

SBU International Committee Meeting April 4th 2021

Present: Anne Perkins (Chair), Brian Short, Malcolm Cuthbertson, Mike McGinley, Joan Forsyth (SBU President)

Apologies: Sandy Duncan

1. **Senior European Team** – With the confirmation that the Europeans in Madeira June 2021 have been cancelled, we await the decision of the WBF regarding the World Championships later in the year. If it is decided to hold the Europeans online, then a further 2 pairs will be needed for the Senior team to replace those no longer available. It was decided that if necessary, the results of the original trial in December 2019 would be taken into consideration along with the results of the Senior Trial in February 2021 and the performance in the Senior Camrose to be held later this month.
2. **Trials 2021/22** – It was agreed that the National League has been a success and it should be continued in future years beyond the 2021/22 season. However, with the current uncertainty as to when face to face bridge could resume, and with the present intention to keep SOL going, it was decided after discussion to make the trial for the 2022 Camrose weekends a Pairs Trial subject to the agreement of Council. The Committee agreed that longer events such as the Europeans should continue to have a team-based trial.

The suggestion of the Committee is that all weekends would be scored in X imps. The first weekend in September would be a pre-trial open to any pairs with aspirations to play for Scotland. Some pairs would be exempt from participating in this based on having played in a major competition such as the Camrose over the past 2 years.

The main trial, to be held the first two weekends of October, would consist of these exempted pairs plus a number from the pre-trial giving a cohort of 16 pairs. The bottom 4 pairs would be dropped after the first weekend allowing the 12 remaining pairs to play longer matches in the second. All scores would be carried forward from weekend 1.

Playing on Realbridge with audio and video make the process more secure and the committee will have access to all the results to monitor them.

It was noted that as the Home Nation for the 2nd weekend, Scotland would have 2 teams in the 2022 event.

The format of the Lady Milne / Senior Camrose trial held in February was considered to have been a success with only one complaint, and the intention would be to run a combined trial in early December along similar lines.

3. **Convention Cards** – These are now expected to be of a higher standard than previously. The Committee is minded to add a footnote to the CoC to remind pairs that ambiguous information on a card is likely to be ruled against if the TD is called. As well as a Convention

Card, a pair should also have system notes available for scrutiny by opponents and TDs. Pairs entering a trial will be told to ask a friend to check over their CC for any ambiguities before submitting it. Mike McGinley and Sandy Duncan have agreed to monitor CCs as they are submitted and to refer them back to the pairs if they are not considered suitable.