

NORTHERN IRELAND BRIDGE UNION

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Minutes of a meeting held at 1, Lenamore Drive, Jordanstown on Thursday August 25th 2016 at 5.00pm.

Officers Present: Anne Fitzpatrick (AF) (Chair) Michael McFaul (MMcF), Liz Scott (LS), Robin Burns (RB)

In Attendance: Anne Hassan (AH), NIBU Chair.

1. **Apologies:** John Bergin (Immediate Past Chair).
2. **Declarations of Interest** – AF declared an interest in item 8 on the agenda.
3. **Minutes of the meeting on March 9th 2016.**

The minutes were agreed.

4. **Matters Arising**

a) Item 5: **Sales of Equipment etc.**

Agreed that clubs purchasing items from the CBAI shop were to make their own arrangements for delivery

b) Item 10: **Entry fees inclusive of meal.**

LS said there were quite a few complaints about the meal at La Mon during the Gala Pairs. However those present said the meal had been excellent. It was agreed that players needed to be reminded of the outstanding value the NIBU gets from hotels like La Mon and that it should be incumbent on players to support the venue by purchasing a meal, drinks etc.

5. **Financial Position**

AF tabled a cash flow statement. As of August 24th there was a cash balance of £1400 with £27k remaining on deposit.

It was agreed to pay the annual contribution to the IBU (£2k) now.

AF confirmed that the Leagues and Inter-Club events were the main sources of income.

Suggestions were made as to who could be approached as a potential Examining Accountant. MMcF agreed to contact Neill Cauwood in the first instance. The appointment would be ratified at the proposed EGM.

Members queried the extent to which the NIBU was committed to the Teltscher Trophy as there were concerns over costs. MMcF agreed to find out more from BGB representative Brian McDowell.

Action: MMcF to speak to Neill Cauwood and Brian McDowell

6. Tournament Directors

Following discussion it was agreed that the following compensation payments would apply for both playing and non-playing directors:

£20 (1 session event)

£50 (2 session event held on one day and inclusive of meal)

Travel – 35p per mile.

A director who plays voluntarily would be liable for the normal entry fee.

A director who plays e.g. in order to facilitate the movement would not pay an entry fee.

In all cases, TD's to make monthly claims

Action: Proposals to be approved by Council and full details to be posted on the website.

Action: AF to draft proposals for standardizing prizes awarded for NIBU events.

7. EGM arrangements

Agreed that the agenda would cover the appointment of the Examining Accountant and the approval of switching to a 'Delegates' system for voting at the AGM.

Agreed to hold the EGM immediately preceding the next Council meeting on September 28th. I.e. at 6.30pm with Council to follow immediately after.

Action: AH to approach 'Corrs Corner' as possible venue.

8. World Bridge Championships, Poland.

AF outlined the current position regarding IBU funding for teams attending. The Open, Seniors and Ladies Team would receive 1000euros (100 euros per day plus 200euros in lieu of flights). It had been made clear prior to trials being held that the Mixed Team would not be funded however the Seniors team had withdrawn thereby releasing funds. The IBU had decided to partially fund (500 euros) the Mixed Team which consists of 4 NIUBU players and 2 CBAI players.

AF left the room.

It was agreed that, in the absence of a general increase in the annual contribution, the NIBU could make no further contribution other than by holding a fund-raising event.

However members expressed surprise and disappointment that 100% of the Seniors funding had not been re-allocated to the Mixed Team.

Action: MMcF to seek clarification from John Bergin

9. Dealing Machine

LS reported that John Murchan would purchase one of the WBF machines following their use in Poland. The cost was approx... 1800 euros but represented outstanding value.

Action: MMcF to seek urgent Council agreement.

10. Missing Trophies

Action: AH agreed to contact Norma Perceval-Price to see what progress had been made.

11. Officers' duties

Action: AH circulated copies of current job descriptions as posted on the website. It was agreed that all need updated.

12. Constitution

Action: MMcF agreed to ensure the final version of the 2016 Constitution would be posted on the website.

13. Master Points

RB said all regradings were now complete and now posted on the website. RB and Bill Scott had drafted the new simplified MP scheme and it was now on the front page.

Action: All comments welcome.

14. Council Vacancy

MMcF reported that Michael McIlroy had withdrawn from Council for health reasons, thus creating a vacancy.

Action: The matter would be referred to Council.

15. Tournament Committee

Action: LS asked MMcF to convene a meeting during October.

Date and venue for next meeting – to be confirmed.

The meeting ended at 8.45pm. AH was thanked for her hospitality.

Michael McFaul
Hon. Secretary.