

NORTHERN IRELAND BRIDGE UNION

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Minutes of a meeting held at BTMM offices on Tuesday July 24th 2018 from 1pm.

Present: Anne Fitzpatrick (Chair), Michael McFaul, Ian Hamilton, Liz Scott, Harold Curran, Anne Hassan.

In Attendance: Norman Lacey

1. Apologies

None

2. Minutes of the meeting held on May 2nd 2018

The Minutes were agreed by all present with the exception of IH who had not been at the meeting.

3. Matters Arising

There were no Matters Arising.

4. Youth Bridge

Norman Lacey tabled a paper and outlined the plans he and Norma Irwin had to encourage bridge participation in young people. Members warmly approved of the various proposals and asked that they be developed through the Youth Committee.

5. Budget 2018-19

Anne Fitzpatrick presented draft budget for the year ended 31st March 2019. This indicated a surplus in the region of £4,000 in line with previous years results. The Union has £33,000 on deposit and £11,000 in National Savings Bonds. The possibility of buying a new dealing machine was discussed together with replacing missing trophies. A request for approval would be made to Council. Support would be given to Norman Lacey and Norma Irwin in their pilot project to promote bridge in schools .

The long term aim of the Union is to acquire premises so that further savings are required.

Action: Council

6. Cost of Interclub

IH said that he estimated the competition had probably peaked in terms of participation. As costs had risen, he suggested a rise in entry fee to £3.50 from October 2019. This was to be reviewed as concerns were raised over the effect on entry of the cost increase.

7. Competitions

Competition income had increased in 2018 but further efforts were needed to encourage more entries to all competitions. LS queried %age pay out and it was agreed this was 40% of

the entry money. A spreadsheet was available based on number of entries but only really worked for competitions with only one entry category.

8. League & Cup Rules

MMcF brief members on business transacted at the recent L&E meeting. It was accepted that the existing League rules – in certain aspects - did not follow the more general Competition Rules as contained in the NIBU Manual. It was pointed out that the rules as expressed in the manual were clearly discriminatory towards players from CBAI as there is no restriction on players from other NBO's. It was agreed that L&E be asked to revise both the General Rules and the specific League & Cup Rules so that they were entirely consistent with each other. The revised versions to be agreed by Council in September and to be effective for the incoming season.

Action: MMcF to inform L&E.

9. Communication.

HC said he was strongly opposed to business being transacted via email especially when it contained references and discussion on individual NIBU members.

10. Date of next meeting

Immediately before Council on September 12th 2018. Members thanked AF for her hospitality.

Michael McFaul

Hon. Sec.