

NORTHERN IRELAND BRIDGE UNION

SELECTION COMMITTEE

Minutes of a meeting held at Kelvin-Malone on October 16th 2016 from 7pm.

Present: Harold Curran (HC) Chair, Michael McFaul (MMcF) Secretary, Norma Irwin (NI), John Murchan (JM), Paul Tranmer (PT), Rex Anderson (RA), Toni Sproule (TS), Clare Watson (CW), Nuala Mooney (NM).

1. Apologies

None

2. Conflict of Interest

JM said he had written to Council but MMcF said he had not received any communication on this issue. JM was asked to re-submit the email.

3. Minutes of the meeting held on September 14th 2016

Item 5: HC asked that the minute be amended and MMcF agreed to do this

4. Role of the Chair

RA expressed concern that no cognisance had been taken of his comments on the draft 'Conditions of Entry' prior to its posting on the website. HC said he felt justified in proceeding to issue the notice, a majority of members having said they were content with it and the deadline was very short. NI proposed that RA draft model 'Conditions of Entry' for the SC Manual as a way forward. This was agreed by all.

'Non-conflicted' members expressed concern that the Chairman had not responded to their request to change the format of the Camrose trials in the light of two late entries and one withdrawal. HC replied that he had not been asked to call a meeting. Members conceded that proposed changes to the trials format arising from admission of the late entries should've been discussed at the informal meeting of non-conflicted members with the Chairman.

A vigorous discussion ensued during which members on both sides spoke with considerable passion. However no resolution was forthcoming.

5. Emails

CW expressed concern that an email intended for committee members only had been forwarded to an external source. HC reminded the meeting that no email should ever be considered confidential. MMcF stated that experience had shown that this was indeed the case. However he said matters could be discussed in confidence within meetings in the knowledge that highly contentious or personal details would be withheld from the minutes.

6. Inter-Provincials

NM confirmed that Frank Gibbons & Stephen Trant had been notified. MMcF agreed to notify the reserves pairs – Rosarie Heatherington & Helen Hall, Hilary & John Ferguson.

Action: MMcF to notify reserves

7. Coaching

JM reported on his discussions with Michael Byrne regarding online and 'live' coaching for the Lady Milne players. TS agreed to canvas views of LM trialists following a more detailed proposal arising from JM's discussions with Michael Byrne.

Action: TS to liaise with JM

8. Selection Committee Manual – revisions.

HC proposed that this item merited a meeting on its own. All were in favour. RA agreed to do a draft and circulate for comment in order to expedite the process. This offer was gratefully received by all.

Action: RA to circulate first draft when ready (may be early 2017)

9. Screen Rules during trials

There was general agreement that the new (CBAI) rules had resulted in a quieter playing environment but that there was room for even more improvement. PT and JM said the rules were not being adhered to rigidly. MMcF was asked to check if BGB regulations would include new screen rules.

Action: MMcF to contact BGB

10. Camrose team selection

HC, PT, JM and RA left the meeting and the remaining members agreed to select those pairs finishing 1-2-3 in the trials i.e. Rex Anderson and David Greenwood, Ciara Burns & John Murchan, Greer Mackenzie & Hastings Campbell with Ian Hamilton & John Ferguson as reserves. The role of NPC to be trawled and players consulted over the appointment. However the committee would make the final decision.

Action: MMcF to notify all.

11. Date of next meeting

Sunday November 20th following conclusion of the Lady Milne trial.

The meeting ended at 8.40pm.

Michael McFaul
Hon. Secretary