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**Minutes of the Executive Meeting**

**held on Monday 21st June 2021 at 16:15 via Zoom**

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

1. **Apologies**

David Tilley.

1. **Minutes of the last meeting held 24th May 2021**

Agreed as a true and correct

1. **Matters Arising**
   1. Re 6: results of poll of players concerning format of the 2021/22 MCBA League

AW had produced an online poll and circulated the results which were:

There were 5 questions

Yes No

I would like to play League Bridge after August 2021

if the Government allows 12

Players who answered no were asked not to answer any further questions so 135 players responded to the next four questions

I only want to play in a Face to Face League 16

I would play in a face to face League even if either team could insist in an online option

46

I only want to play in an online league after August 44

I want to play in both an online league and a F2F league 59

Total 165

The total number of replies received was 143 of which 12 said no and answered no further questions so the total number of responses to all the other questions totals 131 producing 165 replies.

Clearly several people answered more than one question.

The crucial number here is that only 16 people have expressed a desire only to play in a face to face league.

**Agreed**:

1. That the league would start in September and be default online with a F2F option only if both captains agree.
2. That the League Secretary will write CoC about default platforms.
3. That there would be one season September to April/early May, 24 board matches with possibly the option of smaller numbers of boards for the lower divisions.

The majority view was that larger divisions playing once each was the preferred option (as per pre-Covid league) but this would be left until numbers were known.

AW was thanked for all his work on this.

* 1. Re 8: Handicap for the Higson Cup/Plate

**Agreed:** To put to the AGM that we continue with the handicap for another year and a handicap committee will consider what the handicaps for the knockouts and the final should be.

**Agreed:** The Higson Cup/Plate will be online default with F2F only if both captains agree.

A discussion ensued about the Goldstone Trophy position.

**Action:** AM to write to Roger Hopton re the default for the Goldstone

* 1. Re 9: Feedback from clubs concerning re-opening F2F bridge

AM reported back on responses he had had from affiliated clubs. All clubs who had responded to date were intending to run both F2F and online sessions.

ST reported that Brookdale had carried out a survey of members and the vast majority wished to continue online. ST felt that there may be some training necessary as people will have lost the skills to run F2F sessions.

AS reported that the ultimate aim of B&CHBC was to return to be a F2F club only.

1. **AGM**
   1. Finalisation of date, time, and format

**Agreed:** the AGM will be online only, 15th July, starting at 7pm on Zoom.

* 1. Preparations including nominations for officers

It is necessary for the Executive to look at succession planning.

1. **Green Point Event – date, format, and arrangements**

RG reported that we have had 7 entries to date.

**Agreed:** To run the event F2F if legal.

**Agreed:** To have a meeting of relevant people near the event to finalise all the details.

1. **2022 Manchester Congress**

MCBA will pay a deposit which, if the event has to be cancelled, will roll over to the next year. The hotel will not ask for the full payment until a couple of weeks before the event takes place.

1. **Bramhall Green Bridge Club**

Bramhall Green Bridge Club has closed permanently.

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

None

1. **Date and Time of next meeting**

TBA.