



## Essex Contract Bridge Association

A constituent member of the English Bridge Union

Minutes of the Committee Meeting held at 19.30 on Zoom on Wednesday 11 August 2021

**Present** Petra Bromfield, Linda Fleet, Pat Johnson, Paul Mollison, Val Mollison, Valdie Poter, Sue Thorburn

1. **Welcome** Sue Thorburn welcomed those present. Val and Paul have returned from their sabbatical
2. **Minutes of the last meeting held on Wednesday 5 May 2021** These had been circulated prior to the meeting. It was agreed that the minutes were a correct record of the meeting. A copy was signed by the acting chairman.
3. **Matters arising from the minutes not already included in the agenda** None
4. **Reports from Officers**

**a. General Secretary** (Sue Thorburn)

Sue has been in touch with all Essex clubs. The current position regarding restarting Face to Face bridge is attached. Clubs are expecting and already experiencing reduced numbers which means the main issues are financial viability and people available to run the clubs.

Several clubs will be continuing their online sessions.

**b. Treasurer** (Linda Fleet)

**Bank Balance at 03.05.2021**

£10,134 - Barclays and Lloyds (£9871.85 – November 2020)

(including £143.25 held for refunding from cancelled competitions in 2020)

£16,626 – Skipton as at 01/04/2021 (£16,163– 2020)

**Competitions** The Margaret Curtis was changed to an online pairs competition which only attracted 12 pairs. It made a profit of £73.

**c. Tournament Secretary (Pat Johnson)**

The Margaret Curtis ran on RealBridge with reduced numbers and there has been an ECL match. All RealBridge matches have been managed very smoothly by Alan Rodger.

**d. Shareholders**

Nothing to report

**e. Webmaster (Petra Bromfield)**

Business as usual. Updates on clubs restarting are posted regularly

5. **Herts/Essex joint venture.** The July 2021 event took place online. There were 42 tables for the pairs event but a disappointing 22 tables for the teams competition. The Essex share of the profits is £502.38. The current plan is to run on line in September 2021 and return to F2F in July 2022

6. **Youth Bridge** Valdie Poter gave an update of his work on Youth bridge

**Schools** Valdie is looking at restarting working with schools when the new term starts. There is considerable interest from schools but it is uncertain if it will be possible to find enough people to satisfy the demand

**Youth Bridge Holiday Club** Attendance has been encouraging.

7. **Proposal for ongoing Essex events** Paul had produced a proposal to reduce the number of competitions and move the remainder online. The subject was fully discussed but no final decision made. It was agreed Val Mollison would look at running the Essex league online. It was also felt the ECL matches should be online but that the decision would be made by the home county.
8. **AGM** The notification letter has gone to secretaries. The current plan is to run a live meeting at Barleylands on 12 September. Subject to confirmation there will be a F2F pairs competition at 2pm followed by the AGM at 5pm. There are a number of committee vacancies. It was suggested committee members should try to encourage other Essex members to stand. Linda has information on prizes due from 2019/20 and 2020/21.
9. **Date of next meeting** The next meeting will be held on Zoom (using the Chelmsford licence) at 7.30pm on Wednesday 20 October 2021. Sue then closed the meeting. Paul will now resume the chairmanship.

## **Restarting live bridge at Essex Clubs**

The information below was supplied by clubs in response to my email or has been taken from their websites.

Last update 11 August

Alpha – closing

Apple - plan to reopen, no date yet

Billericay Mayflower – plan to reopen 7 September

Chelmsford - plan to reopen 6 September

Collier Row – open but now unaffiliated

Felsted – hope to reopen

Hamlet Court – open

Hutton – no plans to reopen. No current venue

Lingwood - plan to reopen 14 September

Loughton - plan to reopen August/ September

Maple – no response, small private club that affiliated only because understood it was necessary to play on line.

Mid- Essex – open

Mountnessing – hope to reopen

Rochford & Rayleigh – will probably close. Number low before pandemic

Southend & Leigh – open

St Anne's – no response, no indication on website

Thorpe Bay – open

Upminster & Cranham -open

Waltham Forest – no response but website says considering options

Westbury - plan to reopen, no date yet

Woodham Ferrers - plan to reopen, no date yet

						Competitions 2021/2022					
Competition	Date	Entry Fees	Entry Fee	Room Hire	Refreshment	Tournament Directors	Realbridge	Prizes	Capitation	UM	Profit/Loss
											0.00 **
Teams of Four											0.00 ***
Switch Cup											0.00
Mixed Teams											0.00
Club Pairs											0.00
Margaret Curtis Fletcher/ Club Trophy	01/06/2021	120.00	10.00			30.00	7.92			8.80	73.28
Sue Taylor Trophy											0.00
Mixed Pairs											0.00
Swiss Pairs											0.00
Gwen Herga											0.00
Cornell Sponsorship											0.00
Cornell Trophy											0.00 ****
Championship Pairs											0.00
Sub Total		120.00		0.00	0.00	30.00	7.92	0.00	0.00	8.80	73.28
Division 1											0.00
Division 2											0.00
Division 3											0.00
		0.00		0.00	0.00	30.00	7.92	0.00	0.00	8.80	73.28
One Day Event*	July	502.38									502.38 *
One Day Event*	September	0.00									0.00
Total		502.38		0.00	0.00	30.00	7.92	0.00	0.00	8.80	575.66
							7.92			8.80	
					Barleylands				Disc		
					Anglo European					8.80	
								* Half share of net surplus.			
				**** includes entry to Garden Cities							