



North Eastern Bridge Association

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

Draft Minutes of Executive Committee Meeting held at Gosforth on Friday 31st July 2015.

In attendance: Val Gibson (Chair), Liz Muir (Vice Chair), Steve Ray (Treasurer) Norman Gray (CTD), David Gold (CTS), Gill Gold (CS), Mary Page (Secretary).

No	Item	Comments	Action
1.	Apologies	Pauline Durie. Chairman opened the meeting and welcomed Steve Ray in his new position as Treasurer.	
2.	Minutes of Meeting 12.3.15.	Minutes accepted as a true record and are posted on the website.	
3.	Matters Arising	Noted: 4) 2015-2016 Calendar posted on the website and booklet now completed and will be distributed to all clubs. 8) Bridge Mates have been purchased (20) and training given to NEBA Directors. 10) 57 pairs played in the Northern Counties Sims Improvers pairs on the 17 th May 2015, 7 tables from the NEBA. A few teething problems experienced which need to be addressed prior to next year's event. 11) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NBL team played in the President's Cup at Derby and benefited from playing in a very experienced field. • John Gladders has been appointed as the new Selector following Clive Owen's resignation. • CTD has purchased 500 new playing cards for this year's Congress. 	
4.	Minutes of the AGM 19.5.2015.	Noted.	
5.	Matters Arising	Items raised at the AGM are covered in Item 8.	

6.	Financial Matters	<p>The Treasurer outlined current financial status and raised several issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2014 saw a loss of £1200 and a projected loss of £1500 for 2015 was expected due to the purchase of bridge mates/playing cards. • NEBA currently have a cash balance of £8k and need to pay the Marriott Hotel approx. £4k for the 2015 Congress- this raised the question of whether or not cash reserves should be increased to 10k. • Duplimating costs – the new price of £10/2 sets and £6/1 set was agreed for this year and Treasurer to advise the 2 Clubs affected accordingly. A fixed price of £2/set was agreed for preparing the boards. • Exec to look at possible increase in P2P to 4p for 2016. 	
7.	Congress 2015/2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CS advised leaflets had been distributed to the Clubs and posted to away visitors from last year's Congress. Poster on the website for Clubs to download for notice boards. • CTD advised Licence obtained from EBU – cost £1000. A separate set of Accounts for the Congress is a condition of the licence - (leaflets for next year to include 'level 4 conventions'). • Entries to P. Durie and arrangements made for payment direct to our bank if required. • VC to advise Treasurer deposit required for Marriott. • PD and CTS to attend meeting at the Mariott to finalise arrangements. • Bev Godfrey has volunteered to assist re hiring a van to transport the tables to the Marriott. CTD to liaise. • Chair to forward leaflet to Lesley Millett to circulate to Northern Counties. • Congress date fixed for 11-13 November 2016. 	<p>Im pd/ng ng vg</p>
8.	Sub-Committee Proposals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amendments to Chronicle Cup/Chronicle Shield discussed and CTS to advise qualification ratios from last 2 years before a final decision is made. • Council had been asked regarding changing to 2pm start for all NEBA events and this has been approved. • Kempson Cup/NEL competitions to remain as last year except entry fee to be free - CTS to circulate information to the clubs asap. CTS to arrange for Poster advertising both events to be circulated to the Clubs to increase participation. 	<p>ng dg</p>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Northern Open Pairs will now be run as a simultaneous event at CMBC/Darlington. Changes to Rule 17 for the Inter Club agreed and BP to amend accordingly. Bishop Auckland to be advised of changes. Issue raised by Chester le Street regarding inter club teas to go to Council. 	bp/mp
9.	Marketing	A sub-committee had been formed to action marketing – details attached.	
10.	Council Meeting	Attendance at Council meetings is very poor. In an effort to improve attendance the next Council meeting has been arranged for Wednesday 2 nd September 2015 at Chester-le-Street Cricket Club. Start time 11.30 am. Secretary to notify Clubs accordingly.	mp
11.	A.O.B.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attendance at next EBU shareholders meeting 25th November 2015 – still to be agreed as VC unable to attend Tollemache entry still to be finalised Changes to J.C. Salver qualifications to be raised at next sub-committee meeting Meeting to be arranged for the exec to discuss outstanding major issues. 	vg vg ng vg
12.	Date of next meeting	Wednesday 2 nd December 2015 – 10.30 am	

As no other business meeting closed at 4 pm.

***See attached re marketing actions

MARKETING – ACTIONS FOLLOWING MEETING 23.4.15.

1. 1000 A6 FLYERS produced by Neil and circulated within our four areas namely Newcastle/Gateshead/Cramlington/Blyth/Stannington/Morpeth/Middlesbrough. In addition 13 new teachers who attended EBU Course handed Flyers for distribution within their own areas namely Alnwick, Morpeth, Durham, Middlesbrough, Whitley Bay, South Shields, Wearside, Newcastle. (Flyer attached).
2. Mail shot commenced advertising bridge lessons available to Rotary Clubs/W.I. in the Gateshead/Newcastle area - one positive response received from Whickham R.C. who have at least 10 members wishing to play bridge. Need to clarify what teaching facilities available in this area. Neil is not holding any beginners classes this year, he runs one every 2 years. All his classes are full and he is teaching 3 days per week and does not want to do more. Held off on mail shot to WI's until position clarified.
3. Advertised Bridge Classes on Streetlife - a free on line services advertising all activities available within own post code area. I have sent details to all Club Secretaries in the hope they will register as well to promote their own club teaching classes. Held off on advertising in Newcastle/Gateshead Council monthly newspaper until teaching facilities clarified for this area.
4. Contacted Eldon Square/Metro Centre to hold a bridge event there but not possible unless a charity. Cost to be determined but looks unlikely.
5. Contacting Northern Echo/Gazette/Herald & Post re advertising.
6. Contacted Barclays/Lloyds/Halifax/Morrison/Weatherspoons/Baltic/ who will promote in house and also Local training scheme (via website) and sent out on facebook to Community Centres/Church Halls/Bowling Alley/Council owned halls.