

BGFed.be -- General Assembly

Belgium Backgammon Federation npo
Brasseries du Longchamp, Uccle, December 2, 2016

Present: Guy Van Middeltem (president; Brussels), Zsolt Tasnadi (Brussels), Maurits Pino (Brussels), Alain Chif (Brussels), Luc Palmans (Leuven), Nabil Antoun (Brussels), Marc Steyvers (Ghent), Line Vandamme (Brugge), Geert Van der Stricht (Ghent), Johan Segers (Leuven), Kristoffer De Weert (Brussels), Dan Pascu (Hasselt)

Excused: Michel Lamote (Brugge)

Welcome

Guy Van Middeltem opens the meeting at 18:25.

Guy recalls the voting rules as written in the npo's statutes.

The minutes of the General Assembly of December 4, 2015, are approved.

Financial report of the treasurer

Line Vandamme (treasurer) explains the financial situation.

- In: Membership fees, BIC fees, 4 Cubes fees.
- Out: EUBGF membership, website, bank fees, trophies for BIC 2015 and 2016 (not yet taken into account).

The bank fees are relatively high. Line will check if there is a cheaper alternative.

Some clubs report difficulties of obtaining the membership fees from their players.

Alain Chif and Geert Van der Stricht are appointed as financial commissioners. They will check the accounts and report back to the General Assembly.

4 Cubes

Committee: Luc Palmans (chairman), Guy Van Middeltem, Johan Segers

Luc Palmans reports: the rules in 2016 were the same as in 2015. Five teams participated, Leuven 2 winning the 4 Cubes 2016. No problems were reported. The detailed tournament report is online.

Proposal for 2017: teams of 4 players rather than 3 players. An encounter between two clubs would still consist of three rounds of 7-point matches. The 4 Cubes committee will decide on the format.

The draw of 4 Cubes 2017 will take place on December 16, 2016, at the BIC 2016 final at Longchamp's.

Belgian Individual Championship

Committee: Guy Van Middeltem (chairman), Alain Chif, Maurits Pino.

Guy Van Middeltem reports: formats, participants, calendar, and results of BIC 2016 are online. The final between Sassan Kashanian and Walter Meuwis will take place on December 16, 2016, at Longchamp's. As last year, there will be live commentary and computer analysis.

For 2017, Kristoffer De Weert joins the BIC committee. Slight changes in the format are foreseen, mainly in the play-off, increasing winning chances for players in Division 2. The draw of BIC 2017 will take place on December 16, 2016, at Longchamp's. Players participating at the BIC are strongly encouraged to complete all their matches.

Backgammon Master Series Belgium

Committee: Geert Van der Stricht (chairman, replacing Michel Lamote), Johan Huyck, Walter Meuwis.

The ambition for 2017 is to organise two international BMS tournaments, the matches of which would be validated by the international Backgammon Masters Awarding Body (BMAB). In addition, participants of BIC 2017 can have their matches registered as a BMS Series, with or without BMAB validation. Match processes fees charged by the BMAB are to be paid by the players themselves.

Rating

Committee: Johan Segers (chairman), Michel Lamote, Luc Palmans.

The rating systems functions smoothly. No changes are foreseen for 2017.

Club reports

Brugge (Line Vandamme). Since December 1, the club has a new, larger venue. Tentative date of the Brugge Backgammon Day 2017 is Saturday, February 25.

Ghent (Geert Van der Stricht). The weekly club evenings in the Sandeman draw up to 10 players. Tentative date for the Ghent Open 2017 is Saturday, April 15.

Brussels (Alain Chif). The monthly Brussels Friendly tournament functions well. As in 2016, a Brussels Backgammon Day is expected to be organised.

Hasselt (Luc Palmans). Nothing to report.

Leuven (Johan Segers). The club has launched an online survey to ask players for their preferences, in preparation for the planning of 2017. Johan proposes that club responsables meet occasionally to exchange ideas and good practices about running a backgammon club.

Guy Van Middeltem will contact the clubs about the organization of national championships (1-pointers, 5-pointers, etc.) by the clubs.

European championship

Johan Segers explains Michel Lamote's report on the EC 2016 campaign. The selection was based on the BMS PR lists. Among the candidate players, preference was given to players with the higher PR. The EC 2016 took place in Helsingor (Denemark) from October 20 to 23. The Belgian team missed the semi-finals by a hair.

The EC 2017 will take place in Reykjavik (Iceland). Michel Lamote is willing to run the team selection according to the same procedure as in 2016. Michel is no candidate to be the team captain at the tournament itself.

European Backgammon Federation

BGFed.be board members Maurits Pino and Johan Segers represented the federation at the EUBGF General Assembly in Helsingor on October 22, 2016. Steen Gronbech was re-elected as EUBGF president. The financial situation of EUBGF is good, and the annual membership fee for full member nations has been reduced from €300 to €150. Ambitions of the EUBGF are to create a European rating list and to improve the communication with the member federations through its website.

All other business.

No additional points have been communicated.

The president closes the meeting at 19:40.