

Minutes of meeting of YCBA Management Board on 21st May 2025.

Present: Chair - David Guild (DG), Nick Woolven (NW), Lesley Millet (LM), Ron Millet (RM), Pauline Stout (PS), Stephen Cordingley (SC), Ruth Kerr (RK), Robin Jepson (RJ), Mark Dunkley (MD) and Graham Jepson (President - GJ).

Apologies - none.

There were **no declarations of interest**.

The **minutes of the previous meeting** of 14th November 2024 were approved and there were the following matters arising:

Asset Register and Trophies database. MD reported that the great majority of the YCBA's trophies are now lodged in the repository at York Bridge Club and a database has been compiled. **Closed.**

Insurance RM reported that he has completed the review of YCBA's insurance policies and the existing ones have been renewed. RM recommends that consideration be given to taking out a policy against the risk of officers' legal liability, particularly in relation to claims relating to diversity, inclusion and equality. **Open** (for decision on whether or not such liability insurance should be taken out).

Promotion of YCBA to clubs and members and promotion of benefits of EBU affiliation. It was agreed that this subject should be referred to the next meeting of the Bridge Development Committee. In particular the BDC to consider a proposal for welcoming packs for new members, and how to make better use of post-competition feedback from players. **Open** (to receive a report of the outcome of the BDC meeting).

Reposts on YCBA Members Meeting and EBU AGM. Dealt with by DG at the Away Day. **Closed.**

The **notes of the YCBA Structural Development meeting** (Away Day) on 19th February 2025 were approved and there were the following matters arising:

SC reported on the ongoing work on **improvement of the membership database**, including correction of errors in members' email addresses to enhance the reach of communication with the membership. **Closed.**

The subject of **awards for county stalwarts** was referred for consideration by a sub-committee comprising DG, NW and RM. **Open** (to receive a report from the sub-committee).

Statistics on hits on YCBA website. DG has ascertained from Jim Edwards that the YCBA site receives between 4,000 and 6,000 hits per week but it is not practicable to break this down into hits on individual pages. **Closed.**

Recruitment of new YCBA Secretary. It was agreed that if there is no nomination for this officer position at the AGM then it will be advertised. **Open.**

Recruitment to additional posts and positions as identified at the Away Day (county level Tournament Director, assistant Events Manager, assistant events coordinators, Bookkeeper to assist the Treasurer). It was agreed that the Chairs' report(s) at the AGM will include a request for volunteers to come forward, and if there is no response the Board and Tournament Committee will seek to fill these posts and positions by advertising or by

personal approaches and recommendations. It was noted that forthcoming TD training courses might lead to interest among those attending in becoming a county level TD. **Open**.

Plan for limiting terms of office of the principal YCBA Officers. It was agreed that this will be deferred to a separate Board meeting. **Open** (to agree the date and venue of the separate meeting).

4. NW presented the **Tournament Committee** report including:

- Yorkshire's team for the Pachabo Cup competition
- Schools Cup competition (national) to take place at York Bridge Club in January 2026
- The Nelson Rose Bowl competition was oversubscribed and may move to a larger venue in 2026
- The first edition of the Yorkshire Handicapped pairs following a successful trial in autumn 2024 will be played next month and include heats hosted by 12 clubs
- A new pairs event for Six High players will take place at Wetherby in June
- Yorkshire Mixed Pairs has been moved to a new venue Huddersfield Bridge Club at short notice.

5. LM reported that the next meeting of the **Bridge Development Committee** is to be arranged before the YCBA AGM on 28th June.

6. DG presented the report of the **Grants Committee** including a discussion on grants for the installation of hearing loops at clubs. MD to request more information about hearing loops from York Bridge Club. **Open** (to receive the results of MD's enquiries).

7. RM and RK presented the report of the **Diversity, Inclusion and Equality Committee**. The draft of YCBA's Diversity, Inclusion and Equality Policy had previously been circulated to all Board members and was formally adopted. **Closed**.

8. A draft of the proposed **amendments of the YCBA constitution** had also been circulated to all Board members and this too was approved. The amendments will have the effect of incorporating the Diversity Policy. A special resolution to give effect to the amendments will be posted by the Assistant Secretary (RJ) on the YCBA website and included on the agenda for the AGM. It was noted that the Diversity Inclusion and Equality Committee intends to submit to the next Board meeting a proposal for a further constitutional amendment which would introduce a procedure for dealing with complaints about the YCBA as an organisation as distinguished from the conduct of officers or members. **Open** (to receive the proposal by DIEC).

9. **Planning for the AGM.** All Board members wishing to continue on the Board for 2025-26 should submit their nominations with names of proposer and supporter to the Assistant Secretary before 7th June so that a list of such nominations may be posted on the website as constitutionally required. It was noted that the positions on the Board of members with responsibility for women's interests and the interests of ethnic minorities are currently unfilled.

The agenda for the meeting is to include reports of the Joint Chairs, Treasurer's report and adoption of annual accounts (LM obtaining these from the auditors), election of officers and Board members, questions from the floor to officers, and presentation of trophies.

Other business

It was noted that DG has been circulating club session statistics received from the EBU. DG reported he has been in discussion with Oliver Cowan on forming a new online club based in Yorkshire to include a teaching programme using the materials produced by Jim Edwards.

Date and venue of next meeting

A short meeting to follow immediately the AGM at the Cairn Hotel, Harrogate on 28th June 2025.

End