NORTHERN BRIDGE LEAGUE REVIEW MEETING 2018

**Held at Bradford B.C. on 18th October 2018 at 11a.m.**

**1 Present**

B Kaye (Chairman/Merseyside)

L Lehninger (Cumbria)

J Smith (Lancashire)

I Davies, R Lighton (Manchester)

J Hampson (Merseyside)

S Davies, G Jepson, J Hayton (Yorkshire)

**2 Apologies for Absence**

T Ward (Cumbria), A Barnes, B Brelsford (Lancashire), J Latham (Yorkshire), M Rothwell (Westmorland)

**3 Minutes of Last Meeting (26 Oct 2017)**

Approved.

**4 Matters arising from 2018 and NBL League Report**

The Chairman commented on the successful season and after last year’s discussion noted Manchester’s closer adherence to the NBL recommendations. He thanked Stuart, Rodney & Jeff for their continued hard work. Manchester won Divisions A and B, and tied for top place with NW Yorkshire in the C Division. After applying EBU Regulations (head to head VPs), NW Yorkshire will represent the NBL in the Inter County Final. There had been a minor issue when Merseyside went to the wrong venue – the Chairman reminded us that the NBL web site was the main reference for correct NBL information. He also noted the NBL regulations and TD guide were on the NBL site. Irene said Manchester 2 had enjoyed their first season in the League.

**5 Treasurers Report**

 Stuart Davies presented the Accounts for 2018 which showed a small profit of around £200 leaving us with a balance of around £800. As this seemed too much, Stuart suggested increases to Catering/Venue and TD Travel which would then result in a shortfall on the balance sheet. To offset this shortfall, the consensus view was to increase the County (rather than Player) entry fee.

 County Fee £75 per team (Increase from £60). Money to be sent to Stuart by April 1st 2019

 Table Money £12:50 per player (£10:00 for Juniors (under 26))

 Catering/Venue £11 per head to include food and club fee. (Increase from £10)

 TD Fee £85

 TD Travel 40p per mile (Increase from 35p)

 Duplimate £45 per match per pool (4 copies including Hand Records)

 WebMaster £100

 Coordinator £150 (SD)

 NBL Organiser £100 (BK)

 It was noted that Bolton BC had generously undercharged at £8 Catering/Venue. In reply to an enquiry about a separate NBL bank account, Stuart assured us that they were managed entirely separately from his own account. Also Leeds intended to raise their charge from £50 to £100 next year.

**6 Proposed NBL League/Venues 2019**

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| **TEAMS OF 8 FOR 2019** |
|  | **A** | **B** | **C** |
| 1 | Lancashire  | Cumbria | Cumbria |
| 2 | Manchester 1 | Lancashire | Lancashire |
| 3 | Manchester 2 | Manchester | Merseyside/Cheshire |
| 4 | Merseyside/Cheshire | Merseyside/Cheshire | Manchester 1 |
| 5 | Yorkshire 1 | North East | Manchester 2 |
| 6 | Yorkshire 2 | North Wales | Westmorland |
| 7 |  | Westmorland | Yorkshire NW |
| 8 |  | Yorkshire  | Yorkshire SE |

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| **Div** | **A** | **B** | **C** |
| **Sat 13 July 2019** | Sheffield | Bradford | Keighley |
| **Sat 17 Aug 2019** | Brierfield | Altrincham | Bradford |
| **Sat 21 Sep 2019** | Bradford | Keighley | Poulton |
| **Sat 12 Oct 2019** | Bolton | Bradford | Leeds |

There was discussion on the use of new clubs so we included Altrincham, Poulton with Preston in reserve for hosting matches. The Altrincham cost was £24 per room per hour and they would provide food platters, we thought that the £715 income for a B or C match should cover that. Bernard would select TDs on a location basis with Barrie Partridge for Sheffield etc

**7 Any Other Business**

1. Refreshments. They had always been excellent at Keighley, Bradford, Bolton but sometimes a club would not be in a position to provide a lavish meal. It should be noted at all venues that sandwiches and a dessert are perfectly acceptable for an afternoon meal.
2. There had been a complaint on a water charge at Leeds. The NBL are not in a position to insist on a club’s charges other than the basic free tea/coffee at start and light afternoon meal. It was pointed out that it is illegal to charge for tap water in a venue with a bar!
3. Graham again suggested 4 board stanzas in the A Division with each NS playing each EW in the day. Albeit fairer, this would entail more board preparation and delay the play by around half an hour.
4. A B pool pair had tried to play two different systems in a 6-board match. The EBU White Book only allows this where rounds are 7 boards or more and it was felt we best stick to the EBU regulations.
5. There had been a complaint on the display of Ximps on BM screens but it was noted that it helped check the result input and was useful and informative for the players.
6. The Chairman was unhappy that Ranking GPs were award only for the final positions and were not awarded in each of the four heats. Mr Smith said he would write to the EBU on this matter. It was also noted that despite winning the league, no Yorkshire NW player was awarded any GPs as they had not played in 1/3 of the matches!
7. Jeff Smith would update the location/mileage chart produced by Andrew Petrie some years ago but now out of date as it included venues eg Chester, Darlington, Harrogate no longer in use.

D**ate of Next Meeting**

 Thanks were given to Bradford BC for hosting the meeting and for an excellent lunch.

 11am on Thursday 17th October 2019 at Bolton BC.