

## **Minutes of the Virtual YCBA Tournament Committee meeting held on Tuesday 2 February 2021 commencing at 7.00 pm.**

**PRESENT:** Nick Woolven (Chair), Julia Staniforth, Philip Mason, Lesley Millet and Ron Millet.

### **1) Apologies for absence and declarations of interest**

Apologies had been received from Phil Godfrey and Stephen Cordingley. There were no declarations of interest.

### **2) Matters arising from the minutes dated 29 October 2020**

#### **a) Completion of updated rules and online checklist issues**

i) It was clarified that the EBU laws would always supersede any county rules and regulations. The online checklist would be updated as and when required.

ii) Arrangements for notifying the webmaster would be considered as part of a wider review of the current site and arrangements

iii) It was agreed for practical reasons that for any event with an NGS restriction the grading would apply on the date of the receipt of the entry and would be checked by the event organiser on receipt. Any subsequent changes to grading taking place prior to the event would be disregarded.

#### **b) Review of New Year Bonanza, Stepping Stones and Waddington Shield events**

The New Year Bonanza event had been successful with 74 pairs taking part in the main pairs' event, 20 pairs in the '9 high' section and 26 teams. A total surplus in the region of £500 had accrued.

The Stepping Stones event had received much positive feedback and had attracted 48 pairs.

The 2019/20 Waddington Shield had been completed online and won by T Gisborne's Sheffield team. There were 13 teams competing in the 2020/21 event and at this stage it was not known if a Yorkshire Trophy event would be viable and whether there would be any direct entries. It was agreed to award prize monies of £60 for the winning team and £20 for the runners up.

#### **c) Review of Yorkshire Pairs event and rulings/appeals arrangements**

A situation had arisen where there was a need for a ruling for a more complex situation involving a weighted score and a national TD had been asked to provide advice on the issue. It was agreed that in the event of either of the two county BBO Directors (Oliver Cowan and James Carpenter) requiring advice on more complex rulings either Phil Godfrey or Stuart Davies could be contacted or if both were taking part in the event then John Pyner as the chairman of the appeals panel should be approached. The Chairman would inform the two BBO Directors of the arrangements and provide the necessary contact details.

### **3) Update on arrangements for forthcoming events**

#### **a) Harrogate Spring Congress**

80 pairs and 27 teams had entered to date but only 10 pairs for the '9' high event although there was still nearly two weeks left to enter. Lesley agreed to arrange with Oliver a standby pair and it was thought that a tri-ella could be facilitated so no standby team would be needed. John Hayton had agreed to forward the final list of entrants on 12 February 2021.

Consideration was given whether to award prize monies and it was agreed to award £100 for the winning pair and team and £60 for the runner up in each event. The winning pair of the '9' high event would receive £20.

b) Elevenes Pairs Events on 23 February 2021/Realbridge Playing Platform

Discussion took place on a previous suggestion that an Elevenes competition take place on the Realbridge platform however the current BBO Directors had not trained to run events on Realbridge. It was agreed that the next Elevenes be held on BBO and that Robin Jepson be approached by the Secretary to ascertain if he could arrange an event on Realbridge possibly with the support of another trained TD. Lesley would contact James Ward to obtain an update on the Pianola online platform.

**4) Next 'Stepping Stones' event – Sunday 28 February 2021 at 2.30pm**

The Bridge Development Committee had recommended that a further event take place on the above date with the same format. Stephen had produced an updated checklist for the event and would contact entrants from the previous competition and the secretary would send details to clubs and known bridge teachers.

**5) Latest online events**

It was agreed to hold a teams of four event for Affiliated Clubs on 21 April 2021 commencing at 11.00 am playing 30-35 boards with a break at a cost of £24 per team.

The Nelson Rose Bowl event for ladies teams of four would take place on Wednesday 5 May 2021 with details to be finalised at the next meeting.

**6) Easter Congress events**

The EBU had proposed that YCBA run a '9' high' pairs and teams event on the same days as the main events. As there was a 'J high' event as part of the EBU programme the Chairman was asked to clarify whether it was appropriate to run such a similar event and to inform the EBU that it was hoped to run a face to face Northern Eastern Congress in 2022.

**7) Automated system for competition entries**

Following some preliminary discussion it was felt that it should be possible to develop an online entry form with payment being arranged direct to the bank account. The treasurer was asked to contact the bank to arrange acceptance of the payments and to liaise with webmaster/website developer on costs and how to progress this.

**8) Any other business**

a) Administration of entries for EBU qualifying events

The Secretary agreed to arrange notification and co-ordination of entries to the EBU for the Corwen, Pachabo and Garden Cities events.

b) Master point awards for the May Swiss Pairs event

Lesley reported that it seemed that the award of master points for the first Swiss pairs event was still outstanding and she agreed to contact the EBU to resolve the issue

c) Learnbridge website – update of teaching contacts

Lesley and Julia would liaise in order to update the list of teaching contacts.

**9) Date and Time of Next Meetings.**

The next meetings to be held as follows:

Bridge Development Committee: Monday 15 February 2021 at 11.00 a.m.

Management Board Meeting: Tuesday 2 March 2021 at 7.00 pm

Tournament Committee: To be determined at the next Management Board meeting.