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**Minutes of the Executive Meeting**

**held on Saturday 5th December 2020 at 15:00am via Zoom**

**Present:** Irene Davies (chair), Alan Mould (secretary), Adam Wiseberg, Joy Blakey, Rhona Goldenfield, Alec Smalley, Rodney Lighton, Susan Triggs.

1. **Apologies**

David Tilley.

1. **Minutes of the last meeting held 25th October 2020**

Accepted as a true and correct record.

1. **Matters Arising**

Re 3: **Action:** ID to email list of new beginners to AW.

Complete. But ID will send updated list.

Re 3: **Action:** ID and ST to give information re online teaching to RL for website

Complete.

Re 3: **Action:** ID to consult with MGB about intermediate online zoom sessions.

Complete. Sessions are running and have been very well received.

Re 4: **Action:** RG to ask Dermot if he can TD the congress.

Dermot has never dealt with RealBridge. Ken Johnston has agreed to run the Congress. Alec will run the non-experts on the Saturday. Both days will run on RealBridge. Pairs will run a Howell all the way through.

Re 4: **Action:** AW to inform teams of the new arrangements for the Higson Cup and Plate

Complete.

Re 4: **Action:** Roger Hopton to be consulted about whether he wants to run a 2020-2021 Goldstone Trophy and also about the arrangements for the 2020 Goldstone conclusion.

Complete. Discussed and decided on at Council Meeting of 29/11/20

Re 4: **Action:** Online Committee to look into option for two different “Cantor Cups”.

No progress to date. Online Committee to discuss.

Re 7: **Action:** JB to contact the EBU to ask if our UMS can be set to 0.

Agenda item

Re 7: **Action:** JB to do the necessary calculations from 1st May.

Agenda item

1. **Manchester Bridge Club**

A post on MBC’s website has been altered followed a request from MCBA. This was a very helpful response from MBC.

1. **Refund of MCBA UMS payments to clubs (JB)**

The EBU can stop the MCBA UMS from 1st December which will be the November payment. JB has confirmed to reduce it to 0 for the remaining financial year and to reduce to 0 for the financial year beginning April 2021. This can be changed at any time during the 2021-22 financial year.

JB has the figures for each club from the EBU website and has received advice from the EBU. However, the Committee were still unsure as to exactly what some of the figures related to and sought further clarification. After that, the UMS payments will be repaid to clubs.

**Action:** AM to check with the EBU about the position re MBCA UMS payments.

**Action:** JB to contact DT re the position with the joint club concerning SBC, Warrington, Brierfield, and Chorley.

**Action:** AM to send JB the details of the contact for each club.

(Already Complete)

**Agreed:** Repay to clubs MCBA UMS paid by clubs since lockdown started

(**Action** JB).

**Agreed:** To cease UMS payments to MCBA from 1st November 2020

(**Action** JB)

1. **Discussion on Return to F2F Bridge (MGB)**

MGB introduced the item by raising a number of questions:

* What is our plan for when bridge returns to normal?
* What about our events in the summer? Can we assume the events will be F2F?
* Do we assume numbers will be one third (for example) of what they were and price accordingly or what?
* Are we going to be easing back in or a “big bang”?
* Is it feasible to hire somewhere a lot bigger for not a lot more money (so tables could be spread out a lot more)?

To these AM added:

* What will be the position when we get back to F2F? Are we going to allow people to insist people play F2F when F2F returns, or allow people to play online if they want to?

ST asked if it is possible to hold events where some people are F2F and some online. AW responded that this has always been possible, but only if the people in the event are using electronic devices.

AW suggested we look at what happens when clubs re-open and that may give us a steer on what people are prepared to do.

AS pointed that that there is something in government policy about when businesses can hold conferences F2F. Only when businesses can hold conferences F2F again can we have bridge events. No bridge events can be held until then. BCHBC Committee discussed this matter today and also the hybrid model was discussed. As soon as meetings over 20 are allowed BCHBC will open as soon as possible.

It was suggested that nearer the time we could poll members to see what their views are.

A wide-ranging discussion took place with no consensus emerging. It was agreed to discuss the matter again at the next Executive meeting in January.

**Agreed:** To discuss this in more depth in January 2021.

1. **A.O.B.**

Information for online Congress will be online very soon.

Congress teams have separate qualifier sections and separate finals. Have much more flexibility online for options. There was little support for other options.

**Agreed:** Qualifiers and separate finals.

1. **Date and Time of Next Meeting**

January 2021. To be decided.

Meeting ended at 16:10