



North Eastern Bridge Association

Everything you need to know about Duplicate Bridge in the North East of England

DRAFT MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT CHESTER LE STREET CRICKET CLUB WEDNESDAY 2ND SEPTEMBER 2015.

Present: Val Gibson (Chair), Liz Muir (Vice Chair), Steve Ray (Treasurer), Mary Page (Secretary), Gill Gold (CS), David Gold (CTS), Pauline Durie (Marketing), Elaine Purvis (Brunton), Dick Davies (Morpeth), John Dobson (Bishop Auckland), Tony Watson (Wearside), Gordon Cockburn (CLS), Roger Hancock (Durham), Bev Godfrey (St Georges), Simon Hedley (Cramlington).

1. Apologies: Sheena Hudson, Dave Dansie, Paul Costello, Brian Hooper, Ann Caygill, Brian Pacey, Nigel Durie, Jocelyn Gordon, Roger Chappel.
2. Minutes of Council Meeting 10.12.14.
Minutes accepted – proposed VC, seconded Gordon Cockburn.
3. Matters Arising:
 - CS gave a brief report on 2014 Congress and advised complaints raised had been resolved for 2015 Congress. Chairman thanked both Gill and Norman for all their hard work in running the Congress. VC will act as Congress Secretary for 2015 and Pauline Durie will be taking the entries. Pauline advised leaflets should have read Swiss Pairs/Swiss Teams - webmaster to amend on website. Treasurer advised we need 25/30 tables to break even and Chair asked everyone to push entries at the Clubs.
 - Non-affiliated Club – Secretary advised contact details had been prepared and now posted on the website. NA Clubs had been sent a mail shot regarding the NOP/Improvers Pairs events but without much success.
 - Our webmaster is preparing Posters for all NEBA events and it is **important** all Club Secretaries advertise the Posters both on the **website/notice boards**.
4. Minutes of Executive Meetings 12.3.15 and 31.7.15.
5. Matters Arising:
 - Sim. Improvers Pairs event was discussed and it was agreed that more detailed communications had to be received from the Northern Counties for the 2015 event. Chair to liaise with Phil Godfrey. Elaine to take entries and communicate info to the Clubs.
 - NEBA had purchased 20 Bridge Mates which were now being used successfully in all NEBA events.
 - NE League/Kempson Cup – Chair asked these two leagues be promoted at the Clubs and advised entry fees for this year had been waived and deadline for entries extended to 30th September in an effort to increase participation. Detailed poster on the website. CTS to follow up.
 - Teaching Course – Secretary advised the EBU teaching course held at Wearside had been a huge success with 13 delegates from the Clubs attending. New beginners classes will start in September and details have been posted on the website. Most of the Clubs are now involved in teaching with exception of Newcastle based clubs and it was agreed that VC would contact clubs concerned with a view to discussing this problem. Golf Clubs had been suggested as a venue for teaching facilities.
 - John Dobson from Bishop Auckland had been appointed the new press agent for the EBU Magazine, Roger Chappel is the new County Youth Officer and John Gladders new Selector.
 - Council had voted for all NEBA events to start at 2 pm.
 - Direct entry events now 2-8pm, 36 boards, and £10 entry fee to include food - full details to be included in the posters as members/clubs are still not yet familiar with new format. Council proposed introducing NOP being played simultaneous with St Georges for next year's event.
 - Chronicle Cup - NEBA sub-committee had proposed changes to the rules for both the Cup/CS competitions. EBU has now introduced changes to the rules which mean the Shield will now no longer be green pointed. It was proposed and agreed by Council that the 50% qualifier ratio remain for the Semi-Final and Final of the Cup but no restriction on % achieved for the Shield final.
 - Marketing – Pauline Durie gave short report on marketing activities – see attached notes.

- Finance – Treasurer gave brief outline of NEBA finances and advised decisions had to be taken to improve current financial situation. Points raised: a) increase in P2P from 3p to 5p, increase in table money from £1 to £2 per table for all NEBA qualifying events c) whether or not Congress should be making a profit. 2014 Congress broke even, which was down from £417 profit from 2013. Chair asked the meeting re 5p increase and was agreed by all except one delegate who thought 4p was sufficient.
6. 2015 AGM minutes
 7. Matters arising:
 - Exec advised Inter Club Rule 17 had been amended following motion proposed by Bishop Auckland. Council agreed to changes made.
 - Gordon Cockburn CLS Bridge Club proposed changes to tea facilities at the Inter Club be changed to a cup of tea/cake but this was voted against by the Council.
 8. Items raised by Clubs.
 - Elaine Purvis Brunton BC raised the issue of increase in prices from NEBA for duplimating costs. Chair advised matter had been resolved with Chairman of Brunton and increase would only come into effect from July 2015.
 - Motion had been received from Brian Hooper Darlington BC proposing that the lower Divisions of the NEBA inter club teams be divided geographically. Secretary explained motion was too late for this year's fixtures and Motion would be tabled at next Council meeting which Brian was quite happy to accept.
 9. Any other business:
 - Secretary raised the issue of attendance at Council meetings. Format for current meeting had been changed to a morning at a location favourable between North/South Clubs in an effort to improve attendance. Council agreed to changes with exception of start time to be 10 am. Council all agreed new format for the NEBA booklet and considered booklet important for advising members of NEBA information.
 - Chair advised Exec are to hold an "Away Day" in November/December to discuss vital issues concerning all NEBA matters and Roger Hancock Durham BC agreed to assist Chair in this matter. Chair to liaise with Roger.
 - Dick Davies Morpeth BC advised meeting of the sad news that Tessa Lee had died and funeral arrangements are posted on the website.
 10. Date of Next Meeting.
Next meeting to be arranged mid March 2016.

As no other business meeting closed at 1.30 pm.

