**Minutes of** Tournament Committee Meeting Sept 17th 2019

**Present** I Davies(Chair) S Triggs R Lighton J Morris B Lewis R Goldenfield P Murray J Lewis

 A Wiseberg

**Apologies** A Thornton K Comrie J Smith H Kay J Blakey A Mould M Byrne K Jones B Eastabrook

 R Asleigh.

It was suggested that all meetings should start at the earlier time of 1.00 This was agreed

The handbook was distributed and everyone was asked to take some to the clubs they visit.

**Congress**

Neil Morley has been asked to Direct this was agreed by the meeting.

He will be asked to use the time clock which could not be used last year because of a problem with a computer.

Nicolas has agreed to assist and Henry has also been asked but has not replied.

Joan will do the J high on Saturday. Irene will ask Victor to do the Sunday.

Leaflet and posters are ready and everyone was asked to take what they needed.

J high leaflets will be given out at a later date.

A roller banner advertising the congress as a friendly congress is being purchased price £80 and can be used each year. It was agreed to take it from club to club from November to push the congress.

Although lots of emails are sent out it was felt that personal contact was more productive.

The *To Do list* was handed out and amended where necessary. (attached)

Jeff Morris is trying to get Andy Burnham the Lord Mayor to attend the Congress.

It was suggested that Andy Burnham also be asked to get sponsorship from the Council but this was felt to be inappropriate.

**Building Tournaments**

There was a discussion about how to increase the number of players entering our tournaments.

* Age Friendly week Stockport are holding an age friendly week Sept30th to Oct 6th with cultural taster sessions Jeff M will contact them and ask if there can be a bridge table included.
* On the same theme there a many U3A groups who play bridge as one of their activities and some have indicated that they would welcome an experienced bridge player to go along and give them some advice on improving.
* Susan T will contact them. Rhona offered to visit if required.
* We have had 3 new clubs affiliate. We need to keep on friendly terms with non affiliated clubs so as to encourage them to play in some events .

**Intermediate Pairs events**. Adam suggested the name was changed but after some discussion and suggestions it was agreed to keep it the same.

Suggestions were Really Easy J High No Fear.

In future the intermediate events would be stratified giving out more prizes and taking more photos

Adam said there were 13 teams in the 2 Div 7 and he had all the email addresses and would email all players about the intermediate/non expert events

It was decided to hold another non expert event in July/Aug to be called Really

Easy Competition for NGS 8 and below.

**Cantor Cup** Ray Ashleigh to run and he has everything under control.

Joy is to ask Martin Cantor about better use of the money we hold for this event.

Generally it was felt that it would be useful to hold transition sessions to try to encourage more social bridge players to join in duplicates.

**Green Pointed Events**. Venue and Directors booked for 2020 and Rhona will organise as usual.

**Ben Franks** John Roberts will make every effort to get players from out of the area.

Gazette Cup Ann T will organise it is Feb 2nd team of 8 £80 including refreshments.

**Higson Cup Final** will be 6 teams and the plate will be 9 or 10.. It was decided to use Manchester Bridge Club where food can be provided or players can bring their own.

A vote of thanks to Irene closed the meeting at 3.00pm