**Reopening Huddersfield Bridge Club Meeting: 21st May 2021**

**Present:**

Michael Robertson (chair of working party), Liz Greensides, Margaret Rhodes, Ian Whitehead, Gillian Emmerson, Sue Measures. Apologies received from Pearl and Pat.

**Introduction:**

The club has received a grant of £11000+, thanks to Pat and Michael.

Main Decision to be made over the approach to reopening, one of two approaches:

* Assume safety once every one is inside the club
* Assume members may bring virus in, so high level of safety measures

Discussion around each model, with the acceptance that either may mean some members stay away, at least for the first few weeks/months of opening.

* Examples given of clubs taking a very rigid stance to reopening – eg Middlesex.
* Enjoyment of members when playing “face to face” likely to be enhanced without over rigid approach
* Questions raised over the current liability within the insurance – does it cover Covid?

**Resolution:** To adopt the former model – assume safety once every one is inside the club.

**Action:** Sue Measures to check with Pearl re the Insurance Liability for individual committee members, and upgrade if necessary.

**Main Agenda:**

1. **Which sessions can we cover with TDs and when?**

Important to establish this, in order to determine how many, and which sessions may be able to go ahead.

* Margaret Rhodes has checked with TDs, and has a list of those who are prepared to continue – some are not, which will impact on times the club can run. One or two TDs are likely to return at some stage.
* With current level of TDs, one afternoon and one evening should be able to be covered.
* Rota will also have to be in place for setting up the Duplicator – should not be a TD job.

**Resolution:** To open Monday afternoon (1.15) and Tuesday evening (7.00) initially. This should be reviewed after three weeks. Initially for members only, and no partner will be provided, at least in the short term.

**Action:** Ian to ask Robert Pepper to compile an initial TD rota for the first three weeks.

**Action:** Michael to contact Robert Pepper re the computer/scoring

**Action:** Sue Measures to contact Linda Tempest re duplimator

1. **Arrival:** Discussion around each of the sub questions on the agenda.

**Resolution:** Members should not need to pre book, or sign in on arrival. Arrival will not be staggered, but there should be a one way system on the stairs. Whilst there will be a requirement that each member will have had both vaccinations, and will have had a recent negative Covid test result, using a flow test on the day of attendance at the club, this will be on a basis of trust. Coats should be kept with individual members.

**Action:** Sue Measures to ask Pearl to notify members through the club website. ***Suggested wording at the end of these minutes.***

1. **Rooms:** Discussion around each of the sub questions on the agenda.

**Resolution:** The tables should be spaced out as much as possible, using the two upstairs rooms. Windows should be open to give as much ventilation and flow of air as possible. Sanitisers are on the walls, and will be on each table. If members wish, they may purchase their own bidding box. The bridgemates should be wiped regularly through the session. Payment for sessions will be on the same basis as before the lockdown.

1. **Catering:** Discussion around each of the sub questions on the agenda.

**Resolution:** A break will be taken as usual. Members may use the club facilities or bring their own drink/snacks. All biscuits will be wrapped.

1. **Toilets:** Discussion around each of the sub questions on the agenda.

**Resolution:** Members should use common sense. The air dryers should be turned off if possible, and paper towels made available. All toilets will be in used.

1. **Departure:** Discussion around each of the sub questions on the agenda.

**Resolution:** The Number 4 entrance will be used for both entrance and exit. No need for members to sign out, but be asked to help sanitise the area around their own tables.

1. **Date of reopening:** Discussion bringing together each of the above issues.

**Resolution:** The club will reopen on the 21st of June; this may be subject to change, if the government push back the national date for further relaxation of the Covid rules.

**Any Other Business:**

* The existing committee will remain in place, pending elections at the AGM. This comprises: Pearl, Sue Measures, Gillian Emmerson, Ian Whitehead, Pat Whitehouse, Margaret Rhodes, Vivien Aizlewood, Michael Robertson and Liz Greensides. Thereafter, the committee should be limited to eight, with re-elections after two years.
* AGM: After discussion it was agreed that this should be held on Thursday, 22nd July, at the club headquarters. This will be announced on the club website, on the notice board, during club sessions, and by word of mouth.

**Action:** Sue Measures to work with Pearl to ensure all legal and statutory obligations for the AGM are met.

**Suggested wording for the website**: **To go front and central on the website asap**

**Action:** Michael to approach Pearl asap

Following a meeting of a sub committee to discuss the reopening of HBC it has been decided, subject to the government going ahead with full easing of restrictions, that the club will open again for face to face bridge on Monday 21st June. This date will be confirmed following the government’s announcement the previous week.

The opening will commence with two sessions per week: Monday afternoons at 1.15, and Tuesday evenings at 7PM for the first three weeks; this will then be reviewed and hopefully expanded.

It is intended that the following will apply:

* Members only -recently lapsed members may renew but no visitors/new members during initial three weeks
* All Members require a partner to play, as no partners will be provided at the moment
* Members are requested to stay away if they feel unwell or test positively for Covid 19
* Members are asked, please, to take a lateral flow test at home prior to arriving for play. The results of this home test will be assumed to be negative if you subsequently arrive to play – ie, taken on trust.
* The club will operate a one way system on the stairs, plenty of sanitiser will be provided and windows will be open for good ventilation (please dress accordingly).
* Mask wearing will be optional.
* Refreshments will be provided as usual but members may bring their own during this trial period
* Bridgemates and Bidding Boxes will operate as normal - members may bring their own bidding boxes if they wish

It is intended that we will play Bridge in an enjoyable and sociable manner with only the limited restrictions mentioned above in place, on the assumption that members will act responsibly, as they always have done.

Some members may still feel uncomfortable with these arrangements, and may wish to wait before resuming face to face bridge at Huddersfield Bridge Club. We assure you that all will be welcomed back when you feel the time is best for you, and the committee look forward to welcoming you in person.