

SOUTH EAST ESSEX LEAGUE 2004/2005

Division 2

Champions

Chelmsford Black

B. Berkley
I. McLauchlan
R. Jones
N. Hunt

Runners-Up

Bits of Ruff

S. Taylor
C. Taylor
M. Wren
C. Chorley

Division 3

Crouch

V. Quinlan
W. Wagstaff
D. Bright
M. Bainbridge
S. Timmis
D. Hames

Late Arrivals

J. Peacock
A. Fenton
D. Humberstone
C. Fallon
F. Stirland

Division 4

Long Gable

A. Fifield
P. Kite
T. Flaherty
M. Langstone
A. Bremernan

Dummy Run

S. Millins
J. Nichol
B. Hunt
C. Comer
S. Margutti

Division 5

Highlands

I. Rogers
K. Stacpoole
T. Gardner
T. Butifant

Thai Bites

T. Kitchen
S. Mitchell
K. Mills
D. Bransbury

Essex website: www.essexbridge.co.uk

ESSEX CONTRACT BRIDGE ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING REPORTS & ACCOUNTS

and

COUNTY NEWSLETTER



Autumn 2005

Minutes of the 58th Annual General Meeting of the E.C.B.A. held on Saturday, 7th May 2005 at Brentwood County High School, Brentwood, Essex.

Present: Mr. R. Green (Hon-Chairman), Mrs M. Curtis (Hon. Secretary), Mr. A. Philpott (Hon. Treasurer), Dr. R. Tattersfield (Hon. League Secretary), Mr. R. Allen (Hon. Tournament Secretary).

Members of the Committee and 26 Members of the Association.

Apologies for absence were received from: Mr A Grant (Hon. President), Mrs J. Hair (Committee member) & Mr R. Hair, Lady Telford

(Committee member), Mr S. Prince (Shareholder), Mr B. Booth, Mr & Mrs G. Day, Mr & Mrs P. Mollison, Dr & Mrs M. Smith, Mrs L. Wells, Mr M. Wood, Mrs C. Love, Mr B. Hunt, Dr S. Millins, Mr & Mrs Watson, Mrs J. Curley, Mr B. Cowley, Mr & Mrs L. Wernick.

1. Hon. Chairman's Opening Remarks

Mr. Green welcomed those present to the 58th Annual General Meeting. He said that it is always pleasing to note the excellent results obtained by Essex members, but was particularly pleased with the win by the Essex A team in the Eastern Counties League, and he congratulated the players. He took the opportunity of specially thanking Betty Telford, who had been co-opted to the committee for many years, and was now retiring. Lady Telford had always provided wise and good counsel.

2. Minutes of the last Annual General Meeting.

These had been circulated to all members and were taken as read. They were agreed to be a correct record, and their approval was proposed by Mr Pat O'Gara, seconded by Mrs Maureen Vede, and all present were in favour.

3. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

4. Hon. Secretary's Report.

This is attached in full. Its adoption was proposed by Mr Eric Field, and seconded by Mrs Jill Tattersfield and agreed. Mr Green proposed a vote of thanks for Mrs. Curtis's hard work, and the wide scope of her report. All aspects of the Association's activities had been covered.

5. Report by the Hon. Tournament Secretary.

Mr Bob Allen started his report by thanking all those who had helped during the season... Mrs. Margaret Curtis and Mr. Sid Prince (Weekday Seniors), Mr Pat O'Gara, Mr Bill West, Mr. Eric Field for directing, Mr George Vede for scoring the National Newcomers, Mrs. Jill Tattersfield for scoring the competitions and printing results. Mr Allen stated that this was the first year of full duplicated boards and he thanked Paul and Val Mollison for all the transporting of the boards, and in particular Mr Ron Webb for duplicating all the boards. He stated that entries were slightly down on last year, and the Mixed Teams had been postponed to an autumn evening only. The Summer Club Pairs format had been changed once again, with a single day being put aside. Pairs must belong to the same club, however.

A new competition planned is a second day-time seniors pairs, and if popular a possible seniors day-time KO teams.

Mr Allen said that entry to the Teams of 4 is now very poor, and a different format is possible, a multi-team, all-play-all one day event, with the top four teams going on to a knock-out.

Finally, Mr Allen drew attention to a change in refreshments provided. It appeared that several competitors did not want refreshments provided, and a survey at the Essex Pairs and George Curtis Swiss Teams underlined this fact. The summer competitions would have refreshments provided as usual, and club competitions Hellier Trophy, Fletcher Trophy and Club Trophy, and the Tony Kelvin (lunch). However, as an experiment, no refreshments will be provided for the Mixed Pairs or the Swiss Pairs, and a final decision will be made after these two competitions, based on comments received.

The adoption of the report was proposed by Mr. O'Gara, seconded by Mrs. Wendy Coldham and agreed by the members.

Mr. Green thanked Mr. Allen for the detailed information and his hard work.

6. Report by Hon. Treasurer

The Accounts are attached in full.

Mr. Tony Philpott went through the Balance Sheet and the Income and Expenditure details, drawing attention to the major changes from last year. There was a slight loss over the year. The adoption of his Report and Accounts was proposed by Mr Paul Spencer, seconded by Mr Alaric Cundy, and agreed by the meeting.

Mr. Green said that Mr. Philpott was an excellent steward of the accounts and was owed a big vote of thanks. The Auditor, Mr. Cordingley, had once again audited the accounts and Mr Green asked for a vote of thanks. He proposed that he should be re-appointed for 2005/2006 and this was agreed by the meeting.

7. Report by the Hon. League Secretary

Dr Roger Tattersfield's report is attached in full. The adoption of the report was proposed by Mr Eric Field, seconded by Mr. Alaric Cundy and agreed by the meeting. Mr. Green the thanked Dr and Mrs Tattersfield for sorting out all the problems, and for the efficiency of the way the league is run.

8. Subscriptions 2006/2007

Mr Philpott, the Hon. Treasurer, took this item. He stated that no change to the Essex portion had been made for several years. However, the Committee proposed that from April 1st 2006 the individual Essex part of the subscription should be increased by 50p to £5.00, and the club subscription by £1.00 to £6.00. These new amounts were agreed by the meeting.

9. Amendment to the Constitution

Mr Green stated that for an Amendment to the Constitution to be passed, there must be a quorum of 40 voting members. As there are only 35 members present this amendment could not be put to the meeting. Mr Green explained the reason behind the amendment, and said it could be put forward at the 2006 AGM.

10. Election of Officers and Committee for 2005/2006

No other named had been proposed for the vacant positions, and all Officers and Members were willing to stand again. All were automatically re-elected. Mr. Green took the opportunity to thank all those who had not been named so far, and who had contributed so much to the Association.

11. Any Other Business

a. Mr Ron Webb stated that he is concerned about the number of students coming forward. Apparently, classes at Chelmsford were no longer being set up by the council. Mrs Curtis said that every effort had been made by the E.B.U. to put bridge forward to the councils, and to various Sports Associations for support. Nothing can be done by the county. Mr Webb asked if the Essex Committee was planning a local meeting with Mr Collier, General Manager of the E.B.U. Mr Green replied that the Committee did not see any reason for such a meeting. Club meetings previously arranged had been very poorly attended: no-one, except Committee members, had attended the Development Plan meetings, and as everyone could see, even the county AGM was badly attended, very few members coming who were not collecting trophies. The Committee had discussed all the various matters, and were well briefed.

b. Mr Ian Moss said that the introduction of the duplicated boards was an excellent idea. Mr Alan Green asked if the county was going to purchase its own machine. Mrs Curtis said that there was going to be a new machine from Australia that accepted non bar coded cards, so we were not going ahead yet. Also there would have to be someone willing to house it, run off the boards and print hands.

c. Mr David Clark queried why non-Essex members were not allowed to play in county events. Mrs Curtis stated that county events were for county

Another matter that has been mooted is a ranking list right through the bridge world, but methods of achieving this have not yet been identified. One suggestion put forward was for each county selection committee to rank all its players! The shareholders could only imagine the uproar that would ensue! Paul Spencer and I are still on the Tournament Committee and I am Chairman again for one more year only.

All these matters have been brought forward to the county Committee, and discussed, especially those that might affect our county calendar and our players. The possible move to Kettering may not appear to matter too much, but a competition held there and not in Leeds, for example, would easily affect an Essex competition held on the same day. Unfortunately due to severe overcrowding it is impossible not to keep alle.B.U. dates clear - clashes have to occur and even more unfortunately the county calendar suffers.

As I started my report, so I will end it. At a recent Committee Meeting we were reviewing our current competitions and commenting on the disappointing numbers entering. A comment was made - Why do we run such competitions? Should we have something different? However, the different competitions had to be dropped some time ago. Most players today cannot remember the days when several heats were held for the Essex Pairs and Mixed Pairs. New competitions were continually being added to the calendar, and all were well attended. As we approach the 60th year of the Association let us start by encouraging new members to enter the competitions available to them and the clubs. Club tournament directors announce the next competitions and make sure the county poster can be seen each week. Your Committee works very hard and enthusiastically to promote bridge in Essex, but your help is needed.

MARGARET CURTIS

SOUTH EAST AND WEST ESSEX LEAGUE REPORT 2004/2005

Once again the Leagues have had a very successful season although there have been a number of problems which I would like to touch on later in the report. Nevertheless Jill and I have thoroughly enjoyed the year and would like to thank you all for making it so enjoyable.

All the League champions are now known and, as always, it is good to see some new names amongst the winners. Full details will be given at the prize presentation. The Premier League play-off was won by May A. Baker (Jill Tattersfield) who beat Crowstone (Alan Cohen) in the final. We will continue this knock-out format for the forthcoming season.

The League Cup has again proved to be a very successful event with 24 teams taking part. It is a very tight schedule and unfortunately we cannot announce the winners yet. In the final Bits of Ruff (Sue Taylor) will play Loughton (Phil Collier). In last year's final The Good Guys (Martyn Caswell) retained the trophy beating Waltham Foresters (Tony Verran) in a very close match.

Nearly 300 members played in the League this year with 36 teams in the

South East and 21 in the West. Relative to last year this is a reduction of 3 and continues the slow decline of recent seasons. There were 2 withdrawals during the year and 6 matches were not played. These figures are disappointing since each unplayed match is likely to have an impact on promotion or relegation and to affect teams other than those directly involved. A couple of examples will illustrate the problems.

In the South East, one team had an unassailable lead at the top of the Division and had played all their matches when another team withdrew not having played sufficient matches for their results to count. This meant that the 20 VPs the team had earned were excluded from the results whereas their main rivals lost considerably less and then won the title. In another case a team arrived for a match to find the venue unoccupied. The home team thought that there was no agreement on dates, the away team clearly thought there was. In the end we had to award the majority of the points to the team who were prepared to try and rearrange the match and to remind all parties of the benefits of confirming the arrangements just before the match date. This is where e-mails are so useful. It is very difficult for the League organisers to ascertain responsibility for unplayed games and the general rule will continue to be that neither team shall get any points unless there is a very good case and the organisers have been kept informed as problems develop.

There was no Novices Division this year as there were insufficient teams. Those who applied were integrated into the main leagues with varying success rates. It is heartening to report that the teams from Division 5 in the South East have organised an end of term celebration and competition at the Old Court Hotel in Braintree.

The winners and runners up were:

	Division	Winners	Runners-up
South East	1	Seeds Llama	Chelmsford Green
	2	Chelmsford Black	Bits of Ruff
	3	Crouch	Late Arrivals
	4	Long Gable	Dummy Run
	5	Highlands	Thai Bites
West	1	Churchills	Loughton / Redbridge Curtis
	2	Hatfield Heath	Hagamore
	3	Ongar Occasionals	Goodmayes Billinge

Essex web-site: www.essexbridge.co.uk

ESSEX CONTRACT BRIDGE ASSOCIATION

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31/03/2004

	31/03/2005	31/03/2004
	£	£
ASSETS		
Stock of tics, Spoons local	779	1162
point and pens		
Cups, typewriters and tables		
: cost less depreciation	Nil	Nil
DEBTORS		
Entry fees due and payments in advance	999	1238
CASH		
On current account	408	-69
On Postal Deposit Account	18941	19103
	21127	21434
LESS CREDITORS		
Hire of halls, fees in advance and prizes	8502	8639
	12625	12795
REPRESENTED BY		
Youth Development Fund (see notes)	970	1078
Capital account	11718	11774
Excess of expenditure over income	-63	-57
	12625	12795

Honorary Treasurer: A.J. PHILPOTT

I have examined the books and records of the Essex Contract Bridge Association and, in my opinion, these give a true and fair view of the financial position as at 31/03/2005.

Honorary Auditor: J. CORDINGLEY

NOTES:

It is the policy of the committee to write off expenditure on trophies, cards, boards and stationery in the year of purchase. The Youth Development Fund represents funds donated from the Thurrock Bridge Club on their closure with the express wish that they be used to develop youth Bridge.

ESSEX CONTRACT BRIDGE ASSOCIATION

Income and Expenditure Account for the 2003/2004 Season

	2003/2004	2002/2003
	£	£
SUBSCRIPTIONS		
Less Capitalation fees	13,712	15,462
	8,739	10,437
	4,973	5,025
COMPETITIONS		
Fees	7,969	8,098
Refreshment charges	1,214	1,229
Sponsorship (see note A)	Nil	Nil
	9,183	9,327
LESS		
Accommodation, refreshments and T.D.'s	6,988	5,909
EBU and other charges	803	789
Prizes -	1,371	1,500
	9,162	8,198
	21	1,129
CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES - note B		
Funds Received	1134	
Donations Made	1134	
	Nil	
LEAGUES		
Receipts	684	720
Payments -	350	349
	334	371
Interest Received Gross	338	269
Profit on joint EBU events	1140	233
	6,806	7,027
EXPENSES		
County matches	1279	1226
Local points	392	411
Honorary secretary's expenses (including travel, telephone etc.)	750	750
Printing and stationery	1,948	3,166
Duplimate Cards and Boards	861	
Postage and telephone	761	832
Engraving and repairs	366	174
Web Site	97	104
Sundries	415	421
	6,869	7,084
Excess of expenditure over income	-63	-57

Note A: No direct financial sponsorship was received in the 2003/2004 or 2004/2005 season.

Note B: £859.04 was received from the Eastern Counties Simultaneous Pairs and £275 from a collection held at the Helliar Trophy. £475 was donated to the Disasters Emergency Committee and £659.04 to HRCCA

METROPOLITAN CUP

'A' Team - PM. Curtis and R. Cornell, D. Sherman and F. Morrison, D. Clark and A. Green, R. and J. Tattersfield, L. Butt and A. Coral, A. Greenstein and Y. Dias

'C' Team - (Red) - E. Field and R. Allen, L. Fleet and D. Cooper, A. Fenton and J. Peacock, I. Green and E. Green

EASTERN COUNTIES LEAGUE - 2004/2005

'C' Teams VP'S

v Norfolk

'B' Team - Won 14 - 6 VPs, 112 - 83 IMPS

'C' Team - Lost 5 - 15 VPs, 89 - 121 IMPs

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'A' Team - Lost 6 - 14 VPs, 68 - 91 IMPs
M. Curtis and D. Sherman, A. Philpott and B. Cowley, C. and
B. Kerr, L. Burt and A. Coral

'C' Team - Lost 2 - 18 VPs, 96 - 154 IMPS

TUNISIA CONGRESS -

Open Pairs
- M. Wren - 2nd

LADIES TEAMS OF 4

EASTER FESTIVAL

LIFE MASTERS

LIFE MASTERS

- P. Mollison and D. Valtisariis - *2nd*
- A. Green and P. Oake - *3rd*
- M. Wren and J. Davis - *4th*
- V. Mollison and E. Green - *8th*

GWEN HERGATROPHIES

Ladies Pairs:

- Winners: T. Beer and J. Curley
 2nd: M. Lamont and A. Savory
 3rd: V. Mollison and C. Lovett
 4th: Y. Dias and J. Hair

Men Pairs:

- Winners: B. Harrison and D. Duffy
 2nd: R. Tattersfield and M. Smith
 3th: B. Robinson and P. Murray
 4th: A. Cohen and G. Wilcox
 5th: L. Williams and A. Drew
 6th: S. Riach and R. Elliott

ESSEX NON-EXPERTPAIRS

Winners: A. and C. Latham

- 2nd: D. Greenbaum and Z. Klemmer
 3rd: J. Fitzgerald and R. Mangalore
 4th: R. Green and K. Thompson
 5th: J. and J. Pay
 6th: M. Rand and R. Green

NATIONAL NEWCOMERSPAIRS

Essex Heat: Winners: J. and J. Pay

- 2nd: M. and J. Wallace
 3rd: L. Platt and J. Court
 4th: R. Green and K. Thompson
 5th: T. Mountstevens and E. Monk
 6th: R. Abel and E. Turp

NON-EXPERT TEAMS

- Winners: T. Mathews, E. Dash, J. and J. Pay (Braintree B. C.)
 2nd: C. Mann, E. Turp, R. Abel, S. Woodhams (Channels B. C.)
 3rd: L. Falder, J. Colclough, M. and A. Malyon (1st Class Bridge)
 4th: J. Kettle, C. Aldridge, E. Hatwell, J. Priddle

SPRING NOVICE PAIRS

A Flight:

- Winners: L. Hall and B. Roberts
 2nd: G. Waller and S. Waller
 3rd: A. Waters and D. Bracher

B Flight:

- Winners: M. Joslin and A. Marie
 2nd: L. and L. Morris
 3rd: R. Westover and V. O'Brien
 4th: T. Matthews and E. Dash
 5th: M. and J. Wallace

ESSEX BRIDGE LEAGUES

Premier Play Off

Winners: May & Baker

R. and J. Tattersfield, A. Cundy, C. Megahey

Runners-up:

Crowstone

A. Cohen, R. Hair, A. Greenstein, Y. Dias

League Cup

Winners:

Loughton (Collier)

P. Collier, P. Watson, W. Colham, M. Watson, S. Lally, J. Mansfield

Runners-up:

Bits of Ruff

C. and S. Taylor, M. Wren, C. Chorley

WEST ESSEX LEAGUE 2004/2005

Division 1

Champions

Churchills

A. Coral
 L. Butt
 R. Trayman
 C. Trayman

Runners-Up

Loughton Collier/Redbridge

P. Collier M. Curtis
 W. Coldham D. Sherman
 P. Watson S. Prince
 J. Mansfield M. Bardsley
 M. Watson R. Green
 S. Lally

Division 2

Hatfield Heath

A. Tim
 M. Shine
 T. Henderson
 H. Miles
 E. Cirket
 R. Young

Hagamore

F. Hall
 M. Reeve
 K. Collings
 K. Charlton
 J. Sayer
 P. Hills

Division 3

Ongar Occasionals Goodmayes Billinge

L. Stuart-Jones W. Colman
 W. Geller R. Andrews
 R. Bacon M. Tanswell
 V. Hagedorn A. Billinge

SOUTH EAST ESSEX LEAGUE 2004/2005

Division 1

Champions

Seeds Llama

P. Spencer
 M. Chawner
 A. Graham
 M. Graham
 M. Rose
 D. Baker

Runners-Up

Chelmsford Green

A. Hartley
 A. Spencer
 D. Cooper
 S. Cade-Bowyer
 D. Embleton