



Key points HBA COMMITTEE MEETING – Friday 12th May 2023

Chairman's Report

After the Committee had agreed that we would not run joint events with Essex in the future Paul had spoken to the Essex Chair. The separate bank account is to be closed.

Treasurer's Report

- After paying entry fees for representative events Oliver is forecasting a deficit of approx. £800 for the current year. Given current reserves and higher investment income next year this is not an issue. It was agreed that we would continue to use the current reserves/balance to benefit HBA members through free or subsidised competition entry where possible.
- The Committee agreed to remove the entry fee for the HBA online Teams League for 2023/4.
- The Lukyn charity donation for 2022/3 was likely to be £1.068 – but some clubs have yet to pass their donation over. Oliver to remind again.

Tournament Secretary's Report

- Fiona confirmed that Jersey Farm was booked for the Swiss Pairs (July 30th) and Seniors Pairs (Oct 15th) with a provisional booking for the Seniors Teams (May 12th). Players to provide their own food.
- The Committee wanted to provide a balanced program with both online and face to face events and agreed to monitor entries for events as we move forward to try and deliver the most attractive calendar of events we could. It was recognised that there was a shortage of qualified directors for face to face events and this factor had to be borne in mind. Paul will contact club Chairs to obtain their views as it was important that HBA engaged with all the clubs on this important topic.
- Entries for the May NGS 7 Pairs were disappointingly low. As many of the entrants for this level of event are likely to be relatively new to bridge they may well have learnt – and be playing – almost exclusively face to face bridge. It was agreed that we would try and arrange the next NGS 7 Pairs in November as a face to face event to boost the entry level and Alan would investigate a possible venue.

Communications/Membership

- Alan advised that player sessions across Herts clubs had increased by over 4% up until the end of April compared to the same period in 2022.
- Overall membership has reduced as some clubs have recently completed their membership renewal, lapsing some records. For some clubs this is the first renewal exercise for a couple of years and since Covid.

Selection Committee

- Roger confirmed that our B and C teams had both won their Eastern Counties League divisions and will play in the national inter league finals in June.
- Roger also advised on some changes to the squads for the 2023/4 season.

Date of Next Meeting

Immediately after the AGM on October 1st via zoom

Hertfordshire

Bridge

Association

HBA