

Minutes of the Committee meeting held at 5pm Monday, 19 October 2020 online on Zoom

Present:	Reverend Canon Christopher Smith (CS)	President
	Christine McCreath (CC)	Past President
	Tony Reed-Jones (TRJ)	Honorary Treasurer
	Paul Gipson (PG)	Honorary Secretary
	Louis Moore (LM)	Honorary Competitions Secretary
	Peter Calder (PC)	Committee member
	Jill Connor (JC)	Committee member
	Len Hutton (LH)	Committee member
	Sue Price (SP)	Committee member
	Penny Davidson (PD)	Committee member

Apologies: None

1. President's welcome

CS welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked SP for hosting it.

2. Minutes of last meeting and matters arising

The minutes of the last meeting were approved unanimously.

- New Committee member

A couple of suggestions were made and CS is to call one club member about filling the vacant position.

3. Online bridge discussion

- Director status

PG reported Colin Edney and Julian Bales have each run the Saturday tournament without issue.

Chris Orchard, Trish Frew, Jane Smithson, Stuart Breckons, Elaine Kilgour, Louis Moore, Sue and Eric Price have attended screen-sharing sessions and are ready to run their own events under guidance.

Most of this team are attending a special open tournament on Tuesday evening, either to direct or watch the directors.

The next step is to arrange SBU permission for these people to run pay tournaments.

PG is confident that we shall get permission in time for a November launch of the Berwick Virtual Club (BVC).

- Online competition calendar

PG distributed the proposed calendar in advance of the meeting. PG noted that no provision has been made for SBU and other simultaneous pairs.

The Committee unanimously agreed the calendar and thought it was in a suitable format to be distributed electronically.

The Committee unanimously decided that the club should use BBO robots to prevent sit outs in club tournaments.

- Berwick Virtual Club readiness

With the director situation in hand and the calendar agreed by the Committee, the club is ready to establish its virtual presence.

- Should the club have a printed online calendar?

The Committee unanimously agreed that a printed calendar was not required this season. The calendar will be distributed to all the club members, who can choose to print it, and it will be available on the club website.

- Next steps

The Committee unanimously agreed to follow the published SBU guidance with respect to the UNDO policy for club tournaments: namely UNDOs will be permitted for misclicks during the auction, assuming your partner has not called, but no UNDOs will be permitted during the play.

PG was asked to include information about the 'confirm options' on BBO as part of his announcement strategy.

PG was asked to inform the membership via email and the website of the Berwick Virtual Club. This includes giving a list of BBO players to CM as Partnership Secretary.

4. SBU and club subscriptions update

TRJ presented an interim financial update. Six club members have yet to renew their subscriptions and they will be unable to play in online BVC tournaments until they have.

5. AOCB

- Handicaps

PG explained the online handicaps will be based on online performance since March. For players with no experience, LM and PG will give an appropriate handicap as they would for new club members.

The meeting closed at 5.45pm.

The next committee meeting is on Monday, 7 December at 5pm on Zoom.