



# Key points from HBA COMMITTEE MEETING – 8<sup>th</sup> November 2018

## Chairman's Report

Gary Conrad expressed his disappointment on two fronts. Training had been requested by clubs. The free courses were well attended but the new director training course had to be cancelled due to a lack of numbers.

Secondly the latest two Relaxed Duplicate events had been poorly attended and were loss making. Future events will only be held if we are confident of attracting adequate numbers.

Gary also reiterated the comments made in the recent EBU Chairman's report that member numbers generally are declining. Clubs that do not offer training are suffering the worst. Gary mentioned the recent EBU initiative in Yorkshire.

All these subjects will be raised at the Club meeting on 26<sup>th</sup> January 2019.

## Treasurer's Report

A small surplus was made on the Senior Teams event, mostly due to lower food costs compared to the 2017 event. Rodger now expects a close to breakeven result for the financial year.

## Tournament Reports

- There was positive feedback from both the Senior Teams and Rose Bowl events. Entry numbers were comparable to 2017 for these and also for future events.
- September Green Pointed weekend went well with table numbers up slightly on 2017. Good feedback particularly from the reinstatement of tea/coffee. Wodson Park was confirmed as the preferred venue for the 2020 events. A distribution of the surplus from the 2018 events to Essex CBA and HBA was agreed.
- There was a discussion about the entry criteria for some HBA events with a preference shown that these should be open to all EBU members and not just HBA members.

## Tournament Director's Report

A director from Berks and Bucks will direct the Championship Pairs final due to unavailability of Herts ones.

## Membership Secretary & Communications Subcommittee

HBA membership has shown an increase of almost 100 in recent weeks, mainly students and new members resulting from the closure of an unaffiliated club in St Albans. Monthly communications continue to be issued with good feedback. The circulation is now over 1900.

## Selection Committee

Our three teams are doing well in the Eastern Counties League. A are just top, B are second, just behind and C are top by a large margin – all with two matches to be played.

A strong Tollemache team has been selected for the qualifier on 17<sup>th</sup>/18<sup>th</sup> November.

## HBA Annual General Meeting (AGM)

Confirmed for 19<sup>th</sup> May 2019. Re the post AGM bridge event it was suggested that this should be a normal duplicate bridge session with free entry.

## Any Other Business

EBU had issued a proposal to change their constitution to allow them to refuse membership in exceptional circumstances. The Committee had no objections to this.

## Date & Time of Next Meeting

Monday 21<sup>st</sup> January 2019 at 7:30pm (subject to Tesco availability)

Hertfordshire

Bridge

Association

HBA