

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE SUSSEX
COUNTY CONTRACT BRIDGE ASSOCIATION HELD AT THE UCKFIELD
CIVIC CENTRE ON SUNDAY 20th APRIL 2008**

Present:

Mrs J Clinton	Chairman
Mr E Williams	Vice Chairman
Miss J Simpson	Honorary Secretary
Mr D Galpin	Honorary Treasurer
Mr N Hardy	Tournament Director

and 66 members. Apologies were received from Peter Bates, David Clifton, Andrew Southwell, Doris Strauss and Tim Greenhill.

1. Approval of Minutes of AGM Held on 22nd April 2007

These were approved nem.con as a correct record of the meeting and signed by the Chairman.

2. Matters Arising from the Minutes

2.1 Display of Allocation of Master Points on Website (Item 8). This is now done.

3. Chairman's Report

3.1 EBU Officials. Sussex remains a successful county within the EBU and has the following officials within it:

Sally Bugden	Vice Chairman
Martin Pool	Chairman, Law & Ethics Committee
Joy Mayall	Member of Disciplinary Committee

3.2 Membership Development. Our young players have been given a great deal of support this year by Dave and Jill Armstrong. Dave teaches at two schools. The county again has supported Dave taking youngsters to the EBU Youth Training at Loughborough; one of whom James Hobden, has been offered a trial for England. We were also lucky enough to get a grant from the Education Trust for £200 and this will be used to fund another event in January's Spring Championship. The Chairman thanked Dave for his all his hard work.

3.3 Linfield Cup. For the first time yesterday the Linfield Cup was played for by 8 Sussex young players at the Avenue Bridge Club.

3.4 Gladys Hakki Award. This year the award was given to Mrs Phyl White for her many years of support to the bridge community. She was a founder member of Eastbourne Bridge Club, has served on the committee there as secretary and president and had taught bridge at the club and in her home to this day – and she will be 100 years old in August.

3.5 Dimmie Fleming Award. This was given by the EBU to Kay Batting last year.

3.6 Competitions. The Metropolitan C team consisting of N Hardy, T Greenhill, A Galpin, M Wright, J Mayall, P Brown, A Lea and A Harding had won their section and were invited to play in the EBU National County League finishing 4th. The Tollemache team had had less success this year. The chairman thanked everyone who had played and also the selectors for their part. The venture pairs held in July had been a great success with 60 players from 12 clubs taking part. Finally the Chairman congratulated Julian Mitchell and David Clifton for their excellent 5th place in the EBU Swiss Pairs competition at Brighton.

3.7 Charities. This year we raised £1017 at our charity events and this had been shared between

- Knowles Tooth at Hurstpierpoint
- Sussex Air Ambulance.

3.8 Development Plans at West Sussex Bridge Club. These are making steady progress and the county had expressed an interest in funding an SCCBA room included in which to store equipment. The Chairman promised to keep members informed of future developments.

3.9 Directors' Course. A directors' course covering the new Law Books and ScoreBridge will be held at West Sussex Bridge Club for club and county directors – interested persons were asked to contact Eddie Williams.

3.10 Chairman's thanks. The Chairman thanked Martin Pool (President) for his valuable advice and support and Ron Buddery and May Langmaid (Vice Presidents), the Officers, committee members and organisers of county events who play an important part in the running of the SCCBA. She also gave special thanks to non committee members who play an important part in the running of the SCCBA; particularly Keith Norman, Tilly Hennings, Roger Poulter and Neil Watts. She thanked the Conduct Committee chaired by Joy Mayall and its members Liz Hoskins, Richard Burnett, Chris Bainham and Mick Carrington; and the Tournament Committee chaired by Norman Hardy. Finally she thanked her husband and SCCBA members for their support throughout the year.

4. Honorary Treasurer's Report

David Galpin, Honorary Treasurer, presented this.

4.1 Adoption of the Audited Annual Accounts

The audited accounts for 2007 as circulated showed a surplus of £2328. The increase in the cost of National Events this year was due to the success of the Tollemache team last year. The Honorary Treasurer thanked Jim Bugden for auditing the accounts and for foregoing his fee for the benefit of the SCCBA. It was proposed by May Langmaid and seconded by Carol Watson that the accounts be adopted and was approved nem con.

4.2 Appointment of Independent Examiner

It was unanimously agreed that Mr. Jim Bugden be re-appointed as an independent examiner to audit the County's accounts for a further year.

4.3 Subscriptions for the Year 2009 - 2010

In view of the small surplus achieved this year and changes which could occur as a result of the EBU proposals no increase in SCCBA subscriptions was proposed for 2009-2010.

Mr R Buddery, on behalf of all, thanked the Honorary Treasurer, Mr Galpin, for all his hard work.

5. Election of Officers

The following Officers were elected unopposed:

5.1 Chairman	Mrs J Clinton
5.2 Vice Chairman	Mr E Williams
5.3 Honorary Secretary	Ms J Simpson
5.4 Honorary Treasurer	Mr D Galpin
5.5 Honorary Membership Secretary	Mr D Clifton
5.6 Tournament Manager	Mr N Hardy

6. Election of Committee Members

A minimum of eight and a maximum of fourteen members are allowed by the constitution on the Management Committee. The following 12 members were re-elected to the Management Committee unopposed:

Mr D Armstrong, Mr P Bates, Mrs S Bugden, Mrs V Chandler, Mrs A Galpin, Mrs N Gillespie, Mrs H Kent, Mr P Pennant, Mr A Southwell, Mrs D Strauss, Mrs C Watson and Mr M Wotton.

One new member, Mrs T Hennings, was elected to the Management Committee unopposed. A further member Mr J Williams was co-opted on to the committee.

7. EBU Strategy Paper

The Chairman referred members to the full report and proposals of the EBU Strategy which was now on the EBU website and had been sent to all clubs. She stated that there are some significant changes within it and that members of the SCCBA and all clubs had been informed of the EGM to be held on May 10th. This is to enable views to be heard and a vote to be taken on the Sussex response to the proposals. Sussex shareholders will be attending an EBU EGM in June to vote on the proposals.

8. Constitution

The Chairman explained that there had not yet been a review on the SCCBA constitution as we were awaiting the outcome of the EBU changes and were looking for a model paper from the EBU to use as a basis. It was possible that the EBU may become a registered charity.

9. Any Other Business

9.1 Devonshire Cup. Maureen Norman expressed the disappointment felt by members at the replacement of the Devonshire Cup heats and event by a one day event this year and asked that this be reconsidered for future years.

9.2 Membership Numbers. Dave Armstrong was concerned at the continuing decrease in membership numbers and participation in events. He suggested that clubs and teachers be sent multiple entry forms for novice events and that the location and types of competitions should be addressed with a view to encouraging more interest. The webmaster pointed out that entry forms were available on the website.