

HARPENDEN DUPLICATE BRIDGE CLUB

Minutes of AGM held 4th February 2019 held at 19.00 hrs at H. C. G. C. chaired by Richard Last
(unless stated otherwise all presentations by Richard)

1. Several "apologies for absence" had been received.
2. It had been an "interesting" year to say the least what with the merger with the Tuesday Club, the absorption of members from the Leyton Green Club and the introduction of the tablets, all of which had been successfully achieved. Richard thanked his committee for their hard work and, in particular, David Tookey for his IT work (as well as being Treasurer) and Ian Nicoll for preparing the room for bridge and liaising with the Golf Club. On the "down side", very sadly Shella Dorsett and John Webb passed away.
3. There being no additional nominations the existing committee of 10 will continue in office chaired by Richard. Other specific responsibilities are: David Tookey (Treasurer) / Judy Hedges (Secretary) / Tom Walters (Competitions) and David Brooks (Membership Secretary).
4. David Tookey presented the accounts for the period to 31st December 2018. He pointed out that the "profit/loss" element was not a useful guide for the forthcoming year in view of the merger with the Tuesday Club and the (very welcome) increased membership from Leyton Green. However, the reserves are considerable and therefore recommended that existing cost of membership renewal (£15) and table money of £3 should continue, to be reviewed again next year. He thanked David Beale for acting as auditor. John Hanlon did question the very low income from interest and David said he would look into this. All was approved.
5. Considerable work had gone into the viability of buying our own dealing machine. This was led by David Tookey (with the involvement of other committee members) and he advised that, of the machines on the market, the one used by the Welwyn Club seemed to be the best (having seen it in action). The total cost (including cards etc) would be approximately £4000 and it should pay for itself in 3 or 4 years. Storage would not be a problem as it is surprisingly small and there are sufficient volunteers to make up the boards which would be done at the Golf Club. Also, it will help with the teaching. It was agreed to go ahead with the purchase.
6. It was pointed out that e-mailing is the predominate means of communication, but the "club" emails sent out cannot be replied to directly but will include a relevant email address or telephone number if appropriate. David Brooks did send out a "test" email to all members recently, but a number had not responded.
7. It was also emphasised that if any member cannot do their scheduled duty then it is up to them to arrange a swap (e-mail addresses and phone numbers are available from the web site) and then advise Judy Hedges so that the necessary changes can be made on the web site. Judy will remind members that their scheduled duty is imminent.
8. In view of the large average attendance on Monday nights it is not possible to accept guest pairs (members can still bring guests as partners) but guest pairs are still welcome on Tuesday nights. Also due to the sizeable attendance, sessions will in future be held on Bank Holiday Mondays with the exception of Christmas.
9. It was agreed that if a duty officer has to go home then he/she will not have to pay table money the next time they attend.
10. Competitions will now be uniform over both Monday and Tuesday nights. Each will have the following: 2 x teams (one being qualification for the Humble Cup) / Pairs / Improvers & Slam. New trophies will probably be purchased where appropriate.
11. Trophies were awarded to the following: -

Pairs: Richard and Peter Last

Teams: Dave Tookey/Roger White/John Hanlon and John Phalp

(Sheila Rider was the winner of the Slam trophy, but she was not present to receive)

12. A.O.B.

- Gill Burn asked whether an afternoon session could be established which have proved very successful at other clubs. A show of hands suggested that such sessions would be well supported and it was agreed that the committee would give the idea serious consideration.
- Nona Moss asked whether print outs of the hands could be provided. The club would not have a printer but members can print the hands from the website.
- June Gauntlett expressed her thanks that the Leyton Green members had been made to feel very welcome.

There being no further business the meeting was ended at 19.30 hrs.

..... (Chairman)

Date: