

# SUSSEX COUNTY CONTRACT BRIDGE ASSOCIATION

A meeting of the Management Committee of the SCCBA was held at Henfield Hall on  
Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> July 2007 starting at 1930.

**Present:**

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

Mr D Armstrong, Mrs S Bugden, Mrs V Chandler, Mrs A Galpin, Mrs N Gillespie, Mrs H Kent, Mr P Pennant, Mr R Roberts (delegate), Mrs D Strauss, Mrs C Watson, Mr M Wotton

## 1. Apologies

Apologies were received from Mr D Clifton, Mr P Bates, Mr A Southwell, Mr M Pool, Mr R Buddery, Mrs M Langmaid and Mr B Loasby (delegate).

## 2. Minutes of the meeting of 13 May 2007

### 2.1 Accuracy

**Para 4.3** to be deleted and replaced by

*“A letter of complaint from the Chairman of Eastbourne Bridge Club concerning the Sussex Invitation Pairs event held at Eastbourne on 12 April 2007 was tabled. The tournament organiser (AG) explained how the event had been run and the clearing up on completion had been done, and stated that the complaint was unjustified. It was agreed that she would reply accordingly. It was agreed that the strong links with Eastbourne by the county were important and much appreciated, and that the club should continue to be used for county events.”*

**Para 9** line 3 delete “and provide the input to English Bridge News”

The minutes were then agreed nem con and duly signed as a true record of the meeting.

### 2.2 Matters Arising

**2.2.1 Training of Directors.** A course for county and club directors would be arranged in October. EW would notify the date and venue

**4.2 Delinquent Clubs.** JS reported that Early Bird had withdrawn its affiliation from SCCBA; Cowfold would be forwarding its subscription. No reply had been received from Ham Manor and Hearts BC.

**4.4 Communication with clubs.** JC and JS have been invited to visit Eastbourne BC on 6 Sep 07.

# DRAFT

## 3. Chairman's Report

**3.1 Proposals for Building at West Sussex Bridge Club.** Chris Jago of West Sussex BC had offered to talk to the County at the next AGM about the proposals.

**3.2 Licensed events on SCCBA Website.** A request had been received from PP for a Swiss Team event at Eastbourne to be advertised on the website. It was agreed that in general any licensed EBU event held by clubs could be placed on the website and in the calendar.

**3.3 Swiss Teams Event at Ardingly.** A letter had been received from Freddy North expressing how much he had enjoyed playing in this event.

**3.4 EBU Strategy Proposals.** See item 15

**3.5 Youth Education and Recruitment Campaign.** See item 12

**3.6 EBU Membership Centralisation Project.** See item 6

## 4. Secretary's Report

**4.1 Maurice Weissburger Trophy.** Mr Weissburger had kindly agreed to donate a trophy for the winners of the Sussex League Division 1.

**4.2 Annual Match against Surrey (16 Sep 07).** A list of committee members available to play was given to NH. Any further changes should be notified to him.

## 5. Treasurer's Report

The bank balances stood at £10500 in the Current Account and £23900 in the High Interest Account which is earning 4.3% interest at present. There were outstanding payments due for the Swiss Teams event held at Hove of £920 (EBU license) and £940 (Hire of Hove Town Hall and transport costs). One charity payment had been made to the Motor Neurone Disease Association; the other one to St Wilfrid's Hospice, Eastbourne has still to be made. JC and JS planned to do this on a visit to Eastbourne.

## 6. Membership Secretary's Report

A letter had been received from the EBU concerning the EBU membership Centralisation Project and requesting confirmation from Sussex that it would be joining in this project. JC reported on behalf of DC that we had discontinued running a membership database in parallel with the EBU and already rely on the EBU to provide up to date details of SCCBA full members. DC recommended that we continued to do so and to give full support the Centralisation Project. This was agreed by all and JS was asked to write to the EBU accordingly.

A report on non paid up members had not yet been received and was requested from DC.

## 7. Tournament Committee Report

**7.1 Hove Swiss Teams.** NH reported that this had been a successful event with 54 teams. However it was felt that Ardingly provided a better catchment and was also less

## DRAFT

expensive. Bookings had already been made at Ardingly for 2008 and it was hoped would shortly be confirmed for 2009

**7.2 John Pavey.** NH reported that John Pavey had contacted him about donating a trophy in memory of his brother David Pavey. HK pointed out that a trophy for the Venture Pairs event was needed. NH was asked to discuss this matter at the next Tournament Committee Meeting.

### 8. Selectors Report

The Selectors report had been previously circulated. Since the report the successful County C team had represented Sussex in a new competition held at Derby for winners of similar events across the country. The team had come 4<sup>th</sup> out of 5.

**8.1 Financial subsidy for leading county players.** The Selectors requested that, in order to improve the quality of opposition that our players play, the SCCBA should subsidise our leading players to play in the EBU Spring Foursomes. The entry fees (2007) were £280 per team. The Treasurer (DG) proposed that this subsidy be made on a trial basis in 2008 and that a report should be made back to the committee following the event. This was agreed unanimously.

### 9. Conduct Committee's Report

The Conduct Committee report was tabled. The committee is awaiting information from the EBU with regard to the Model County Constitution.

### 10. Master Point Secretary's Report

Nothing to report.

### 11. Communication Coordinator's Report

**11.1 Press.** There had been a number of reports in the local press but at present CW had to rely on scanning the results for information. There was a need for organisers of events to contact CW with results and photos. Members were also urged to inform CW of any winners that were known to be from the county in big events.

**11.2 Website.** SB raised the need to keep the website up to date and regretted that as she had explained at the last meeting she no longer had the time to do it. CW explained that she did not have Broadband and therefore could not do this. It was agreed that there was an urgent need to find another webmaster who could put information onto the site. JC agreed to speak to MP to ascertain the requirement and seek a way ahead.

### 12. Education Report

The SCCBA Youth Education and Recruitment Campaign Report 2007 was distributed to members by DA to update them on the youth recruitment programme in 2007 and with a request for assistance (financial and personnel) to the programme.

**12.1 Loughborough 2007.** An outline of costs to take 16 children to Loughborough was presented. After contributions had been taken from the children and parents there remained a shortfall of £2290 and DA requested that this be paid from SCCBA funds.

## DRAFT

After some discussion it was proposed by NH, seconded by EW that £250 be allocated from the money left by Tom Bradley which had been earmarked for youth education and the remainder (£2040) be taken from SCCBA funds. This was approved with one abstention. DA was asked to provide a report of the event at Loughborough together with photos for the next newsletter.

**12.2 Proposal for annual junior bridge competition.** The proposal to hold a day event this year was discussed and agreed. JC told members that in discussion with Sandra Landy who was a trustee of the EBU Educational Trust it had been stated that such an event could be eligible for trust funding. Requests for funding were required to be put before a meeting to be held during the Brighton Congress. DA was asked to provide outline costs for a day event to JC who would present them to the trustee meeting in August.

**12.3 Strategy for Youth education in Sussex.** It was agreed that there was a need for a longer term strategy for the education of youth in the county and that consideration should be given to having a weekend youth event annually in the county. DA stated that he could produce a strategy document but would need assistance in the implementation of such a programme. HK and CW indicated that they would be interested in offering assistance. It was agreed that DA would present a strategy document to the committee at the next meeting.

JC thanked DA for his hard work and will write to Tom Bradley's son to tell him how some of the money left by Tom has been used.

### **13 Dimmie Fleming Award**

A proposal made by PP and seconded by EW that Kay Batting should be nominated for a Dimmie Fleming Award was unanimously agreed. Kay has been an extremely active and loyal member in the county over many years amongst other things as EBU representative, county and club committee member and tournament organiser.

### **14. Charities**

VC reported that the cheque to the Motor Neurone Disease Association had been very much appreciated and the presentation reported in the local press. Some of the money given comes from the David Boston Pairs event and VC felt that more could be raised if there was more promotion and publicity of SCCBA charity events on the website. This was agreed.

### **15. EBU Matters**

SB outlined the strategy proposals from the Board of the EBU published in June 2007 to revitalise clubs and membership. These proposals required counties to obtain views from their membership for discussion at the Shareholder meeting in October. The intention was to put final proposals to Shareholders for approval next year. A meeting has been arranged for Sussex to meet EBU representatives on 18 Sep 2007 and JC and MW will attend. Management committee members were asked to ensure that their clubs were discussing the proposals and were recommended to communicate questions to Peter Stocken via the EBU website with a copy to JC. JS will contact clubs by email and with the minutes of this meeting informing them of the process and the need for their urgent consideration. SB stated that this process was an initial phase and more information on subsequent phases will follow. Members were advised to read FAQs on the EBU website.

# DRAFT

## **16. Date and Venue of Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be held on Sunday 14 October 2007 at West Sussex BC commencing at 1045.

## **17. Any Other Business**

**17.1 Distribution of Newsletter.** EW explained that the distribution of the last newsletter had been restricted to one copy per household. Unfortunately no notice of this was given and some queries had been raised. In the next newsletter a note will be inserted concerning this change and anyone wishing to have extra copies will be able to request them. It was pointed out that the facility also existed to have only one copy of English Bridge delivered per household (see the EBU website [www.ebu.co.uk](http://www.ebu.co.uk) ).

**17.2 Retention of SCCBA minutes on website.** It was requested that there should be an archive of meeting minutes available on the website. JS will find out the length of time that minutes are available.

**17.3 Event Application Forms.** It was confirmed that application forms are still being produced by MP/EW and will all organisers ask for EBU numbers to be stated on them.