
SUSSEX COUNTY CONTRACT BRIDGE ASSOCIATION

A meeting of the Committee of the SCCBA took place at the Worthing Bridge Club on
Wednesday 7 January 2009 starting at 1030

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 J Williams	Membership Secretary

Mr M Pool, Mr R Buddery, Mr P Bates, Mrs V Chandler, Mrs A Galpin, Mrs T Hennings,
Mrs H Kent, Mr P Pennant, Mrs D Strauss, and Mr M Wotton.

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from Mrs S Bugden, Mrs M Langmaid, Mrs N Gillespie, Mrs H Kent and Mrs C Watson.

2. Minutes of the meeting of 2 November 2008

2.1. Accuracy

Para 3.6 line 4 delete "Brian Stevens" and insert "Bryan Stephens"

Para 11 line 6 delete "Gwyn" and insert "Gwynne"

Para 16 line 2 delete "Petit" and insert "Pettit".

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

2.2. Matters Arising

Basic Bridge Rules (item 2.2.1). The card produced for the basic bridge competitions was now on the website. The responses to 4NT and Gerber needed to be amended. MP queried the use of a particular card as he felt this caused unease amongst beginners and could discourage players in the day. VC suggested that the simple card used at the St Barnabas Charity Pairs might be more suitable. MW proposed the card should be attached to the entry forms. It was agreed that this matter be referred to the Tournament Committee and NH will ask Bob Whiting to circulate a copy of the card to Tournament Committee members.

Action: NH

3. Chairman's Report

3.1 Storage of Equipment. The tables and stationery equipment have been moved to James and Sally Bugden's stables and are stored at no cost. The duplimate, cards, and boards are at Patcham. Peter Langston, Ian Macgregor and the Hindens have volunteered to do all the duplimating for the SCCBA at no cost. Letters of thanks and appreciation have been sent to Lord Newton, Julian Mitchell, the Bugdens, and Peter Langston.

3.2 Dennis Crouch. Our Vice President Mr Dennis Crouch has been moved into a nursing home in Cardiff.

(post meeting note: Dennis Crouch passed away on 10 Jan 09)

3.3 WSBC Building Project. Application has been made to WSCC for planning permission and a reply is expected at end Jan 09. However work is unlikely to start before 2010 as the Drama Club needs to raise £1m. WSBC has finance in place for their share. The Chairman confirmed again that SCCBA are part of the main agreement and will not be a sub let and will pay a proportionate share of the legal costs.

3.4 New Newsletter Editor. Bryan Stephens, the new newsletter editor has produced a splendid first copy which is now with the printers.

3.5 Education Coordinator. The Chairman reported that she had spoken to David Armstrong concerning the absence of education report at meetings last year and the attendance at Loughborough in 2008. Despite this he had sent no report to this meeting and no apologies for non-attendance had been received. As a result it was agreed that no further funding for Loughborough should be made available.

3.6 Scoring Programme. The problems with scoring at Swiss Pairs events had occurred again at East Grinstead. MW reported that he had experimented with Jeff Smith's programme and had the software update for it. However, it was agreed that as the Scorebridge fee was due for payment this month this should be done but the use of Jeff Smith's programme should be considered for the Spring Congress Swiss Pairs.

Action: EW

MW offered to put the New Year Swiss Team results onto ScoreBridge after the event and publish on the web site.

Action: MW

NH was still to seek a resolution of problems with the use of Bridgemates.

Action: NH

There seemed to be a shortage of people able and willing to help with scoring at events. JS will ask clubs with ScoreBridge if they have members prepared to score at county events. JC/JS/AG volunteered to learn. MP and EW offered to do a training session. JS will liaise on dates.

Action: JS

3.7 Proposal for new County Director. The Chairman proposed that ***** be approached to consider training for a county director. This was unanimously agreed and funding approved for the course.

4. Treasurer's Report

The bank balances stood at £5264 in the Current Account and £25755 in the High Interest Account. There is approx £1K of interest to be added. The end of year balance was expected to show a small surplus.

5. Secretary's Report

5.1. Gladys Hakki Nominations. There had been no nomination for a Gladys Hakki Award this year.

5.2. **Committee Nominations.** Nomination forms had been sent by email to all committee members for completion. As there was a vacancy on the committee all members were asked to canvas for new nominations.

5.3. **Kremer Dersch Event/P2P meeting.** There are currently 13 club teams entered. It was hoped to field 2 committee teams also. Most of these clubs have indicated that they will attend the P2P meeting in the morning.

5.4. **AGM Arrangements.** The draft agenda for the AGM was agreed and is attached to these minutes.

6. Membership Secretary's Report

6.1 Membership Numbers. There are currently 1276 members of the SCCBA and 32 dual members. A list of dual members has been sent to the Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Tournament Manager and Hon Sec. JW asked that copies of the newsletter should be sent to the dual members

Action: EW

6.2 P2P Meeting. All clubs had been contacted by email but there had been only one response/question. Noting the numbers attending the Kremer Dersch he intended to contact those again. JW expressed a concern that there was not enough attention being given to the benefits that Universal membership will bring to all. He felt that there was a need to get a more positive approach to the greater strength there will be in the depth of membership and that it was the morally right way forward. He had spoken to Sally Bugden and understood that there will be some additional information available shortly. The Treasurer proposed that, having examined the figures for previous years, the amount of contribution in the P2P fee for SCCBA subscription be set at 5p. This was unanimously agreed. The distribution costs of the county newsletter following the introduction of P2P and potential increase in membership numbers will need to be investigated and possible alternative means of distribution sought with the aim of a trial in October this year. It was agreed this should be an item for discussion at the next meeting.

Action: JS

7. EBU Matters.

The EBU member subscription for 2009/10 had been increased by £1 to £18 pa. Club affiliation fees remained unchanged. MP reported that discussions concerning charitable status for the EBU had continued and were now awaiting a government decision.

8. Tournament Committee Report.

NH reported that Ardingly was not available for the proposed dates for the EBU green point events in 2010. As the alternative venue at Clair Hall was considerably more expensive and the events were county events it was agreed by all members that the EBU should be approached and advised that the dates be changed to when Ardingly is available.

Action: NH

9. Selectors' Report

The Sandra Landy seminar had been very well attended. DG reported however that the performance of the Tollemache Team had been disappointing. A number of suggestions to give players more practice and match tournament experience before the event were raised by committee members. It was noted that the Metropolitan Cup will be later this year. The possible introduction of set dates for the Division 1 league matches with 2 matches per day was proposed. It was noted however that players do not always play in the best combinations in county events which makes selection more difficult. It was generally felt that there was a need to raise more interest in the Tollemache. It was agreed that the Tournament Committee should look into extra team trials to give more help to county players, consider asking for competition from other counties, and to take the Metropolitan Cup up to 48/49 boards.

Action: NH

10. Conduct Committee's Report

There was nothing to report.

11. Master Point Secretary's Report

There was nothing to report.

12. Communication Coordinator's Report

There was nothing to report.

13. Education Report

No report had been received.

14. Charities

The support of local charities rather than branches of national charities was felt to be more appropriate for SCCBA. After some discussion the Worthing churches project for the homeless and the Sussex Wildlife Trust were proposed to be the charities supported in 2009/10. This was unanimously agreed.

In order to publicise those charities to be supported by the annual sim pairs event VC asked that clubs be told of the nominated charities in advance. NH agreed that this should be done on the letter sent out to clubs concerning the event and would also be written on the handouts.

Action: NH

15. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Sunday 10 May at West Sussex Bridge Club commencing at 1030.

16. Any Other Business. There were no items of any other business.

SUSSEX COUNTY CONTRACT BRIDGE ASSOCIATION

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
at
UCKFIELD CIVIC CENTRE
on
SUNDAY 19th APRIL 2009
at 12.15pm**

1. Approval of minutes of AGM held on 20th April 2008
2. Matters arising from the minutes
3. Chairman's Report
4. Honorary Treasurer's Report
 - 4.1 Adoption of the Audited Annual Accounts
 - 4.2 Appointment of Honorary Auditor
 - 4.3 Subscriptions for the Year 2010 – 2011
5. Election of Officers
 - 5.1 Chairman
 - 5.2 Vice-Chairman
 - 5.3 Honorary Secretary
 - 5.4 Honorary Treasurer
 - 5.5 Honorary Membership Secretary
 - 5.6 Tournament Manager
6. Election of a Maximum of Fourteen Committee Members
7. EBU Implementation of P2P
8. Provision of new storage for equipment
9. Constitution
10. Any Other Business

There will be a prize giving ceremony after the formal business of the meeting is concluded.

All members of the SCCBA are invited to attend the AGM and can contribute to any item on the agenda. Refreshments will be provided.