

Minutes of a meeting of the SABF Executive held on Zoom on 23 February 2022.

Present

James Grant (President)
Jocelyn Ashberg (Vice President)
Kit Gilmour (Secretary)
Roz Bernstein
Helen Kruger
Andrew Cruise
Graham Burrows
Annie Allen

Apologies

Philip Feinstein

Welcome

James began by welcoming those in attendance

Matters arising

James has not yet received info from Arie about starting tournaments for novices.

Returning to Face to Face Bridge

Hermanus has been back and is getting 5-6 tables, and Impala similarly. Most other Cape clubs were still waiting.

In Gauteng, Northerns have opened at Ferndale Bowling Club, and are getting about 12 tables. Wednesday pm, at the Links, tried on 2 separate weeks, but got little response.

Graham mentioned that he had sent the minutes to all KZN clubs, and the only response was from Westville, who would like to reopen, but are having trouble finding a scorer.

Andrew suggested the Unions should be giving leadership to their players by having fewer online sessions, and that they shouldn't hold online tournaments at times when clubs were running live tournaments.

James felt it was important to use encouraging methods, rather than draconian ones, and that clubs must make their own decisions. He also suggested we might reduce red points for online tournaments, or possibly double them for those held face to face to encourage unions to return to face to face bridge.

There was a great deal of discussion regarding this. Suggestions made included: that we rescind the decision of 19 September, that all red points had to be held face to face once all clubs had returned to face to face bridge: that Unions should be allowed 1 online event only: that red points should be reduced immediately: that regional events should be closed to players from other areas.

None of these met with general approval. Roz added that as a result of the multitude of red point events being held on-line along with the widespread cheating taking place the levels awarded to players are quickly becoming meaningless and we should consider introducing a new level in our grading . It was agreed that whatever action was decided on this would only be implemented after congress.

James suggested the Unions be asked to give their schedules for live tournaments to ensure that these did not clash with those of clubs trying to re-establish face to face bridge.

Commonwealth Games

James asked if we should try and field a team this year? Neither colours nor subsidies are given for this event and it was decided to wait until we had more information as to where and when the event will be held before taking a decision.

Congress

The elected committee consisted of Jocelyn, Andrew Roz and Helen. Philip is not well enough to do the financials, so Roz agreed to take on the task.

Finances

We need to find an auditor, so all were requested to look at membership lists to see if we have a member, suitably registered and willing.

General

Helen reiterated the need to curtail on-line bridge at times when live clubs were playing.

James appealed for help with articles for the SABF bulletin. Graham suggested Frank Chemaly.

At this point, Helen left the meeting, and James informed the committee that Helen has been invited to the WBF meeting in Salsomaggiore, but that they would only pay her accommodation. The meeting agreed to pay her flight.

On that note, subsidies for the players arose. James reclused himself, and asked the rest of the committee to decide on this.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 1930.