



Minutes of Council Meeting held at West Midlands Bridge Club Wednesday 14 June 2006

Present:

Jon Downing (Chairman), Darren Evetts (Secretary), Leslie Reece (Treasurer), Colin Lang (Vice-Chairman), Mike Allen, Ann Bailey, Stephanie Galvin, Dodo Georgevic, Jane Hall, Barry Holloway, Nanette McWhirter, Alan Pagett, John Pyner, John Robbins, Myra Scott, Pip Whitehouse

1. Apologies

Hylde Townsend, John Birch, Carolyn Fisher

2. Minutes of last meeting (200406)

The minutes were agreed and signed.

3. Matters Arising - None

4. Treasurer's Report – Leslie Reece

Nothing to report since the AGM except that the EBU has responded to the concerns about the £3.50 surcharge for tea & coffee being applied for events at Kettering. This surcharge has been dropped and a £2 room surcharge is being applied instead. The EBU have indicated that they will be absorbing this charge!

5. EBU Shareholders Report – John Pyner

Barry Capal has taken over as EBU General Manager. The EBU Treasurer reported a small surplus in 2005/6 and has budgeted for the same in 2006/7.

6. League Secretary's Report – Leslie Reece

The league is now complete. There were some unplayed matches in Division IV. Handicap – Final between Franks & McBride.

Handicapping – Handicaps are assigned from the previous years final ranking list. Starting at the top of Division I with 0 each team then receives a handicap of +2 imps on the preceding one down to the bottom of Division II. From the top of Division III each team will receive +3 on the preceding one. The existing system was only +2 throughout.

7. Tournament Secretary's Report – Pip Whitehouse

Foster Cups 070506 - Staffordshire 1st & 2nd, Worcestershire 3rd & 4th. Winners: Paul Hackett & Peter Jones. Runners Up: James & Pat Watson. The leading Warwickshire pair Mike Morriss & Jeremy Fenwick in 6th place.

Green Point Swiss Teams 140506 – Down on last year with 34 teams. Winners: Hauser, Pritchard, More & Jones

Men's Pairs 110506 – Slightly lower turn out of 14 pairs. Winners: Peter Oldbury & Brent Wormald, Runners Up: Dennis Gough & Dan Crofts.

Ladies' Pairs 070606 – Slightly up on last year with 10 pairs. Winners: Anne Carmichael & Gillian Adams. Runners Up: Caroline Brown & Margaret Wort.

Cock O' the County 040606 – 17 pairs competed. Winners: Adrian Knight & Leslie Reece, Runners Up: Matt Haag & Darren Evetts.

Charity Simultaneous Pairs April 06 – 96.5 tables competed. There were problems with scoring some clubs who had used non-standard movements but this was overcome! Many thanks to David Jones for his work in organising this event.

Corwen Trophy – Two Warwickshire pairs N Selwyn & D Franks and J Whittaker & J Hind competed and finished about average.

Goodman Cup – Winners: M Leese, S Wood, P Heatherington, G Preece, D Jones & G Watson, Runners Up: A Wood's team.

GolfPrint – The Edgebaston team of Fane Vernon, Evelyn Whiteford, Mary Shingler, Julian Shingler qualified for the Regional Final but failed to qualify for the final.

Pip reported that the past year had been most difficult when it came to gathering information from players who do not report on results. There were also problems with members who do not notify the County (or even their clubs in some cases) of changes of address or contact details.

Levels – A new structure of permitted systems (Levels) was agreed in preparation for the new Orange Book that comes into effect on August 1 2006.

Competition/Event	Current Level	New Level
Premier Pairs	4	4
Pairs Divisions I	3	4
Pairs Divisions II	3	2
Teams Divisions I	4	4
Teams Divisions II	3	4
Teams Divisions III	3	4
Teams Divisions IV	3	2
Goodman Cup	4	4
Handicap Teams	3	4
Warwickshire Pairs	3	4
Introductory Pairs	2	2
Men's Pairs	3	4
Ladies Pairs	3	4
Mixed Pairs	3	4
Frank Cup	3	4
Cock O' County	3	4
Foster Cups	3	4
Charity Swiss Teams	3	4
Midland Circle	3	4
GolfPrint	3	2
Simultaneous Pairs	3	4

8. Match/Selection Committee Report – John Robbins

John reported on the Selection/Tournament meeting regarding the new format for the Invitation Pairs.

Warwickshire Pairs League (WPL) would replace the Invitation Pairs. There would still be an invitation element built in to the Premier and Division I but Division II would be an Open Entry and Division I would be open but at the discretion of the Selection Committee. Full details attached. Darren was seeking clarification as to whether players in Division II (or the bottom division) needed to be members of the EBU to compete. The Master Point Handbook (3.2.7f)

refers to non-members being allowed to play in the bottom division of a multiple-division teams league but makes no mention of a pairs league.

The Premier division would only be played at West Midlands, as this was a more central venue within the County.

9. Secretary's Report – Darren Evetts

Correspondence – Nothing to report.

Midland Counties Congress - Following a number of negative comments regarding the Open Pairs format on the Friday afternoon we would be moving back to individual events of Mixed Pairs and Fitch, Ladies' Pairs, Men's Pairs. If numbers in the Men's and Ladies' Pairs are not sufficient to run an adequate movement those sections would be combined.

Calendar/Programme – The new programme will be circulated to clubs towards the end of July. It was agreed to move the Newcomers Pairs scheduled for Sunday 24 June 2007 to Sunday 8 July 2007.

10. Newcomers Development Officer's Report – Myra Scott

Myra reported that the Newcomers event scheduled at Sutton Bridge for 2 July was likely to be very well supported with Coventry bussing their players across!

11. Review of Green Point Event – Sunday 14 May 2006 – Sutton Coldfield Bridge Club

Another excellently run event but numbers were down to 34 teams. Many thanks to Sutton Bridge Club for hosting this event. A special thanks to Ann Bailey and her catering teams and David Jones and his directing team.

2007 Green Point event likely to be hosted again by Sutton Bridge Club. Ann indicated that deserts would no longer be pre-ordered.

11a. Election of Committees

Roy Moore and Norman Selwyn were co-opted to serve on the Conduct Committee. Norman Selwyn would also serve on the Laws & Ethics Committee.

David Jones indicated that he no longer wished to stand for the Midland Counties Congress Committee. Council would like to thank him for his service on this Committee.

It was agreed that the Tournament Committee and Selection Committee should no longer be merged.

Chairman	Jon Downing	Vice-Chairman	Colin Lang
Secretary	Darren Evetts	Treasurer	Leslie Reece
Admin Secretary	Beryl Latham	League Secretary	Leslie Reece
MasterPoints Secretary	Stephanie Galvin	Match Secretary/Publicity	John Robbins
Membership Secretary	John Birch	Tournament Secretary	Pip Whitehouse
Youth Officer	Steve Byrne	Newcomers Development Officer	Myra Scott

Non-Representative Members (10 Max):-

Mike Allen, Carolyn Fisher, Dodo Georgevic, Jane Hall, Barry Holloway, David Jones, John Pyner, Hylda Townsend, Nanette McWhirter, Nick Woosnam

Ex-Officio Members: Alan Pagett

Co-Opted Members: Roy Moore, Norman Selwyn

The following Committees were elected:-

Selection Committee

Jon Downing, Mike Allen, Dodo Georgevic, Colin Lang, John Pyner, John Robbins,
Pip Whitehouse

Tournament Committee

Jon Downing, Darren Evetts, Mike Allen, David Jones, Colin Lang, Alan Pagett, Leslie Reece,
Pip Whitehouse

Conduct Committee

Jon Downing, Darren Evetts, Colin Lang, Roy Moore, John Robbins, Norman Selwyn

Laws & Ethics Committee

Jon Downing, Darren Evetts, John Pyner, Norman Selwyn, Nick Woosnam

Pairs League (Birmingham)

Jon Downing, Leslie Reece, John Roberts, Nanette McWhirter

Pairs League (Coventry)

John Pyner, Stephanie Galvin, David Jones,

EBU Delegates & Shareholders

John Pyner, Mike Allen, Jon Downing

WebSite

Darren Evetts

Midland Counties Congress Committee

Mike Allen, Darren Evetts, Jon Downing, *Vacant*

12. AoB

None

13. Date of Next Meeting

Council - Wednesday 15 November 2006 @ 7.00pm – West Midlands Bridge Club. Coffee available upon arrival.

Selection Committee Meeting – Wednesday 5 July @ 7pm WMBC

D Evetts
June 2006