

Minutes of the YCBA Tournament Committee meeting held on Tuesday 18th March 2025 at 7.00 pm by Zoom video conference.

PRESENT: Nick Woolven (Tournament Chair), Lesley Millet (Treasurer), Robin Jepson (Assistant Secretary), Ron Millet, Pauline Stout, Stuart Davies and Mark Dunkley

1) Apologies for absence and declarations of interest

None

2) and 3) Minutes of previous meeting on 7th January 2025 and matters arising

The minutes were approved. Matters arising:

- Trophies - the missing Yorkshire Pairs trophies have now been found. NW has obtained a quote for YCBA's redundant trophies. It is £325 cash or a credit note of £425 towards the cost of purchasing glass trophies. Agreed that we will accept the credit note unless a better quote for the glass trophies can be obtained elsewhere. NW and MD have completed the review of all trophies to be retained by YCBA, which are listed on a spreadsheet. The silver trophy for division 1 of the Yorkshire League is still missing, so a glass trophy will be awarded to the division 1 winners. **Closed.**
- It was agreed that glass trophies will be awarded to the winners of each division of the Online Yorkshire League starting with the Summer 2025 and Winter 2026 seasons, these awards to be made at the 2026 AGM. **Closed**
- NW has spoken with OC about prizes at the Yorkshire Congress and agreed that, if the TC prefers, tangible prizes such as wine or chocolates will be given rather than cash. **Closed.**

4) Congresses Sub-committee

- The entries for the Harrogate Spring Congress were about the same as last year. Feedback from players was generally positive. The hotel's catering arrangements were an improvement. **Closed.**
- LM and NW reported on ongoing arrangements for the Northern Easter Festival and Yorkshire Congress. YCBA to hire and pay for a room at the hotel for the AGM, and refreshments for those attending, on the Saturday of the Yorkshire Congress. OC will be appointing the TDs. OC has agreed to produce detailed accounts of income and outgoings in support of the profit sharing arrangements. It was agreed that the AGM will start at 10.00 rather than 10.30 as currently stated on the flyer. OC's proposal to have short lunch breaks and earlier finishes on both the Saturday and the Sunday was approved. **Open.**
- It was agreed that the Yorkshire Congress will be renamed the Yorkshire Festival. Website entry to be amended, and a new flyer will be required. **Closed.**
- The GNSP will be played over the weekend of 27th & 28th September, instead of the previous proposed date of 4th and 5th October, and the venue will be the Weetwood Hall Hotel, Leeds. **Open.**
- NW will be sending out in the near future a Pianola message to publicise the NEF and other upcoming events. **Closed.**

5) Report on other recent competitions

- The Yorkshire Pairs, played at York Bridge Club, had an entry of 14 pairs. SD to send in the entries for the Corwen Trophy. **Closed.**
- The Nine High Yorkshire Pairs, played online, had an entry of 12 pairs. PS to send in the entries for the Nine High Corwen. **Closed.**

6) Arrangements for other upcoming events, including appointment of Event Organisers and TDs

- Affiliated Clubs Teams, After a period of uncertainty over the availability of the proposed venue, Wakefield Bridge Club, on the preferred date, the decision was taken to stage the event at Wakefield on Thursday 10th April. Only two entries have been received to date. NW to appoint a TD. **Open.**
- Nelson Rose Bowl, Thursday 15th May, Wetherby. PS reported that entries have been received to date from seven teams and Jlm Edwards has been appointed as TD. **Open.**
- Yorkshire Handicapped Pairs, 4th and 5th June, clubs. MD reported that four clubs, Halifax, Keighley, Wakefield and Sheffield, have agreed to hold heats and at least two more have expressed an interest. MD to take advice from the appointed TD, James Carpenter, on whether there will be one combined ranking list or separate lists for each day when the event will take place. It was agreed that donations will be made to a charity selected by the leading pairs. £100 each if there are two ranking lists, £100 for first place and £50 for second place if there is one combined ranking list **Open.**
- Yorkshire Mixed Pairs, Sunday 15th June. Wakefield have agreed to host the event and NW will appoint a TD. **Open.**
- Waddington Cup, Sunday 13th July, York Bridge Club. NW to appoint a TD. **Open.**

7) Report from Yorkshire League Committee

- The Yorkshire League has been completed with all of the final round of matches played on the scheduled match day. There was one issue of an appeal against a TD ruling in a match played on 16th February which was resolved by a decision by a senior TF acting as referee. Sheffield A were the winners of division 1 and SD will send Sheffield the entry form for the EBU Garden Cities competition, entry fee to be paid by YCBA.
- The winter 2025 season of the Online Yorkshire League was also successfully completed.
- The proposed match days for the Winter 2026 season of the Online Yorkshire League, 4th and 18th January and 1st February, were approved.
- The proposed dates of the last three match days of the 2025-26 Yorkshire League, 15th February, 8th and 29th March were also approved.
- Vote of thanks to Mike Jackson for his ongoing work in the organisation of the Leagues. **Closed.**

8) Matters arising from the Management Board Away Day

- EBU Tournament Working Group. NW has received comments from Alan Hayward. At the Away Day DG offered to join the group to represent Yorkshire interests as there was no other volunteer, but DG is not on the TC and does not play

in national competitions. Discussion on other potential candidates. **Action ? Open.**

- New event targeted at improvers and lower ranked players. It was agreed in principle that a Six High pairs event will be played at Wetherby Bridge Club on Saturday 5th July. This would be a pilot with invitations to play sent to other nearby clubs such as Leeds, Harrogate, York and Olicana. Refreshments to be included, entry fee £10. Subject to Wetherby agreeing to stage the event. **Action PS. Open.**

9) Other Business.

It was agreed that the allocation to clubs hosting YCBA events where refreshments are included in the entry fee would be increased from £12 to £15 per player. **Closed.**

10) Date of next meeting

Tuesday 13th May at 7.00 pm by Zoom video conferencing.