

### **Club and Teacher Seminar/Conference**

This event was held on 20<sup>th</sup> May 2023 and I have received positive feedback by email from some of the delegates who attended.

Norman asked me to explain how online teaching works and I produced a brief document explaining how I structure my online lessons which I have subsequently shared with the teachers who have requested it. I then moved on to offer some suggestions and ideas about how clubs can recruit both teachers and new players. I have appended full details of my presentation at the seminar on the email this report is attached to for ease of reference.

During this session, I asked anyone who is interested in any way in teaching, perhaps as a mentor, or a helper with supervised play sessions or those who are considering becoming a trained teacher to give me their details on a form so that I may keep in touch with them in the future. Nine people completed these, a further 3 spoke to me during the afternoon and I also received an email after the event regarding online teaching. I emailed each of these people after the event and have had eight replies and I shall write again to the other 5 now I have returned from holiday. This starts my database of potential contacts for the future and, in addition, I took the opportunity to speak to as many of the “new” teachers who qualified after the last TTC and I shall keep in touch with all of them.

As a consequence, I have already had a Zoom meeting with 4 members of the committee from a Kent Club who were looking for ideas of how to promote their club events and bring in new members.

I have heard from another local Club that they, too are keen to arrange a meeting and I have asked Charles to attend that one with me as there is an issue regarding the local U3A membership and how we may be able to help them to attract players from unaffiliated clubs.

A meeting has already been arranged with an existing F2F teacher regarding online teaching as she is keen to try out switching to this in the future. I have also put her in touch with Paul Gibbons as she is interested in the TD training and, I also introduced Andrew Gregory who has recently taken over as Chairman of Deal and Dover BC as they, too, are keen to get another TD trained.

My list of potential recruits for another TTC currently only has two names on it, however, I intend to use the Teacher seminar as an opportunity of contacting all Kent clubs again to promote the new EBU Development area on the website

<https://www.ebu.co.uk/development>

This provides ‘Resources for clubs and county associations for teaching and marketing Bridge, to attract new players’ which will give me the chance to raise the question of another TTC.

This would be a valuable resource for us to share with our clubs and it may be helpful to provide this information to them at our conference.

### **SmartBridge**

Further to my last quarter's report, at the seminar, Giorgio Provenza of EBED joined us by Zoom to advise the delegates that SmartBridge is continuing to go ahead. He advised them that this will now be rolled out by existing teachers who offer to take part in the next trial rather than the lessons being delivered centrally by EBED. I shall report again if there is any further news however, it appears that this will be for individual teachers to take up this rather than with any County being involved.

Pat Welsh

AEO

17<sup>th</sup> June 2023