

DIEC UPDATE FOR YCBA AGM 2026

The Diversity Inclusion and Equality Committee (DIEC) currently comprises Ruth Kerr (Chair), Bob Brown, Robin Jepson, Vanessa Jervis and Ron Millet.

A key focus of our work this year has been to identify a suitable Diversity, Inclusion & Equality Training package which can be delivered to key individuals in the YCBA and its affiliated clubs.

Diversity, Inclusion and Equality Training is a crucial part of creating a fair, legally compliant, and high-performing organisation by reducing unconscious bias, fostering empathy, and boosting engagement. This also enhances innovation through diverse perspectives, improves membership growth and retention, and mitigates risks of discrimination or harassment claims.

We are therefore very pleased to have been able to arrange a be-spoke Diversity, Inclusion & Training session on 24/06/26 for 16 YCBA MB Members, Committee Members and TDs. Following the course on 24/06/26 we will look to run further training sessions which will be primarily for Clubs with at least two free spaces being made available for each Club.

We will be writing to Club Chairs and Secretaries in the next couple of days with further information regarding this matter and to ask that, to enable us to gauge demand, that they respond with an indication regarding whether they would like one or two free spaces on future planned training sessions.

We would like to take this opportunity to encourage people to visit our DIEC webpage on the YCBA website where a range of materials are published and updated. These include:-

- Our DIEC Action Plan
- The YCBA Diversity Inclusion and Equality Policy
- A model Diversity, Inclusion and Equality Policy for Clubs
- A Diversity Inclusion Fact Sheet
- Links to our DIEC Podcast

We are planning to develop the current content of our DIEC webpage as part of a planned introduction of a Learning Hub so please watch this space.

We are also continuing to review the YCBA processes for diversity with work with the Selection Committees ongoing and future work with the Tournament Committee and Bridge Development Committee anticipated to start soon.

We are very keen to have input from our membership to help inform the scope of our work. Please do get in touch if you have any suggestions, comments or queries or indeed if you would like to take a more active role in the work of our Committee. Our email addresses are on the DIEC webpage on the YCBA website.