
SUSSEX COUNTY CONTRACT BRIDGE ASSOCIATION

A meeting of the Management Committee of the SCCBA was held at the West Sussex
Bridge Club on Sunday 13 May 2007 starting at 1045

Present:

Mrs J Clinton	Chairman
Miss J Simpson	Hon Secretary
Mr D Galpin	Hon Treasurer
Mr N Hardy	Tournament Manager
Mr D Clifton	Membership Secretary

Mr P Bates, Mr R Buddery, Mrs S Bugden, Mrs A Galpin, Mrs N Gillespie, Mrs H Kent,
Mrs M Langmaid, Mr B Loasby (delegate), Mr P Pennant, Mr M Pool, Mr R Roberts
(delegate), Mrs C Watson, Mr M Wotton

The Chairman welcomed the new President, Mr M Pool, who in turn thanked the new
Chairman for taking on the appointment as Chairman.

The Chairman also welcomed Mrs A Galpin to the committee.

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from Mr E Williams, Mr D Armstrong, Mrs V Chandler, Mr A
Southwell and Mrs D Strauss.

2. Minutes of the meetings of 4 January 2007 and 15 April 2007

2.1. Accuracy

2.1.1. Meeting held on 4 Jan 07.

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

2.1.2. Meeting held on 15 Apr 07

It was agreed that the penultimate paragraph should be amended to read "Additionally
it was agreed when the President's post becomes vacant in the future the membership
and clubs would be invited and suggestions welcomed for consideration by the
committee for possible recommendation to the AGM.

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

2.2. Matters Arising

2.2.1. Meeting held on 4 Jan 07

Re 12.3 Training of Directors. SB informed the committee that best behaviour is
now on the curriculum of the course for Club Directors. An article on best behaviour
will be in the June issue of English Bridge and contains information and guidelines on
the penalties that can be issued and how players should summon a director. Further
Mr Max Bavin and Mr John Payne of the EBU will be on call in event of advice being
needed and sought.

EW is arranging a course this summer. Dates will be promulgated by the Hon Sec.

3. Chairman's Report

3.1. Proposals for new building at West Sussex Bridge Club

The Chairman gave an update on the project for the new building at West Sussex which will proceed and are independent of any county requirement or decision. She advised the committee that she was no longer on the committee on the rebuild. The project was reaching a stage where architectural plans were being finalised and the project team need to know if the county was interested in principle to having secure storage for county equipment made available. The cost of providing this was estimated to be £15-£18K. After considerable discussion about costs and possible savings it was agreed that it was essential to obtain the membership's views. A business plan should be requested from the project and detailed figures on SCCBA costs and savings drawn up. When the information was available this should be passed to all clubs and will become an agenda item on the next management committee meeting.

3.2. Spring Congress.

The Basic Bridge Pairs on the first day had been very poorly supported and the Tournament Committee should consider whether this event should continue.

4. Secretary's Report

4.1. Appointment of Conduct Committee

A quorum on the management committee agreed on Sun 22 April 2007 to the members of the Conduct Committee (see Annex (I)) and the nominated members were advised by email. A copy is held by the Hon Secretary.

4.2. Calendar 2007/08 – delinquent clubs

In checking records for the calendar for 2007/08 the following clubs

Cowfold, Early Bird, Hearts Bridge Circle, and Ham Manor Golf Club

have been found to be delinquent in payment of EBU/SCCBA subs for more than a year. It was agreed that the Hon Secretary would write to remind them and if no payments were made their entries would be removed from the calendar for future years.

Further the committee was asked to note that Chancton Duplicate Bridge Club, Saltdean Bridge Circle and Saltdean Saturday night Bridge Club did not wish to continue their membership of the EBU/SCCBA.

4.3. Complaint from Eastbourne BC

Invitation Pairs event held in Eastbourne on 12 April 2007 was tabled. The tournament organiser (AG) explained how the event had been run and the clearing up on completion and stated that the complaint was unjustified. It was agreed that she would reply accordingly. A letter of complaint from the Chairman of Eastbourne Bridge Club concerning the Sussex was noted 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.

4.4 Communication with clubs

A general lack of communication with clubs was felt to exist in the county; SB stated that a national initiative was in preparation by the EBU who will be looking to send people to

revitalise clubs. It was noted the Eastbourne BC was no longer offering heats for 3 county competitions the Chairman and Secretary would look for an opportunity to visit there to try to raise enthusiasm and participation there.

5. Treasurer's Report

As had been reported at the AGM there was a loss of £3744 last year due to the purchase of Bridgemates. Bank balances today are £9800 in the current account and £23800 in the High Interest Account. A cheque from the EBU for subscriptions was expected soon but there was an outstanding bill to be paid for the Ardingly event yesterday. Further there were two £500 cheques to be written to the charities supported this year, St Wilfred's Hospice, Eastbourne and the Motor Neurone Disease Association.

It had been agreed by the Officers that the fees for Directors were being raised with immediate effect to £35 per session for an ordinary event and £40 per session for chief tournament director. Caddies would be paid £25 for one session, £45 for two sessions and setting up fees would be raised from £8 to £10. Mileage allowance remains at 20p per mile. NH will email the changes to all concerned.

6. Membership Secretary's Report

At the end of March there were 42 Club members, 1064 fully paid up individual members, 377 individual members not yet paid and 10 dual members.

A report of non paid up members would be made o at the next meeting when the year's subscriptions should have been received.

7. County Appointments

A draft list of county appointments was tabled for approval by the management committee. It was agreed that to the term "officer" should be replaced by "coordinator" to avoid confusion with the formal officer status used in the Constitution.

After some discussion on the proposed members of the Selection Committee PB proposed and AG seconded that the current rule which states "a member may not be both a selector for & play in the Tollemache" should be removed. This was agreed with 10 members in favour, 1 against and 4 abstentions.

The proposed county appointments (see Annex (I)) were then agreed.

8. Competition Organisers

A draft list of competition organisers was tabled for approval by the management Committee. This was accepted nem con. The list is shown at Annex (I).The organiser for the Championship Teams of 4 will be given a copy of the EBU look up table and reminded that EBU numbers must be checked and included in all paperwork.

9. Communication Coordinator's Report

Due to her over commitment of time SB regretted that she had had to resign as Communication Coordinator. She emphasised the need for photos to be taken and used for publicity. She would

continue to do Newsletter and provide the input to English Bridge news. The committee expressed its grateful thanks to SB for the work that she had done as Communications officer.

10. Conduct Committee Report

No meeting had been held since the AGM and there was therefore was nothing to report.

11. Master Point Secretary's Report

There had been a big and welcome increase in the number of EBU numbers being provided. With the experience of time in the appointment and the amount of work involved MW to express his thanks and admiration to Brian Loasby who had occupied the position for so long.

12. Tournament Committee Report

12.1. Chairman's Cup. It had been agreed that the entry should be free.

12.2. 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 Rules of Competition re qualifications for the final of this event have been amended.

12.3. Cadet Event. Play is to be at level 1 and as on the Standard English card. The Director should rule on any doubts raised at the competition.

12.4. Level of fines for bad behaviour [9.2]. see item 2.2.1 above

13. Selectors' Report

The Selectors' report was noted. Sussex had reached the final of the Tollemache and finished 6 out of 8.

14. Education Coordinator's Report

12.1 Loughborough. The Education Coordinator had reported that there was expected to be a bigger uptake this year for the Loughborough weekend and requested continuing sponsorship. The request in principle was supported, but more exact information on the money being sought was needed. It was agreed that when this was received some funding from the BGB Trust fund should be sought and the Chairman agreed to approach Sandra Landy (a trustee).

14.1. MiniBridge. A minibridge tournament is being planned for later in the year. Location and costs not yet known.

15. Review of Constitution

The president reported that some work on this has been undertaken by members of the Conduct Committee. However, a model constitution is being prepared by the EBU; this will include disciplinary aspects, elections and changes on bye laws. The Conduct Committee was requested to give a progress report on the status of the EBU proposals, their thoughts on the changes proposed and subsequent timescales expected to complete the draft constitution to the July management meeting. Mr Roberts was thanked for his offer of assistance in the review process which was noted for the future.

16. EBU Matters

RB reported that at the meeting in February he had been pleased to note the new chairman's positive and active approach. This was endorsed by SB who stated that work was being done to provide revitalised services to clubs and core members and the proposals would be put to the autumn AGM. In addition the Laws and Ethics Committee were to introduce new regulations in the summer and an on-line survey of alerting and announcements was to be carried out in July.

17. Dates of Next Meetings

The following dates were agreed for 2007/08

Wed 25 Jul 07	at 1930	at Henfield Hall
Sun 14 Oct 07	at 1045	at West Sussex BC
Wed 9 Jan 08	at 1045	at Eastbourne BC (location to be confirmed)

18. Any Other Business

The President raised the need to improve the projection of results when using the Bridgemates on an overhead screen. It was agreed that some costings should be sought for both purchase and hire of suitable projection equipment and presented to the next management meeting.