Minutes of Tournament Committee Meeting: 20th Feb 2018

Present: Ann Thornton, Irene Davies, Barbara Lewis, Joan Lewis, Jeff Morris, Rodney Lighton, Alan Mould, Susan Triggs, Michael Byrne

Apologies: Rhona Goldenfield, Jeff Smith, John Roberts

Congress:

* Overall the Congress was a huge success with the Treasurer stating that the recorded loss of £209 or less {V&A have not yet billed us for parking} is not deemed as such in ‘treasurer speak’. I.D. commented that prize money was squeezed however it was still within recommended 20-25% of entry money
* After some discussion the decision to stay with V&A was made. The cost will remain at £1700 per day. However, S.T. said that we shouldn’t stop looking for other venues
* There are still the same issues related to parking and the cost but there are no definitive solutions.
* There were several comments made with regard to slowness of play. B.L. made the comment that the TD should pace and be a presence in the room in order to chivvy players. This will be discussed with TDs as a matter of importance for next year
* There was discussion re the use of clock/s displaying time/length of round of play. It was recommended that R.B. would research cost of ‘stand-alone’ digital clocks.
* TDs have been invited to direct 2019 Congress. Neil Morley is booked. Rob Dixon not confirmed as yet. I.D. will keep on the case.
* A.M. commented that some pairs played against same players {half of 1 line} again and this is an issue that will be approached with TDs for next year
* The meeting agreed that scores should not be displayed throughout play. This will be confirmed with TDs
* Bridgemates should not be tampered with, channels should not be changed. It is imperative that the main event be separate from novice event so that scores from the main event are not recorded in the novice event and vice versa. This will be confirmed with TDs

Ben Franks and Gazette Cup:

* Both events well attended and organised. Ben Franks cost £7.92 and the Gazette Cup showed a profit of £49.90

Intermediate events:

* S.T. is concerned that to date there are very few entries for 8th April. Annie Curtis will be approached with regard to generating flyers to promote this event {S.T.}
* The start time has been put back to 3.00pm as the event clashes with the Mcr Marathon
* B.L. has requested that the summer event be changed from 10th June. J.L. will look at 17th, 24th June or 1st July as an alternative date both in terms of venue, Altrincham, and her time as TD

Cantor Cup:

* There are concerns with regard to entries. B.L. commented that numbers are down on last year, 12 tables to date. Flyers to go to the Casino. The event will be held at MBC, Palatine Road

Northern Counties Improvers Pairs:

* The regional final will be held 13/14th May J.M. will finalise details.
* Qualifying pairs include top half of Cantor Cup and winning duplicate pairs from MBC Tues night until the final. J.M. asked that there are recommendations for qualifiers from other clubs

AOB:

* A.M. introduced the proposed changes and implications of the revised Data Protection Act, due 28th April 2016, for clubs and the County.
* R.L. has already e-mailed clubs.
* The EBU will produce a model policy which can be adapted for clubs and counties.
* MCBA will incorporate the new guidelines into ‘Best behaviour at Bridge’ which in turn will be incorporated into the Manchester Constitution. More anon

Ann Thornton