

NORTHERN IRELAND BRIDGE UNION

TOURNAMENT COMMITTEE

Minutes of a meeting held at Kelvin-Malone on Thursday March 24th 2016 from 1pm.

Present: Liz Scott, Chair (LS), Michael McFaul, Secretary (MMcF), Anne Hassan (AH), Brian McDowell (BMcD), June Spiers (JS), Ian Hamilton (IH), David Leeman (DL)

1. Matters Arising from the meeting held on December 2nd 2015

a) Agnew Cup

Action: JS to email details to all golf clubs

b) Mackinnon Cup

An outstanding issue was now resolved.

c) Inventory

Action: LS to order 20 tablecloths from Harold Curran.

d) Trophies

It was noted that John Bergin had donated a trophy in memory of his mother Pat for the Northern Pairs to be held at the Beechill Hotel, Derry on April 24th.

e) Competition Results

BMcD was thanked for his work on constructing the NIBU results page on the website, to include a pre-entry facility. It was noted that anyone could upload results. The committee gave its approval to the system going live with a link from the NIBU website.

Action: BMcD to finalise details with Greer Mackenzie.

f) Convention & Score Card

Action: AH to continue working on a draft template with revised WBF scale and NIBU logo.

2. Terms of Reference

It was noted that the Tournament Committee was the only one not to have these.

Action: MMcF to draft suggested Terms of Reference and circulate for agreement.

3. Fixture list

MMcF said that a meeting would be held with Paul Porteous in April in order to draft a joint fixture list with the CBAI/IBU.

4. League Nights

Correspondence from Iris Orr was noted and it was agreed in principle to spread league nights more evenly between Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. Venues would continue to be Kelvin-Malone and the Boat Club but DL cautioned that KM playing schedules were being reviewed. Arrangements will be finalised along with the calendar at the post AGM meeting of the committee.

5. Missing Trophies

It was not clear what had happened to the list of 'Who had what' created by Norma Irwin when she was Treasurer. All agreed that a member should undertake responsibility for locating missing trophies and that a more systematic means be found of awarding trophies and recording those in possession.

Action: AH to identify an individual to monitor trophies and trophy winners.

6. Competition Entries

The continuing decline in entries was noted with concern and it was agreed to consider the matter alongside finalisation of the fixture list. Suggestions from Alan Hill for increasing entries to NIBU events were noted. IH suggested that there were too many Intermediate events and that these possibly deterred players from entering open events.

7. Celtic Pairs

Correspondence from Derek Cannell was considered. IH confirmed that, unlike the SBU, the NIBU did not ring-fence income in support of the International teams. It was noted that a profit of c. £700 did not adequately reflect the amount of effort put into organising the event at local level and it was agreed to review the position next year with a view to possibly withdrawing from the event.

8. Payment to TD's

LS raised an issue of concern involving an NIBU member who had acted as playing TD at a recent event but had received no allowance for having done so. It was confirmed that, under the present rules, a playing TD did not receive payment and that no TD received travel expenses.

It was agreed to recommend that a playing TD be awarded the normal fee less the entry fee.

Action: MMcF to record for Management Committee & Council consideration.

9. Congresses

AH reiterated her view that the entry fee to congress and other events should include the cost of a meal.

10. Clothing for International Players.

While it was agreed that this should be the responsibility of one individual there were no volunteers to take on the role so the matter was deferred.

11. Knockout Cup Rules

Following a recent issue involving a team of six in which only three members were available to play, it was confirmed that under present rules, no additional players could be substituted.

Action: IH to examine the rules and propose changes (if any).

The meeting ended at 3.45pm. Next meeting – to be confirmed.

Michael McFaul
Hon. Secretary