

Minutes of the YCBA Tournament Committee meeting held on Tuesday 2nd August 2022 at 7.00 pm by Zoom video conference.

PRESENT: Nick Woolven (Chair), Lesley Millet (Treasurer), Dani Hyman (Secretary) Robin Jepson (Assistant Secretary), Pauline Stout, Stephen Cordingley and Ron Millet. Invited to attend: Stuart Davies.

1) Apologies for absence and declarations of interest

Apologies for absence had been received from Phil Godfrey. There were no declarations of interest.

2) and 3) Minutes of previous meeting on 11th May 2022 and matters arising

The minutes were approved subject to clarification of the item under Other Business relating to the Pianola database. The minutes would be signed by the Chair at the first convenient opportunity. Matters arising:

- Trophies - at its meeting on 12th July the MB omitted to deal with the two issues referred to it (replacement of division 3 and 4 trophies and possible insurance claim) which will therefore be put on the agenda for the next MB meeting. It was noted that one of the trophies for Yorkshire Congress competitions was also missing, possibly retained by the winners at the 2019 Congress.

5) Review of competitions played since the last meeting

Yorkshire Mixed Pairs -played online on 12th May with 12 pairs taking part.

Yorkshire Congress - played face to face at York Bridge Club with 25 pairs and 15 teams taking part. NW reported the move to York Bridge Club was generally approved, the venue is superb, and the event was successful.

Yorkshire Training Day - run by Oliver Cowan at Wakefield Bridge Club under the joint auspices of OCBC and YCBA. The event comprised a seminar and separate bridge competitions for improvers and more experienced players. It was successful, attracting 16 tables. It was agreed that this event should not have taken place on the same day as the Congress teams and NW had spoken to OC with a view to avoiding such clashes.

Affiliated Clubs teams - played face to face at York Bridge Club with 6 teams taking part

Waddington Cup - played face to face at York Bridge Club with 7 teams taking part

Play without the Experts Swiss Pairs - did not take place owing to insufficient entries

6) Arrangements for forthcoming events

- Great Northern Swiss Pairs - LM reported that the Leeds Hilton is unavailable for Saturday 1st October. LM and RM presented two alternatives, Weetwood Hall and The Village. After discussion it was agreed that LM would book The Village. SD to be TD. OC is unavailable for the weekend but has offered to publicise the event. It was agreed we would take up this offer but see below, use of YCBA equipment. Starting time 1.30 pm Saturday, 11.30 am Sunday. Entry fee in the region of £95-£100 at the discretion of LM/RM - this includes a meal on Saturday but no food on Sunday. It was also agreed that an improvers event would be held on Sunday afternoon provisionally branded 'Really Easy Swiss Pairs' but without an entry criterion related to NGS ranking.
- Waddington Shield knockout - although this event attracted only 8 teams last year it was agreed that it should be staged in 2022-23 as it is the county's qualifying event

for the EBU's Pachabo Trophy. SD agreed to organise. Mike Jackson has offered to set up the event using EBU Knockout which facilitates the entry of results by team captains. As in 2021-22, the competition would be face to face by default but online play allowed by agreement. Entry fee £36 per team. Entries to be sent to SD and payment by bank transfer. Closing date 4th October. NW to write a short item for Latest News on the home page of the website to publicise the competition.

- Oliver Cowan Yorkshire 4 competition. This will take place on four Saturdays in the autumn. A request by OC for these events to be publicised in the YCBA Events Calendar was approved - for each event there would be a short description plus a link to the OCBC website for further details.
- Simultaneous Pairs - it was agreed these would not be staged in 2022-23, the feeling of the meeting being that the concept is somewhat dated having been superseded by online play.
- New Year Bonanza - to be played online as in the two previous years and OC has agreed to organise.
- Yorkshire Pairs - agreed that this event will take place in 2022-23 as it is the county's qualifying event for the EBU's Corwen Trophy. To be played on 22nd January face to face at York Bridge Club.
- Harrogate Spring Congress - agreed, subject to EBU approval, that this will be a two day event played face to face at the Cairn Hotel Harrogate - LM will book the hotel accordingly. OC has agreed to organise.
- Northern Easter Festival - to be further considered at the next TC meeting
- Other YCBA events - to be considered at the next TC meeting

7) Events Checklist

It was agreed a checklist would be a useful tool for Events Organisers but there were no volunteers to be an Event Organiser. To be further considered at the MB meeting on succession planning, Tuesday 25th October. Meanwhile, RJ will amend and streamline the checklist as appropriate with a view to it being uploaded onto the website as a resource for organisers.

8) Report from Yorkshire League Committee

RJ reported that entries have closed for the 2022-23 season of the YL teams of eight with 49 entries, which is an increase of 8 teams from last season. There will be six divisions with 9 teams in division 6 - those teams will play an incomplete round robin with 7 teams having bye rounds.

9) Other Business

Use of YCBA equipment by OC in his face to face events. It was agreed that discussions should take place with OC with a view to a legal agreement for the use of the equipment for a fee, on the basis of OC being responsible for replacement of any items damaged while under his control. There might be scope for a trade-off against a fee for the use of the OC database for publicising YCBA events, though each arrangement ought to be separately invoiced.

10) Date of next meeting

Tuesday 20th September at 7.00 by Zoom video conferencing.