

GLOUCESTERSHIRE COUNTY BRIDGE ASSOCIATION

Minutes for the GCBA committee meeting held at Cheltenham Bridge Club on Monday 4th June 2018.

In attendance were Patrick Shields (President), Andrew Bull (Secretary), Paul Denning, Richard Harris, Anne Swannell, Peter Waggett, Ashok Kwatra (CBC Representative), Judy Sanis (Observer).

Before the meeting formally opened, Patrick informed the committee of the following items of news:

1. Patrick has approached the EBU about them scoring the Junior Fund Raiser for free, and they have agreed that they could do it for a reduced charge, possibly using 15% of the takings. Patrick was urged to test them further on this.
2. There is some funding needed for publicity in the near future, and it is being assumed that this can be forthcoming on the agreement of the Treasurer.

Status of the accounts

3. There had been no report from James Hastie (Treasurer) since the AGM. Patrick noted that the overpayment on the 2017 Green Point events (as reported at the AGM) was being sorted, and that the accounts needed to be audited after that. Ashok noted that the stated aim was for the audit to be complete within 3 months of the Cheltenham Congress, and it was agreed that this was a sensible target.
4. In 2017 it had been agreed that Herefordshire should be paid £150 as compensation for agreeing to use both of their two days entitlement to Green Point events at Ross-on-Wye (in previous years, each of Herefordshire and Gloucestershire has contributed one of their two days to this event), and we needed to check that this had been done. (It was noted that the profit for such events was generally several hundred pounds, so this represents good value for the GCBA).

Appointment of the EBU shareholder, the Chief Tournament Director and our sub-committees.

5. Patrick agreed to take over from Jim Simons as the EBU Shareholder. Action on Andrew to arrange this.
6. Patrick offered to take over from Paul as the Chief Tournament Director, and this was agreed, with Paul continuing to be involved. It is part of the overall strategy that we want to make tournaments attractive to more of the bridge-playing population, and we need to re-staff the tournament sub-committee with people who can help us do that.
7. The agreement between the CBC and the GCBA stated that a committee of four would run the Congress, and it was reported that the congress was currently organised by Ro Kaye and Paul Clark from CBC (with assistance from John Skjonnemand), and Jim Simons and Anne from GCBA. It had been agreed that Jim would continue to be involved on the financial side in place of James. The terms of reference for this group is to be reviewed.
8. Regarding the Green Point event in Ross-on-Wye, Patrick will check with Alan Wearmouth how this is run, though it is generally Herefordshire in charge of the venue and facilities and Gloucestershire in charge of the bridge (via Alan and Jim). The GCBA wishes Alan and Jim to continue in this role.
9. The Representative Events Committee is chaired by Richard Butland, with Tricia Gilham, Roy Collard, Lesley Harrison, Judy and Paul being the other members. Patrick noted that the work of the REC was mainly focussed on top end players, and we agreed that this was correct and that lack of representation on this committee from the wider community was not an issue.

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10. Patrick suggested that the selectors for events should be steered by this committee as to the principles they should apply to selection (e.g. should they focus on the short or long-term?), and that he would bring back to the committee, at a future date, an action to capture such principles.
11. Training is under the same remit. The County does nothing to help people to advance from Gentle Bridge to regular Duplicate, and onwards from that, although the CBC is active in this area - Ashok noted that CBC has organised a group of experienced players to play with people new to Monday nights.
12. Patrick is currently responsible for Youth Bridge.
13. Judy has been responsible for Publicity for some years. She agreed to continue for another year, and stressed that she needs to be invited to committee meetings to be effective in the role. It was noted that there are spaces in the committee, but Patrick said we want to keep them open to allow for wider representation across the county.
14. Anne and Ashok act as the representative from the GCBA on the CBC committee and vice versa.
15. Anne runs the catering, in parallel with the CBC catering. Ashok agreed to check with Caroline how the costs are managed for GCBA week-end events.

Next year's programme

16. The Stanley Shield: Patrick has got Mark Browne (Newent) involved and was looking for involvement from Chipping Camden and Stroud as well. It has been considered whether the event should be run on similar lines to previous cafe bridge events - Jim's early figures suggest that this would meet the available budget. It was felt that running it a "special" venue (e.g. a previous event had been run at Cheltenham Ladies College) would be popular, though this would make catering harder to organise than if it were held at a hotel. It was also agreed that we should avoid clashing with the Newent Bowl, which has been delayed this year.
17. The friendly match against Avon has been scheduled for Sunday 12th August, to be hosted by CBC, with three teams of 8 taking part:
 - A strong team
 - A team of regular club players
 - A team of Gentle Bridge playersAshok agreed to raise the issue of selecting the Gentle Bridge players with the CBC committee. It was agreed that we should at least aim for the middle team to consist of players from a variety of clubs other than Cheltenham, and that Patrick would initially approach Chipping Camden, Stroud, Newent and Wootton for players. We also need to confirm with Avon just how strong the top team should be.
18. It was agreed that we should trial the idea of holding a handicap event one Monday night per month, to try to encourage more people to take part. The handicap would be determined by NGS rankings.
19. Stroud had asked if the CBC Pairs League could be moved from Wednesday to Monday to avoid clashing with their regular sessions - however, it was noted that this would then cause a clash with Ross-on-Wye and affect even more people, so this idea was not supported. However, the idea of moving the squad practice nights from Wednesday to Thursday was agreed in principle. Ashok will check with Malcolm Green if this would clash with other events at CBC.

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GDPR (General Data Protection Regulation): Approval of the draft Privacy Notice.

20. Patrick and Jim have produced a draft notice for GDPR which needs to be agreed by the committee. A remaining issue is dealing with data collected for the Green Point events. It was agreed that the organising committees for these events should prepare their own notices.
21. It was noted that the club's Pianola data is accessible by various people, and proposed that we should ditch it and revert to using EBU data. Judy noted that if we did this, we'd lose a lot of information about people's changes of contact details. Patrick noted that the EBU records have improved, and that we could compare the data held via James Ward. It was pointed out that we need to ask members to agree if we are to keep their information (and that a failure to respond would not count as consent).
22. It was agreed that Jim should act as the county supervisor regarding GDPR, and that Judy, Jim and Patrick should discuss the issue of Pianola data, and of GCBA's liability and insurance.