

WBU Management Committee

Minutes of Meeting 2nd August 2011

Meeting held by telephone conference, 2pm to 4pm

Present

CD: Chris Davies (West Wales nominee), Chairman for this meeting
LG: Linda Greenland (Treasurer)
JH: Jean Hand (National Tournament Organiser)
JK: Jill Knight (North Wales nominee)
NR: Neville Richards (Chief Executive)
KR: Ken Richardson (East Wales nominee)
MT: Mike Tedd (Mid Wales nominee), Minutes Secretary

1 Apologies

Adrian Thomas (AT)

2 Review of Actions from Previous Meetings

Oct 6.2 TD training

The course in Brecon on July 30-31 was very successful. There will be more to come.

March 8 The needs of club players

The analysis of the questionnaires from AT's tour of Welsh clubs is still underway.

Action ongoing: AT

July 5 Council meeting items

Progressing the Council minutes and the Honoraria paper. One uncertainty was resolved, and this can now proceed.

Action ongoing: MT

July 6 On-line submission of masterpoints

The system is now working fine, and the trial clubs are about to go live. Some work is needed on the reporting interface for the MP Secretary; there was an unfortunate hiccup with the MS-Excel we supplied to her. There is a trial database which clubs can practice on.

3 Bridge Great Britain

We heard an update on the negotiations. The proposed agreement on the future of BGB is still stalled with disagreement on the final paragraph. It was suggested that we liaise with the SBU to present the EBU with a version that we would be happy with, rather than just objecting to the EBU's version.

Action: NR

NR was asked to investigate the possibility of a Celtic Sims.

Action ongoing: NR

4 Frequency of Council Meetings

Although the last Council meeting had provisionally decided that the next meeting would be in March 2012, some members had been expecting a July meeting (which unfortunately had not been edited out of the calendar); so there might be a consensus in favour of an October meeting where Council can review the MC's progress to date. NR was asked to consult Council members about this.

Action: NR

5 Bad Behaviour Working Group

Reports from the working group were discussed. The MC very much agrees with the general tone of the reports, but have some reservations which should be addressed before the reports can be made public for consultation. A short statement of principles, along the lines of the EBU's policy, needs to be produced.

Action: AT

6 Review of WBU Competitions

Guided by the report of the working group, the following decisions were made for 2011-12 (with venues where known):

The Graded Masters will not be run. There are venue problems, and the MC is not convinced that this event has a future. This can be reconsidered for 2012-13 if a demand emerges.

The National Mixed Pairs will be run as before, with area qualifying events for a final in the Metropole. Last year's winners have automatic entry to the final.

The Teams of Eight final will be in the Metropole.

The Webber final will be in Llanidloes Community Centre.

The Ladies Welsh Cup Teams venue to be arranged.

The National Open Pairs will have qualifying events held in each area but organised as a simultaneous event playing the same hands, scored over the whole field. The top 27 pairs (plus last year's winners) will qualify for the final weekend (subject to at least three pairs qualifying from each area). Areas can, if they wish, hold two qualifiers to reduce travelling, but there must be at least four tables at each venue. The final will be in Builth Wells (International Pavilion).

The Cambria Cup will be run with area events on the weekend of 14-15 January 2012 yielding four teams (one from each area) to contest an all-play-all final, probably on 12-13 May 2012. Existing features such as the pivot arrangements and aggregate scoring will be preserved.

The Welsh Cup will be held with a similar format to last year, with most teams playing round one in triples so that they play at least two matches. A small number of seeded teams will be given byes in round one. Draws in round one and two will be regional to reduce travelling. JH will encourage teams to enter, LG will receive entries and fees, MT will receive results and administer the progress.

Action: JH, LG, MT

KR reported that the East Wales congress in February 2012 will be in the YMCA conference centre in Newport.

The working group will consider masterpoint awards, which need some revision.

Action: JH, AT

7 Matters for Future Discussion

- Should the Perry, Spickett & President's Cup still rotate round the areas? (See May item 2, where areas were asked to consider this.) Planning is well underway for 2012 in West Wales, so this is only an issue for 2013 on.
- Future involvement in the Seniors Camrose (see May minute 3.2, and subsequent email discussion)

8 Thanks

The MC thanked Chris Davies for his many and wise contributions to the work of the committee and to the WBU in general.

9 Next Meeting

This will be on MONDAY September 5th, between 2 and 4pm, by telephone conference.

MDT 4/8/11 revised 11/8/11