
SUSSEX COUNTY CONTRACT BRIDGE ASSOCIATION

A meeting of the Management Committee of the SCCBA was held at the Eastbourne
Bridge Club on Thursday 4 January 2007 starting at 1030

Present:

Mr M Pool	Chairman
Miss J Simpson	Hon Secretary
Mr D Galpin	Hon Treasurer
Mr N Hardy	Tournament Manager

Mr D Armstrong, Mr P Bates, Mrs K Batting, Mr R Buddery, Mrs V Chandler, Mrs J Clinton,
Mrs N Gillespie, Mrs H Kent, Mrs M Langmaid, Mr B Loasby, Mr P Pennant, Mrs D Strauss,
Mr M Wotton

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from Mr E Williams, Mr D Clifton, Mrs S Bugden, Mr A Southwell
and Mrs C Watson.

2. Minutes of the meeting of 15 October 2006

2.1. Accuracy

It was agreed that the following amendments should be made

Para 10 second sentence to read "The Master Point Secretary requested that all
tournament organisers should ensure, wherever possible, that EBU numbers are
provided on entry forms."

Para 15 first line to read "elected as Vice Chairman of the EBU"

The minutes of 15 October 2006 were then agreed nem con and duly signed as a true
record of the meeting.

2.2. Matters Arising

2.2.2 The EBU guidelines on setting up the Bridgemates are still awaited. [2.2.2]

3. Chairman's Report

3.1 A most enjoyable event against the Surrey Management Committee had been held in
November at West Sussex BC. Sussex won!

3.2 The county team had qualified for the final of the Tollemache.

3.3 The SCCBA are about to receive commission for the Bridgemates bought by Bognor
BC. Members were asked to encourage other clubs to buy through the SCCBA.

3.4 Progress on the proposals for the new Bridge Club at Cuckfield has been held up due
to the sickness of the Chairman of the Amateur Dramatic Society. A survey of
members of West Sussex BC prepared to make loans to the club for this project has
had encouraging results.

3.5 The staffing of directors at events was proving difficult. If no more local volunteers
came forward it would mean hiring EBU Directors with substantial increase in cost
resulting in possible increases in competition fees.

- 3.6 Members were reminded of the need to find a nomination for SCCBA Chairman to take effect from the AGM in April.

4. Secretary's Report

- 4.1. **Gladys Hakki Nominations.** The Secretary reported that there were four nominations for the Gladys Hakki Award – Brian Gould, Kay Batting, Terry Sweeney and Lord Richard Newton. These had been circulated to members prior to the meeting. Following discussion it was agreed to make this year's award to Brian Gould..
- 4.2. **Committee Nominations.** Nomination Forms for Management Committee for 2007/8 were provided. These will also be sent to all clubs with the minutes of this meeting.
- 4.3. **Surrey CBA Constitution.** Surrey CBA are updating their constitution and have asked for comments on their proposals for jurisdiction, club affiliation and membership. The committee had no objections in principle but referred this to the Conduct Committee for comment in the light of the review of Sussex constitution which is underway.

5. Treasurer's Report

The bank balances at 31 December 2006 were £5000 in the current account and £22800 in the High Interest account giving a total of £27800. This compared favourably with last year's figures (total £32200) when taking account of the purchase of Bridgemates (£7400) this year.

6. Membership Secretary's Report

No report was received from the Membership Secretary.

7. Tournament Committee Report

- 7.1. **Chairman's Cup.** This event had run at a loss this year.
- 7.2. **Devonshire Club Cup and Plate.** There had been difficulty in getting teams to play in the final event and as a result it had been decided to run the Cup and Plate as a single competition. The Tournament Committee was asked to review the Rules of Competition re qualifications for the final of this event.
- 7.3. **Cadet Event.** It has been agreed to hold a Cadet Cup competition this year for pairs of a "beginner" playing with an "expert". This will be organised by Bob Whiting and held at Henfield in July. At least one member of the pair must be an EBU member. The Level to be played at the competition was queried and the Tournament Committee were asked to determine whether it should be at Level 1 or Level 2.
- 7.4. **Rules of Competition for disabled [9.2].** Action with Tournament Committee
- 7.5. **Level of fines for bad behaviour [9.2].** Action with Tournament Committee

8. Selectors' Report

The Selectors' report was noted.

9. Conduct Committee's Report

The Conduct Committee report was noted. Whilst delighted to receive a report after a long absence and recognising the sensitivity of the subject, the members of the Management Committee felt that the content of the report was insufficient and requested that at least the

category of the matters under discussion should be included. The Chairman agreed to review this with the Chairman of the Conduct Committee.

10. Master Point Secretary's Report

- 10.1** EBU numbers were still not being provided before events and asked that every effort be made by organisers to provide them.
- 10.2** With the merger of the Devonshire Club Cup and Plate special rules had been drawn up to ensure the award of appropriate Master Points.

11. Communication Officer's Report

The Communication Officer sent a plea to all organisers for more and better photos from events.

12. Education Officer's Report

- 12.1 Formation of New Club.** A new after-school bridge club is being established at Queens Park primary school to run weekly on Thursdays.
- 12.2 Young Players.** A player under the age of 10 had not been allowed to play at a local club with his mother recently. Although the County does not have jurisdiction over clubs the committee recommended that bridge players of all ages be encouraged at club sessions. JC reported that West Sussex BC were launching MiniBridge on Saturdays commencing on 27 Jan 07 for families and were encouraging all aged 7 and over to participate. The Secretary will send a notice out with the minutes of this meeting to advertise this venture.
- 12.3 Training of Directors.** There was an outstanding need to look at the content of Director courses in particular with relation to best behaviour and how to handle situations. Further the Education officer suggested that customer satisfaction sheets should be available at all events. It was agreed that these matters should be addressed by EW who is arranging some county seminars for Directors.

13. Charities.

- 13.1 2007/08.** It was agreed that for 2007/08 the charities to be supported would be the local Air Ambulance and Knowle's Tooth Centre for families at Hurstpierpoint.
- 13.2 2006/07.** The committee was reminded that the charities being supported for 2006/07 are St Wilfrid's Hospice, Eastbourne and the Motor Neurone Disease Association. The Secretary will include a reminder of the forthcoming event on 17 Jan 07 in her letter to club secretaries.

14. Presidents/Vice Presidents

The proposal to recommend and nominate Martin Pool to be President of the SCCBA and May Langmaid to be a Vice President of the SCCBA made under AOB at the last meeting of the Management Committee were endorsed.

15. EBU Matters

The Chairman reported on recent EBU membership initiatives to increase and support membership

- through FOV (focus on value). This will support and seeks to expand a recruiting and education scheme already being run where students are formed into a Bridge Club at the end of their course and initially will be given EBU membership with the membership of their club.
- a review of creating universal membership
- the centralisation of membership records onto a new data base.

16. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Sunday 13 May at 1030 – location to be notified.

The AGM will be held on Sunday 22 April at 1145 at Uckfield.

17. Any Other Business

- 17.1** DA raised the possibility of using wireless networks to promulgate results at events and agreed to investigate the cost and feasibility of this and report back.
- 17.2** PB proposed a vote of thanks to MP for the vast amount of work and support that he had given to county bridge and beyond during his tenure as Chairman of the SCCBA. This was seconded by all.