

# NORTHERN IRELAND BRIDGE UNION

## COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the NIBU Council held at Corr's Corner on Wednesday June 28<sup>th</sup> 2017 at 6.30pm?

Officers present: Ian Lindsay (President), Anne Hassan (Chairperson), Michael McFaul (Hon. Secretary), Liz Scott (Hon. Competitions Secretary), Robin Burns (Hon. Master Points Secretary)

Councillors present: Pat Johnston, Barbara Ewart, Eric McNicholl, John Bergin, Rosemary Kilpatrick, and Ken Hammond.

### 1. Apologies

Anne Fitzpatrick (Hon. Treasurer), Heather Hill, Toni Sproule, Harold Curran, Helen Hall.

### 2. Minutes of the meeting held on May 11<sup>th</sup> 2017

On a proposal by Ian Lindsay and seconded by Sandie Millership, the Minutes were agreed and all business decisions were ratified.

### 3. Matters Arising

#### **Item 5: Laws & Ethics Terms of Reference and related documents.**

The proposed amendment to the 'Code of Conduct' was partially approved.

The 'Terms of Reference' should include a statement to the effect that all complaints are made to the Secretary. Should a complaint be made about Council or a member of Council, the Secretary will refer the matter directly to L&E.

The amendments to the 'Disciplinary Procedure' and 'Standing Orders' were accepted.

The referrals to the Tournament Committee were not discussed but the proposed course of action was agreed.

**Action: MMcF to inform Rex Anderson. RA & LEC to revise documents as indicated.**

#### **Item 8(b): Commonwealth Bridge Event**

It was agreed that the Selection Committee would consider whether to support sending a team in principle given the pairs who had indicated a willingness to play. Only then will Council consider what funding to provide –if any.

**Action: MMcF to refer to Selection Committee.**

#### **Item 9: Selection Committee Manual**

The revised version of the Manual was agreed subject to the following amendments:

- a) Section 2 (Selection Policy for Home Internationals) should include a statement to the effect that pairs finishing 1-2-3 in any trial will automatically be selected for the first weekend and that the option is retained to replace the pair finishing 3<sup>rd</sup> with the pair finishing 4<sup>th</sup> should the committee feel it desirable to do so – using a range of criteria already stated in the manual.

- b) Section 2: 2.5 (Duties of the Committee) should include a statement that the names of the 'experienced players' be made known and posted on a notice board at and during any trial.
- c) A statement should make it clear how many places players are competing for when entering a trial i.e. whether a pair(s) has been exempted.
- d) 'Selection Policy for North-South match'. 5&6 are the wrong way round i.e. Intermediate 'A' comes before 'B' – the former being the higher grade.  
**Action: MMcF to inform Paul Tranmer. PT to revise the Manual accordingly.**

**Item 11: Website Information Co-Ordinator**

Liz Scott stated that Ian Hamilton had agreed to take on the role.

**4. AGM Review**

Anne Hassan expressed disappointment at the low turnout. Following discussion, it was agreed to return to holding the meeting on a Wednesday evening in early June with June 13<sup>th</sup> 2018 being provisionally set for the next AGM

**5. EGM Review**

The meeting had accomplished its purpose and there was nothing to add.

**6. Appointment of 7 delegates to the Irish Bridge Union**

To be: Harold Curran, Anne Fitzpatrick, Michael McFaul, Anne Hassan, Colin Jeffries, Ian Lindsay and John Murchan.

**7. Appointment of a delegate to Bridge Great Britain**

To be: Brian McDowell

**8. Appointment of International Match Manager**

To be: Brian McDowell

**9. Appointment of Honorary Congress Organiser**

To be: Sandie Millership

**10. Appointment of Solicitor**

It was considered not necessary to make such an appointment and that, should the need arise, an external source would be sought.

**11. Appointment of Committee Members**

**a) Selection Committee (following election)**

Paul Tranmer (Convenor), Nuala Mooney, Ken Hammond, Sam Hall, Eric Lesage.

**b) Tournament Committee**

Liz Scott (Chair & Convenor), Ian Hamilton, Brian McDowell, David Leeman, Barbara Ewart, Sandie Millership

**c) Laws & Ethics Committee**

Rex Anderson (Convenor), Shelagh McCaughan, Ian Hamilton, Elbha Walmsley, Alan Sharp

**d) Youth Committee**

Pat Johnston (Convenor), Diane Greenwood, Sandie Millership, Norma Irwin, Barbara Lomas, Rosemary Kilpatrick.

Anne Hassan reminded the meeting that all officers were members of the Congress Committee.

**Action: MMcF to notify all appointees.**

**12. Diary 2017-18**

LS asked if an additional but separate NIBU fixture list could be provided as an insert. MMcF said he would check with Paul Porteous.

**13. Gala Pairs**

Pat Johnston briefed the meeting on progress with entries. Anne Hassan appealed for helpers on the day (August 6<sup>th</sup>). A general discussion ensued as to the pros and cons of using La Mon as a major venue for NIBU events. It was agreed to defer a fuller discussion on the question of venues to the September meeting

**14. Multi 2Diamonds defence.**

Ian Lindsay asked that LEC be asked to consider whether players had a right to consult their defence to this convention at the table – as had been shown to be the case in another jurisdiction.

**Action: MMcF to refer to LEC**

**15. Rules of Bridge**

Liz Scott proposed that the Union supply all affiliated clubs with a free copy of the revised rules to be effective from September 1<sup>st</sup> 2017. This suggestion was warmly supported by all present and it was agreed to purchase 50 copies.

**Action: LS to order and post or deliver a copy to all clubs and principal TD's.**

**16. Date of Next Meeting**

It was agreed to meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each alternate month excepting June to replace July. Should the date clash with an important fixture, another date the same week will be selected

Provisional dates are therefore: September 13<sup>th</sup> 2017, November 8<sup>th</sup> 2017, January 10<sup>th</sup> 2018, March 14<sup>th</sup> 2018, May 9<sup>th</sup> 2018, June 20<sup>th</sup> 2018 (AGM to be June 13<sup>th</sup>)

With business concluded, the meeting ended at 8.50pm.

Michael McFaul  
Hon. Secretary.