

Scottish Bridge Union – EAST District
Minutes of the Online Committee Meeting of 11th May 2021 at 7.00pm

Present: Ms. A Perkins, Mrs. J Choudhury, Ms. F Greenwood, Dr. J Palmer, Mrs. F Davies, Mrs. M Evans, Mrs. S Gunn, Mr. A Officer

Apologies: Mrs S McPherson, Mrs. J Carnegie

Minutes:

The minutes of 16th February 2021 were proposed by Ms Greenwood and seconded by Mrs Davies as being a true record of that meeting.

Matters arising: There were no matters arising.

Chairman's report:

Ms Perkins has not been playing much as has been involved in junior training and preparation for the Junior Camrose and Peggy Bayer and trials for the Lady Milne and Senior Camrose.

Secretary's report:

David Stevenson had sent an email regarding the Presidents Cup in July and how to enter.

Sub-committee reports:

Finance:

- Mrs Choudhury had issued the accounts to the Committee. The accounts had been examined and approved by Mr S Kirkwood.
- Payments for online Realbridge tournaments are now being made through Square. The EDU receive payment within 24 hours. It would be possible to use this method on BBO free platform and for F2F tournament if required.
- A gift voucher for Gullane golf shop had been purchased and given to Sandy Kirkwood.

League:

- There was no progress with KO or leagues.
- It had been suggested by Gordon Milne that the 19/20 League Season be closed off. This was not an option to the EDU. There followed a discussion and it was agreed that JP would consult with the Captains of the critical league matches to see if it is possible to play them online.
- Currently planning leagues for the 21/22 session is difficult and no decisions have been made as it is not known how many teams will be available to play when face -2- face bridge returns. It is envisaged that there may be a smaller number of divisions and possibility of hosting teams of 8/4 on-line rather than face-2-face.

Education: Nothing to report

- SG reported that the SBU Summer Academy has been launched. Tuesday & Wednesday will have structured hands with commentary, Clubs have been approached to host so they can offer mentorship and encouragement to students to join clubs. Other days students are welcome to play socially on the BBO platform.

Bronze Events: Nothing to Report

- FG asked the Committee if they had any thoughts as to why there was a poor uptake on bronze tournaments. There followed a discussion and it was felt that newer players may find entering bronze tournaments daunting, when it was F2F in Clubs there was social discussions and

encouragement from other players. It was suggested that FG ask a sample of players for their feedback. (Action: FG)

National Tournaments:

East District successes in recently held events :

Men's Pairs

1st George Plant, Tadeusz Janowski

2nd Tom Bagnall, Andrew Harborow

3rd Harry Smith, Roy Bennett

Men's Teams -1st Alex Adamson, Glen Falconer (with Jonathan Clark and Kripa Panchagnula)

Women's Pairs - 3rd Julia Palmer, Fiona Greenwood

Women's Teams -2nd Pam Leith, Muriel Blake (with Susan Aitchison and Joan Lees)

Thea Teale Bronze Teams

1st Kay Robertson, Adrian Eastwood, Andy Clarkson, Graham Clarkson

2nd Tom Robertson, Derry Ford, Lorraine Robb, Rosie Crockett

Winter Swiss Teams - 1st Harry Smith and Roy Bennett (with Ronan Valentine and Liam O'Brien)

Farquharson Trophy -2nd George Plant, Tadeusz Janowski

Ranked Pairs

Jesner - 1st Sarah Gunn, Marina Evans

Fairlie - 1st Eilidh Rennie, David Hamilton

Individuals

Shenkin -1st Yuen Man Rowbottom

National Pairs -3rd Derrick Peden, Jim Hay

East District Tournaments:

Preparation for forthcoming ED online events

22nd May ED Bronze Teams

23rd May Hunter Cup - Pre-registration is required

MiniBridge:

There has been progress towards identifying what success looks like and what human resources we have nationally to achieve our goals, and where we have gaps. Those keen to help get more kids playing attended an informal zoom 'chat' a few weeks ago and the summary of where we were then is attached.

- ME thought it was helpful for those doing a great deal of good work to know it is valued highly and may be useful for other regions. Danny Hamilton's interactive quizzes that have proved so useful

- in engaging 20-30 boys at his after school club are available for all to use on the SBU website and Danny is putting me in touch with John Di Mambro to see if he is still supporting a club at Hutchies.
- East District progress to getting clubs up and running in September:
 - ME has contacted St George's and Fettes schools
 - Martin Stephens has agreed to get in touch with Merchiston (he is an alumnus).
 - Helen McCormack is contacting Portobello and Fiona Greenwood has relationships with Dalry and Stockbridge.
 - The material is available but need more volunteers to approach more schools.
 - Online is a huge opportunity yet has health and safety issues for kids. Highland council have apparently said no BBO, yet in the US it has been a fabulous way of attracting students particularly girls. Ann Wickens is trying to get something up and running on Real Bridge in the Highlands. Would be interested in everyone's thoughts.

Website News: Nothing to Report

Report from Council:

- There has been the first Disciplinary Case in Scotland which resulted in a suspension. There are more cases due to be dealt with in the future.
- There is a working group looking into Corporate Status for the SBU, details will be issued over the next few months.
- There is a working group looking into planning Bridge for the future – F2f and online. More details will be issued when the government guidelines allow.
- The SBU AGM is being held on the 25th May 2021 at 7.15pm via zoom conference call.
- The International Committee will be holding open trial for the Camrose Pairs.

AOCB:

- The 2021 East District AGM date was set for Tuesday 13th July 2021. Notification, agenda and other relevant documents will be issued to the East District Clubs and members early June. A copy will also be uploaded to the website. (Action: AP/CD/AO)
- Trophy winners will have their names engraved – this includes online tournaments. (Action: JC to arrange)
- Rayne Cup – to be discussed at next meeting

Meeting closed 9.10pm with thanks to all for attending.

Date of next meeting – Tuesday 13th July 2021 at 7.00pm.