
SUSSEX COUNTY CONTRACT BRIDGE ASSOCIATION

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE SUSSEX COUNTY CONTRACT BRIDGE ASSOCIATION HELD AT THE UCKFIELD CIVIC CENTRE ON SUNDAY 11th APRIL 2010

Present:

Mr M Pool	President
Mr R Buddery	Vice President
Mrs M Langmaid	Vice President
Mrs J Clinton	Chairman
Mr E Williams	Vice Chairman
Miss J Simpson	Honorary Secretary
Mr D Galpin	Honorary Treasurer
Mr N Hardy	Tournament Manager

And 36 members. Apologies were received from Matthew and Liz Hoskins, Carol Watson, Helen Kent, Tilly Hennings, Sally Bugden and Ron Buddery.

1. Approval of minutes of AGM held on 19th April 2009

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

2. Matters arising from the minutes

- 2.1 Deep Finesse (Item 10.2).** The Deep Finesse or Makeable Contracts now appears on all county event printouts.
- 2.2 Ladies Pairs (Item 10.4).** A popular and successful one day event was held in November. There has been continued lack of support for this event at congresses; should demand return for this event at congresses it would be reinstated.

3. Chairman's Report

- 3.1** Sadly this past year Sussex has lost some very special members
- Freddie North, past President of the SCCBA, a Grand Master who represented England many times, and who contributed a great deal to bridge in Sussex with his teaching; he was true gentleman of bridge.
 - Beryl Pitman, who was known to many and will be remembered for her teaching and the clubs that she set up.
 - Bertha Kremer-Dersch, a player of renown and member of Sussex. Our annual competition for club committees is named after her. She had celebrated her 100th birthday only a month before she died.
 - Peggy Eastwood, a past member of SCCBA's committees.

- Peter Wright, Barbara Pinto, and Peggy Hobden who were all very supportive members of the county.
- 3.2 **EBU Officials.** Sussex continues to be well represented within the EBU with the following officials elected this year
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|-----------------------|--|
| Sally Bugden | Chairman |
| Martin Pool | Member of the Laws & Ethics Committee |
| Joy Mayall | Member of the Disciplinary Committee |
| Barbara Herold | EBU Club Committee representative for Sussex, Surrey and Kent |
- 3.3 **P2P Implementation.** A very informative meeting was held at the EBU for County Chairmen with 29 counties attending. We are now in the new era and in Sussex 30 clubs have affiliated to the EBU.
- 3.4 **Membership Development.** Our membership has now risen since 1 April to 2290 and the Chairman thanked John Williams for all his hard work as our membership secretary. Our juniors have continued to progress and it was good to see young gentlemen playing at the Autumn Congress. Twelve youngsters were sponsored and attended Loughborough – the Chairman thanked Dave and Jill Armstrong for their hard work in supporting this juniors.
- 3.5 **Competitions.** The Sussex Metropolitan Cup Teams shone with both the A and C sections being won by Sussex. Congratulations were offered to
- Muriel Bailey and Valerie Benson who played in the Lady Milne trials,
 - Gerry Stanford and Dave Franklin who came 9th in the EBU Summer Meeting Swiss Pairs at Brighton
 - Peter and Marit Langston who won the Portland Pairs.
- 3.6 **Gladys Hakki Award.** The Chairman expressed great pleasure in making the Gladys Hakki Award to David and Andrea Galpin and offered a thousand thanks to them for their hard work and support. David works tirelessly as the SCCBA Treasurer, runs the Sussex League and chairs the Selection Committee as well as directing numerous county events. Andrea in addition to providing support to David runs the Invitation Pairs and sits on the Tournament Committee.
- 3.7 **Charities.** This year our charity events have supported
- The Worthing Church Project for the Homeless
 - Sussex Wildlife Trust.
- 3.8 **Chairman's thanks.** The Chairman thanked Martin Pool (President) for his valued advice and support; Ron Buddery (Vice President) who after many many years as an EBU Shareholder is standing down this year; May Langmaid (Vice President), the Officers, committee members and organisers of county events and competitions for all their hard work and support in the running of the SCCBA. She particularly thanked Mervyn Wotton for the hours spent on maintaining the master points and the SCCBA website and working so hard on getting the site ready for the introduction of P2P. This year two committee members were

standing down, Doris Strauss and Brian Loasby and she thanked both for their commitment during their tenure. She also offered grateful thanks to Bryan Stephens for the excellent work as editor of our newsletter and to Joy Mayall Chairman of the Conduct Committee and its members Liz Hoskins, Mick Carrington, Harold Linfield and Richard Burnett.

4. Constitution.

The Honorary Secretary explained that a small change to the Constitution agreed at the last AGM had been recommended by the EBU and proposed that in para 11 of the Constitution the word *fee* be changed to *subscription*. This has been approved in principle by the SCCBA Management Committee.

Paragraph 11 now to read

*11. The annual subscription and the county element of the EBU's Pay to Play **subscription** shall be determined by the Management Committee, subject to ratification by a General Meeting. The annual subscription shall become due on 1st April each year, together with the annual subscription and Club affiliation **subscription** payable to the EBU. Where relevant, subscriptions may be accepted on behalf of the Association by individual Clubs. Subscriptions may be paid by a Direct Debit scheme subject to such a scheme having been introduced by the Association & the EBU and subject to the agreement of the individual member.*

This proposal was seconded by Angela Burgess and agreed nem con.

5. Honorary Treasurer's Report

David Galpin, Honorary Treasurer, presented this.

- 5.1 Adoption of the Audited Annual Accounts.** The audited accounts show a surplus of £1155, reduced from £1930 last year. The Honorary Treasurer thanked Jim Bugden for auditing the accounts and foregoing his fee for the benefit of the SCCBA. It was proposed by Malcolm Pryor and seconded by Ray Roberts that the accounts be adopted. This was approved nem con.

Noting the total assets of £30915 Ray Roberts suggested that some of this should be distributed to members. Members generally felt this to be inappropriate and the Chairman suggested that if Ray Roberts wished to make a formal proposal about this he should put it in writing for the management committee to consider.

- 5.2 Appointment of Honorary Auditor.** 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.

- 5.3 Subscriptions for the Year 2011 – 2012.** The Honorary Treasurer considered that subscriptions should not be changed until the effects of P2P can be evaluated and proposed therefore that for the year 2011-12 the annual subscription for dual members remains at £5 and the county element of P2P remains at 5p. This was seconded by Andrew Southwell and agreed nem con.

6. Election of Officers

The following officers were elected unopposed

6.1	Chairman	Mrs J Clinton
6.2	Vice-Chairman	Mr E Williams
6.3	Honorary Secretary	Ms J Simpson
6.4	Honorary Treasurer	Mr D Galpin
6.5	Honorary Membership Secretary	Mr J Williams
6.6	Tournament Manager	Mr N Hardy

7. Election of a Maximum of Fourteen Committee Members

A minimum of eight and a maximum of fourteen members are allowed by the constitution on the Management Committee. The following 13 members were elected to the Management Committee unopposed:

Mr D Armstrong, Mr P Bates, Mrs V Chandler, Mrs A Galpin, Mrs T Hennings, Mr R Lowe, Mr P Pennant, Mr A Southwell, Mr G Stanford, Mrs C Watson, Mr R Whiting and Mr M Wotton.

8. EBU Shareholders. The Chairman stated that pending changes in representation and voting structures being put to members for consultation the Management Committee had nominated the three Sussex Shareholders for this year to be herself (replacing Ron Buddery) who has stood down and the two existing shareholders, Julia Simpson and Peter Bates.

Some members felt that there should be a one member/one vote system in selecting shareholders. The Honorary Secretary explained that a consultation process seeking opinions and options on the voting structure was underway within the EBU and SCCBA would be asking observations on the options and ideas from clubs and members this summer for a county response to be made by Dec 2010. Members present were asked to submit any views they wished considered to the Chairman. Andrew Southwell suggested that a report of each Shareholders meeting should be put on the website and in the newsletter. Peter Bates pointed out that all the minutes of the EBU meetings are posted on the EBU website. It was proposed and agreed that a report from the Shareholders meeting should be put in the newsletter in the future.

9. Any Other Business

9.1 Timing of County Events. Maureen Norman requested that consideration be given to avoiding Mothers' Day for semi final and finals of county events.

9.2 President's thanks. Martin Pool expressed thanks to the Chairman for all her hard work in the running of the association.