary Kilpatrick (RK), Heather Hill (HH), Ciara Burns (CB), Valerie Von Hof (VVH), Pat Coull (PC), John Bergin (JB)

### Officers present:

Secretary: Michael McFaul (MMcF), Treasurer: Anne Fitzpatrick (AF), Competitions Secretary: Liz Scott (LS)

### In Attendance as Observers:

Paul Tranmer (PT), Alan Hill (AH), John Murchan (JM), Clare Watson (CW) Andrina Kelleher (AK), Derek Cannell (DC), David Greenwood (DG)

#### 1. Apologies

Robin Burns, Norma Irwin, Eric McNicholl

#### 2. Minutes of the meeting held on November 23<sup>rd</sup> 2016

On a proposal by RK and seconded by AF, the minutes were agreed.

#### 3. Matters Arising

##### **Item 4:5**

It was agreed that **the EGM** would now take place between the two sessions of the Pairs at the Spring Congress.

**Action: SM to confirm times of each session.**

##### **Item 4:9**

IL stated that he and Greer Mackenzie would sponsor the **Teltscher Trophy** this year and that he would be selecting the 6<sup>th</sup> (sponsor's) team accordingly. On behalf of Council, AH thanked both sponsors for their generosity.

#### 4. Correspondence

- a) AH referred to an email she had received immediately prior to the previous meeting but not discussed. It referred to certain perceived irregularities within the Selection Committee. The content was noted. A lengthy discussion ensued and it was confirmed that Council would appoint Chairs of the Selection Committee and Laws & Ethics Committee at its first meeting each June.

- b) AH referred to correspondence from Greer Mackenzie, Ken Hammond and Derek Cannell, all of which stated strongly their opposition to the team selection for Camrose 2. Their comments were noted.
- c) AH referred to correspondence from DC, editor of the NIBU magazine. An article had been received for publication that suggested a response would be appropriate. It was confirmed that such a response would be forthcoming and both articles would be published in the forthcoming edition.
- d) MMcF drew members' attention to the forthcoming European Open Championships in Montecatini in June 2017.
- e) AF clarified issues raised by PC in her email requesting a reduction in the cost to club members playing in Inter-Club Duplicates.

#### **5. Selection Committee Business**

Several members spoke out against the decision to drop the entire Camrose team for the second weekend, IL and CB denouncing it in very forceful terms while other members also expressed their concerns. CW responded in defence of the decision as representative of the 'non-conflicted' selectors. JM reminded all present that the Camrose circular had made it clear that the selectors would not necessarily be bound by the results of the trials.

A discussion took place around the correct way to deal with decisions in committee when 'conflicted' members were present. It was agreed that a conflicted Chairman should relinquish the Chair to a non-conflicted member.

Following further lively discussion it was agreed that a procedure for selecting International teams would be agreed at Council and formally adopted in the revised SC Manual.

HC asked that it be made clear that Council's instruction regarding the format of Camrose trials i.e. that they should replicate the actual event as far as possible must specify the requirement that all matches are 16 boards in duration. It was confirmed that this requirement had already been agreed.

#### **6. Laws & Ethics Committee Business**

Members felt they had not had time to study the documentation provided late and consideration was deferred. However a point was raised that 'Doubles' should be added in to the Alerting policy.

In the absence of any LEC member sitting on Council, it was agreed to invite the LEC Chair to the next meeting as spokesperson for the committee.

***Action: LEC Chair to be invited to next Council meeting***

#### **7. Magazine**

DC confirmed that he was standing down as long-standing editor. AH paid tribute to Derek's work over many years and his efforts to keep the magazine going were warmly appreciated by all present. PC suggested that appropriate contact details and miscellaneous information be included in future issues for the benefit of new readers and potential affiliates.

It was agreed that a new editor of the magazine would be sought and that a small editorial team be set up as support. CB agreed to help source articles for same.

#### **8. Diary**

AH asked that the 2017-18 joint diary be provided without an insert listing clubs i.e. that they be listed in the main body.

HH asked that great care be taken to try and avoid clashes with other NIBU fixtures and certain CBAI/IBU fixtures.

#### **9. Competition Secretary's Report**

LS briefed the meeting:

- a) The Provincial Mixed Pairs would be held in May at the Killyhevlin Hotel

- b) Entries to recent and imminent events were mixed in size. 12 teams had entered so far for the NI Teams.
- c) Barbara Ewart would be invited to join the Tournament Committee as an Intermediate representative.
- d) It would be necessary for someone to contact Bill Perceval-Price in order to collect Norma's work-in-progress. CB agreed to do this.

**Action: CB**

**10. AGM**

After much discussion it was agreed to hold the 2017 AGM at Corr's Corner on Sunday June 25<sup>th</sup>.

**11. Date of next meeting**

Wednesday May 3<sup>rd</sup> 2017 from 7.00pm.

There being no other business, the meeting ended at 10.00pm

Michael McFaul  
Hon. Secretary