

## FINAL

# SUSSEX COUNTY CONTRACT BRIDGE ASSOCIATION

A meeting of the Management Committee of the SCCBA took place at Worthing Bridge Club, 12 Byron Road, Worthing BN11 3HN on Friday 16 May 2014 starting at 7 pm

### Present:

Mr M Pool (MP)	President
Mr D Galpin (DG)	Hon Treasurer
Mr D Wheeler (DW)	Hon Secretary

And other elected members: Mrs A Galpin (AG), Miss J Simpson (JS), Mr A Southwell (AS), Mr G Stanford (GS), Mr M Wotton (MW) and Mr M Wright (MWrr).

## AGENDA

### 0. Opening Remarks

DW opened the meeting by explaining that Andy Ryder (Chairman) and Brian Campbell-Kearsey (Vice Chairman) were unable to take the chair because of unavoidable absence in Canada and Germany respectively. Therefore DW proposed that he take the chair for this meeting and MC Members concurred.

### 1. Apologies

Apologies had been received from Mrs J Armstrong, Mr P Bates, Mrs H Beveridge, Mr P Gannon, Mr B Campbell-Kearsey and Mr A Ryder.

### 2. Minutes of the meeting of 17<sup>th</sup> January 2014

#### 2.1 Accuracy

MC Members were content to agree the minutes as drafted.

#### 2.2 Matters Arising

##### 1. Item 2.2.1 Insurance Cover for Legal Fees

AG confirmed that the county's existing insurance would cover legal fees associated with a claim against the county generally or against any individual MC member. In the latter case it was essential that the claim be notified to the Association at the earliest opportunity. The claim would be passed to the County's insurance company and the latter would take over the conduct of the case.

##### 2. Item 2.2.2 Director Training

The Officers had discussed the need to put in place alternative arrangements following Eddie Williams's withdrawal from this activity. It was felt that an annual day involving EBU updates, use of BridgeMates, common problems and simulations should be established and MP had volunteered to take the lead in planning that. The day was unlikely to take place before the autumn and it was recognised that good notice should be given to all concerned.

**Action – MP**

##### 3. Item 14.2 Addition to January Bridge in Schools update

DW reported that following publication of the draft minutes of the January MC meeting, Katie Kennedy had expressed disappointment that the update delivered by DW had not included reference to the 16 children she was teaching at Charters Ancaster College, Bexhill. She had asked for the minutes to be amended accordingly. DW had explained that the minutes could not record what did not take place at the meeting itself but he had promised to update the record at the May MC meeting.

### 3. Chairman's Report

DW reported that the Chairman's early initiative to refresh the County's work to attract youngsters to the game would be discussed under item 14.

### 4. Treasurer's Report

DG reported the latest balances as £9309 (current account) and £22958 (deposit account). In addition, the newly created on-line entries account contained £45. MW added that there were three further entries that DG was not yet aware of. The overall financial position was broadly similar to the previous year. The sum of £800 was ready to be distributed to the two chosen local charities and JS undertook to give DG the necessary details. The final outturn for 2013 had been a loss of £73 after depreciation was taken into account, in effect a balanced position. The AGM had approved the target P2P rate for 2015/16 as a maximum of 7p.

### 5. Selectors' Report

DW reported on behalf of Julian Mitchell that the Selection Committee had invited the following to represent Sussex in the two National Inter-County Teams Finals (B & C) in July, based on their performances in qualifying Sussex for these two finals at last September's Metropolitan Cup:

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## **B Team**

D Nastaszczuk/P Roxbrough  
H & C Linfield  
N Watts/A Ryder  
E Lucioni/I Caplan

**Captain:** Harold Linfield

## **C Team**

D Galpin/J Hootman  
R Burnett/B Gould  
D Gillespie/F Cameron  
P Lindsten/R Newton

**Captain:** David Galpin

## **6. Tournament Committee Report**

DW reported that he had volunteered to take the Chair (as well as the Secretary) of the TC. Currently there was a vacancy for the Tournament Manager's post. Eddie Williams (EW) had e-mailed GS offering to fill this post if no other candidate was forthcoming. The MC expressed concern that the other pressures on EW's time might make it difficult for him to be an effective focal point for tournament organisers. DW agreed to explore matters further with EW in order to be able to reassure the MC on this point.

**Action - DW**

## **7. Secretary's Report**

### **7.1 Dave Armstrong's questions to the new MC**

DW had produced a paper with supporting attachments and MC Members considered the proposed responses and agreed that the paper and its attachments should form the basis of a reply to Dave Armstrong. DW would issue that as soon as possible.

**Action - DW**

### **7.2 Roles for MC Members**

DW reported that there were three roles on the 2014/15 Appointments List which remained unfilled. The Tournament Manager post was under consideration – see paragraph 6 above. The Education Co-ordinator role was a very important one and the Chairman's early initiatives on that front might mean that he would be willing to take the EC role as well. DW agreed to consult accordingly. The David Pavey Organiser role might suit our new MC Member, Peter Gannon, and again, DW would consult accordingly.

**Action DW**

### **7.3 Gladys Hakki – Permanent Gift?**

MC Members had considered DW's paper on this question. They agreed that a permanent gift should form part of the award and that this should be given to the winner in 2014 and subsequent years. AG agreed to research small replica clocks as the preferred option for the permanent gift and DG would maintain a watching brief as to cost.

**Action - AG/DG**

### **7.4 Recognition of Service**

DW's paper was considered and it was agreed that the case in question should be nominated as a Vice President at the AGM 2015. DW would consult to establish whether such would be accepted.

**Action - DW**

## **8. EBU Matters**

### **8.1 EBU Shareholders**

The County's overall membership had dropped below 3000 as at 31 March 2014. The EBU had advised that if EBU records were consistent with ours they would write in July informing us of a reduction in our shareholding from four to three. A proposal for dealing with that would be put to the July MC meeting.

**Action - DW**

### **8.2 EBU Metropolitan Working Group**

DW reported the current position with this group. An initial meeting was planned for 2 July but this was not convenient for our representative, Peter Bates. It was also not convenient for any of our other EBU shareholders so DW agreed to e-mail the EBU confirming our continuing interest and asking to be copied in on any notes of that meeting.

**Action - DW**

## **9. Membership Secretary's Report**

HB had reported by e-mail that the county's membership total was 2953 as of 13 May, around 20 fewer than the previous month. Her e-mail database now comprised 1681 addresses, of which 199 had 'unsubscribed'. 22 members had indicated a wish for anonymity.

## **10. Communications Committee's Report**

DW had asked BC-K for a note but there had been nothing to report. Regarding the 2014 Year Book, the copy was with BC-K for final pre-printing preparation but the final publication date was not yet known. All competition organisers had been advised of their dates but given the imminence of the June

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events it was agreed that an e-mail should be sent to all on the database with copy entry forms for those events. In addition, a 'banner' notice should be placed on the web site about those events.

**Action GS/HB/MW**

### 11. Press Officer's Report

DW had asked Geoffrey Wolfarth for a note but there had been nothing to report.

### 12. Webmaster and Master Point Secretary's Report

MW reported that:

- The missing [results from the web-site](#) had been restored wherever possible.
- Only four on-line entries had been made thus far which was a disappointing 'return' on the investment of time and effort involved in enabling such.
- Updated IMP to VP conversion rates had been applied to the Invitation Pairs enabling conversion to two decimal places.
- The full calendar of events for 2014/15 has been published on the web site and will be checked against the final Year Book shortly.

### 13. Conduct Committee Report

DW reported on behalf of Jill Armstrong that a recent conduct case had resulted in warnings being accepted by both parties and the case was now closed. There were no other issues under consideration.

### 14. Education Report

#### 14.1 Bridge in Schools

DW reported that whilst efforts continued to build on the early successes in a few schools, AR had explored the possibility of a wider initiative to attract more young players involving the ten biggest clubs in the county. If there was sufficient demand, an application for Lottery funding might be made. The MC supported the ideas in principle and DW agreed to draft a letter for AR to send to club chairmen.

**Action - DW**

#### 14.2 Teaching Web Site

BC-K would be asked to report further on this at the July 2014 meeting.

**Action – BC-K**

#### 14.3 Seminars for Improvers

BC-K would be asked to report further on this at the July 2014 meeting.

**Action - BC-K**

#### 14.4 Loughborough Juniors Event – Options for increased attendance

The case for attendance in 2014 had not been forthcoming. AR had repeated the request to Dave Armstrong recently without any response. The MC agreed that if it was not to disappoint those who had already indicated a wish to attend, all it could do was to approve a budget ceiling of £2000 based on the outturn for 2013. DW would convey this to DA. As and when the overall education strategy was developed, an alternative approach might be to organise a similar annual event in Sussex.

**Action - DW**

### 15. Charities

JS was still searching for suitable local charities to benefit in 2015. A couple had been suggested – the Trussel Trust and Pericles – but she was keen to give the MC a wider choice. Suggestions from clubs had already been requested and MC Members were asked to consult more widely and make further suggestions.

**Action – MC Members**

### 16. Equipment Co-ordinator's Report

MW reported that following a request from Jim and Sally Bugden, he was making arrangements to remove county equipment from storage in their barn. The target date for removal was 4 July. He could store the smaller items of equipment at his house and he had identified a lock-up garage in Hove available from a friend for £30 per month for the larger equipment. The MC approved the arrangement proposed. DW would write to Jim and Sally to thank them for the storage provided cost-free for many years.

**Action - DW**

### 17. Dates of Next Meetings

DW indicated that the next meeting would be on 18 July 2014 (at Worthing).

**Action – DW**

### 18. Any Other Business

MW raised two points:

- A fellow member of Crawley BC had indicated that a good venue for large tournaments would be Butlins at Bognor. This information would be passed on to the TC
- He planned to issue an e-mail to the TC shortly seeking agreement to a change to the senior Sims rules re non-standing pairs. This would propose that all entries are allowed but the prizes would be restricted to senior pairs.

The meeting closed at 9.15pm

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