

Improving the Management of the Welsh Bridge Union

Summary

A Special General Meeting of the WBU is being held to consider proposals to change the WBU constitution so as to streamline the way the WBU is managed.

At present essentially all the management and financial authority to conduct WBU affairs is vested in the WBU Council. This is a large body with a somewhat fluid membership, which meets only about every four months. Decision making is thus slow and sometimes inconsistent.

Meanwhile the WBU faces serious challenges, such as:

- Reacting to the general aging of our members and their evolving concerns
- Improving the services to our clubs and our members
- Making our competitions and congresses more attractive

Council set up a working party in July 2009 which recommended unanimously that most management authority should be passed to a smaller group which can meet more often. Discussions at subsequent Council meetings have refined the proposals.

The main recommendations are

- To set up a Management Committee consisting of the main officers and a representative of each area.
- Most management and financial authority should be wielded by this group.
- The MC should convene about once a month and be very open in its activities.

When we looked at the changes needed to the WBU constitution to implement these proposals, quite a few minor improvements were identified and are also proposed.

The longer paper attached explains the rationale for these changes, and the changes themselves, in more detail. There is also a version of the Constitution marked-up to show the detailed changes proposed.

Council recommends that the proposals be adopted.