Tournament Committee Meeting

21st March 2017

Present: Ann Thornton (A.T.), Irene Davies (I.D.), Rodney Lighton (R.L.), Jeff Smith (J.S.), Susan Triggs (S.T.), Joan Lewis (J.L.), Haidee Tattersall (H.T.), Jeff Moriss (J.M.)

Apologies: Alan Mould (A.M.), Michael Byrne (M.B.), John Roberts (J.R.), Rhona Goldenfield (R.G.), Graham Campbell (G.C.)

CONGRESS:

I.D. thanked everyone for their contribution to the success of the event.  
I.D.:

* The Congress was well supported and a profit is recorded
* Space is an issue. However, the tables set at angles to each other was agreed by the meeting as the best option. It was agreed that MCBA liaise well with the V&A. Consequently, MCBA will continue to use this venue. However, if there is an increase in entries next year other venues will need to be investigated.
* The V&A is booked again for 2018.
* Timings for the event were discussed and a break of 2hrs on the Sat recommended for next year with 3/4hr recommended for Sun
* It was agreed that the commercially produced leaflet was value for money and will be produced for 2018 ensuring that e-mail for J.S. is added
* The Congress was well directed and Sarah Amos has been invited to direct again in 2018. It was agreed that we do away with barometer scoring in the final and opt for simpler movement. There needs to be more than 1 set of half time results produced on both days. Sarah be requested to bring printer. It was suggested that table numbers be displayed on the wall to indicate numbers in rows and numbers of tables be fixed (blu-tack) to bidding boxes
* It was agreed that we continue with the same Team’s format for 2018 to sustain the legacy of ‘the feel-good factor’
* Parking is an issue. R.L. will do yet another reccy for 2018, in the summer. MCBA to pay for 9 car parking spaces to be allocated to members who are involved in the organisation
* Tea and coffee remains a small issue and is what it is
* The proposal for a dress code of ‘black tie’ was rejected by the meeting

B.L.:

Alec and I organised the prize structure based on Jeff Smith's spreadsheet and the expected numbers.  We increased total prizes to £1520 from £1350 in 2016 - which includes the £100 donation from Jeff Morris.  As a % of income it was less than in 2016 and so made a contribution towards breaking even rather than making a loss.  We never saw the final accounts for the congress so can't tell you the exact %.

Ben Franks:

A.T.:

* Very well supported with 12 tables in play with most pairs entering before the date. Only one additional pair arrived to play on the day. This was very opportune making numbers for directing uncomplicated
* The event was very well directed by J.S. who, fortunately for us, was available this year
* There are no prizes for the Corwen now so the cost of entries for MCBA has been reduced
* Small profit of £95.38
* The date for the Ben Franks is set, 3rd December 2017 at MBC
* The 4 pairs for the Corwen are:
* John Holland & Michael Byrne
* Rodney Lighton & John Currie
* Nicholas Greer & John Parsons
* Alan Mould & Alec Smalley
* M.B. to liaise and organise

Intermediate Pairs:

B.L.:

* We seem to have a good formula for the intermediate pairs events and 15 and half tables in November makes a contribution to MCBA funds: in fact, the last 5 Intermediate Pairs have made a contribution. We missed J.L. in November but various helpers from ABC for directing/scoring ensured a good outcome

June intermediate Pairs:

* B.L. agreed to take entries and run this event
* A.T. to contact caretakers and book ABC
* J.L. agreed to direct the event

Gazette Cup:

A.T.:

* Very enjoyable event with 10 teams competing
* J.L. was able to direct which was great
* Refreshments were well received by everyone. In fact, we had an abundance due to 1team not playing on the day. The students were well fed
* Loss of £3.00

Cantor Cup:

(B.L.:

* MCBA received the promised £6000 from the Cantor family which is in a 2nd MCBA bank account: the Cantor family were thanked by e-mail and via the website. In addition, a thank you letter was sent from the MCBA Treasurer: H.T.
* 12 and half tables played in February - mainly recruited by Jeff Morris.
* We agreed to stick with the generous prize structure that the Cantors like .... especially as the Cantor donation can subsidise the event....it pays for the nice afternoon tea that MBC provide and the replica trophies!
* S.T. is in the process of liaising with J.M. to get an honours board for the event. J.S. agreed to inspect and transport the notice board to the agreed venue to be customised for the event. It was agreed that this may need to go on hold until circumstances are more appropriate. S.T.& J.S. to liaise with R.G.

Green Pointed Swiss Pairs:

It was agreed that the event is a very well organised and enjoyable event.

* R.G. organises the event and is very pleased with the way it is directed and managed
* There was some discussion around timing of results. S.T. suggested that a Dongle could solve the problem. MCBA could purchase a Dongle at an initial set up cost of £60. Thereafter, £30 pa for the licence. It was agreed that J.L. investigates whether ABC would contribute towards these costs. A Dongle would be useful for MCBA events would also benefit ABC. J.L. to report back.
* This will be further discussed when R.G is present

Intermediate Swiss Pairs, 9th April, 2017. 2.00pm at MBC:

S.T.:

* New event has already attracted entries of 20 pairs
* J.M. & S.T. will continue to advertise the event
* J.L. has agreed to direct
* There will be 5x5 board matches, 3 before break and 2 after

AOB:

I.D.:

* I.D. raised the issue of players with no allegiance to MCBA playing in the Merville Goldstone event. Roger Hopton has written to ask players to declare their allegiance to MCBA. The outcome will be reported back to this meeting
* It was acknowledged that Bhim Ruia does not have intermediate status
* There are 2 vacancies for MCBA namely Treasurer and Secretary. J.M. suggested a candidate for treasurer and he will enquire. A.T. to approach Peter Green again

J.M. reminded us of forthcoming events at MBC:

* Martin Braid Memorial SWISS pivot teams 2nd April with £500 prizes
* President’s Cup final 15th & 16th June. The Presidents is Cup-an annual inter-county event involving up to 11 counties which rotates venues every year. This is the first time we have held it. David Stevenson is the organiser and each county pays an entry fee out of which the expenses are paid.
* Premier League final 23rd & 24th September
* J.M. suggested that 3 students be sent on director’s course

The meeting closed at 4.00 pm

A.T.