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Thursday 26 March 2020

Dear Club Secretaries and representatives

We find ourselves adrift on strange seas. Given the serious nature and widespread consequences of the Covid19 infection, the Chairman of the WWBA has asked me to circulate all bridge clubs in our area with this clear statement to avoid any ambiguity over the next few months.

1. All WWBA competitive Bridge events are cancelled until further notice, including one-day events, WBU heats, and Congresses. Given the age and vulnerability of our membership profile and the existing nature of testing, containment and treatment measures, this in our view **is likely to be until at least the end of 2020**. We can continue to hope for pleasant surprises before then, but currently know with complete certainty that no events will run before September.
2. This includes the Perry, Spickett, and President's Cup competitions we were due to host for the WBU which will not go ahead as planned.
3. We shall stay in contact in the meantime and share whatever information is available about online Bridge games and similar options.
4. This moratorium on face to face meetings must (in accordance with government decrees) include scheduled Committee meetings *pro temp*. We will investigate online options as a poor cousin, details to follow.
5. As above, this moratorium must include cancellation of the normal AGM. It is impossible to foresee any circumstances that could allow this to proceed safely and fairly, given the current state of knowledge. If it becomes possible to safely plan for later in the year we will aim to advise you all at the earliest opportunity. In the exceptional meantime, the existing officers and committee members will continue in post to the best of their abilities and ask for your support and forbearance. If we can be of help, please ask.

Please pass this information on to your members by whatever formal or informal means you think best.

It only remains for me to wish you all a safe journey across these uncharted waters: be safe, be kind, and be as cheerful as you can.

With very best wishes,

Anthony Stevens
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