

# SUSSEX COUNTY CONTRACT BRIDGE ASSOCIATION

**A meeting of the Management Committee of the SCCBA was held at Henfield Hall on  
Sunday 18 October 2009 starting at 1030**

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

Mr D Armstrong, Mr P Bates, Mrs V Chandler, Mrs A Galpin, Mrs H Kent Mr R Lowe, Mr P Pennant, Mr A Southwell, Mr R Whiting and Mr M Wotton.

## **1. Apologies**

Apologies were received from Mr M Pool, Mrs M Langmaid, Mr E Williams, Mr B Loasby, Mr R Buddery, Mrs T Hennings and Mrs C Watson.

## **2. Minutes of the meeting of 24 July 2009**

### **2.1 Accuracy**

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

### **2.2 Matters Arising**

**2.2.1 Constitution (Item 4.2).** The Hon Sec reported that a reply from Ray Roberts had been received. A copy will be sent to all committee members and an item will be placed on the next agenda to discuss this matter.

**Action: JS**

## **3. Chairman's Report**

The Chairman gave her report as follows:

- 3.1** With sadness the deaths of Beryl Pitman and Peter Wright were noted.
- 3.2** A letter from Margaret North had been received saying how touched she had been by the minutes silence for Freddie at Ardingly.
- 3.3** Brian Loasby had unfortunately been taken into hospital and the committee wished him a speedy recovery. PP had kindly agreed to continue to run the Teams of Eight competition.
- 3.4** A new club, the Harlequin Bridge Club, had affiliated to the EBU and SCCBA. This was most welcome news.
- 3.5** The autumn newsletter had been distributed to clubs and she thanked MW for his prompt work in putting the newsletter onto the website.
- 3.6** The Autumn Congress had run successfully at Patcham, but there were some teething problems to be sorted out with the venue. The TC were discussing these and the way ahead for this event. PL was thanked for all his hard work and for being willing to run it again in 2010.

- 3.7** Congratulations were due to the successful team who won the Metropolitan Cup for Sussex for the first time; and also to the Sussex C team who won their section and will go forward to a regional final. There were no trophies given at this competition and HK was asked to look into the spare trophies held at present and report to the next committee meeting if any are available.  
**Action: HK**
- 3.8** Only 2 entries had been received for the Devonshire Cup this year. The committee reluctantly agreed that this was not enough to run the event and it should be cancelled. The TC was asked to look into reintroducing this as a heat event after the introduction of P2P.  
**Action: NH**
- 3.9** There had been a noticeable falling off of numbers at county events and she asked this be given urgent attention. The committee agreed that there should be a special TC meeting set up to review this and report back to the next management meeting.  
**Action: NH**

#### **4. Secretary's Report**

- 4.1 Club Affiliation.** The position of projected club affiliations in Sussex was reported as follows:  
 30 clubs have replied affirmative  
 6 negative (ABCD/Arun/Cowfold/Ferring/Hailsham/Southdown)  
 2 unknown –Crawley Horticultural Society Bridge Group/Sovereign  
*Post meeting note : Crawley Horticultural Society will not be affiliating after P2P)*  
 1 new – Harlequin

- 4.2 Dimmie Fleming Award.** The Hon Sec asked members to consider nominations for the Dimmie Fleming Award which is given annually by the EBU.

*"The intent of award is to publicly recognise those people who do not hold an official (ie EBU Office) but who have worked hard for bridge (over say 20 years or so) at County and Club level"*

**Action: All**

- 4.3 Gladys Hakki.** Committee members were reminded of the annual Gladys Hakki award made by the SCCBA and that the *intent of the award is to recognise a member of the county who has given their time, service, and contributed generally to bridge.*

Nominations from clubs (and county committee members) are sought and should be made in writing to Secretary SCCBA by 1 December\* annually (can accept up to 31 Dec this year). Nomination forms are obtainable from the Hon Secretary SCCBA (and will be available on the web site) and will be sent to all club secretaries in October. The Management Committee will consider the nominations received annually at their meeting in January.

A list of past recipients of the award was requested by the committee.

**Action: JS**

- 4.3 Trophies.** The timing of the presentation of trophies had been raised by HK as this appeared to vary from competition to competition. It was agreed that

the Tournament Committee should review this and HK was asked to provide a list of the trophies for the next meeting in March.

**Action: HK NH**

## **5. Treasurer's Report**

The bank balances stood at £7882 in the Current Account and £27181 in the Interest Account. This decrease from last meeting is as a result of bills being paid for Green Point event at Clair Hall in July and the subsidy given to the juniors to go to Loughborough. Donations had been made on behalf of the SCCBA to Freddie North's memorial fund and to the St James Hospice in memory of Beryl Pitman.

## **6. EBU Matters.**

The Hon Sec reported from the recent EBU Shareholders AGM:

- Sussex continued to be well represented at the EBU following the re-election of Sally Bugden as Chairman, Martin Pool as Board Member and Peter Baxter onto the Selection Committee
- The proposal to accept the revised bye-laws incorporating the changes made necessary by universal membership was carried nem con.
- A meeting of County Chairmen is to be held in February to discuss the proposed EBU Charity conversion and registration and other issues that affect the development of the game at county level
- It had been re-affirmed that county level events were not P2P. The position of regular county events such as the Invitation Pairs was raised and TC asked to check.

**Action: NH**

- The EBU web site is being amended to allow access to certain areas by members only. Details of this and all software change progress are available on the EBU website blog.
- Counties were asked to encourage their clubs to have proper constitutions with disciplinary procedures and complaint procedures. The EBU can offer advice.

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

The membership officer reported that to date 134 past members had not renewed their subscription this year and one club. The falling numbers was a cause for concern and should be addressed as soon as P2P is in place.

## **8. Tournament Committee Report**

**8.1 Chief Tournament Director.** Following discussion at the recent Tournament Committee it had been agreed that NH propose to the Management Committee that an appointment of Chief Tournament Director for the county should be made with the following terms of reference:

- To appoint Directors for county events in consultation with the event organisers.
- To train and update County Directors on regulations, laws and the Orange Book
- To be responsible for training on Bridgemates.

This was seconded by JW. After some discussion it was proposed and agreed and that this was not an officer appointment and that the appointment could and should be made by the management committee and with immediate effect.

Accordingly the appointment of Eddie Williams as Chief Tournament Director was proposed by JW and seconded by PB. This was agreed.

**8.2 David Pavey qualifications.** The qualifications for participation in the David Pavey final required membership of the EBU. In view of the forthcoming P2P it had been suggested that this be suspended for this year. This was proposed by AG and seconded by VC and the committee agreed.

**8.3 Venture Pairs.** A revised card had been agreed by the TC and the Hon Sec would be arranging for copies to be available at events and on the web site.

## **9. Selectors' Report**

The recent minutes had been circulated – nothing further to report.

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

Nothing to report.

## **11. Master Point Secretary's Report**

MW expressed considerable concerns regarding what he saw as an almost complete lack of guidance from the EBU regarding the use of the new P2P upload process by counties, leaving them to guess what they needed to do to upload results. In particular he was also concerned that there would still be non-members at county events after April 1st. The Committee felt (mistakenly) that there would not be any but also they did not feel as a body that they were able to help with the level of detail MW required. JC offered to take the matter further at the Chairmen's meeting with the EBU in February if the matter remained unresolved. The meeting then raised a question on how to deal with juniors under the new arrangements. PB agreed to follow this up.

**Action: PB**

## **12. Communication Coordinator's Report**

The Chairman reported on behalf of CW:

There had been much success in publicity with the Mid Sussex Times including photos. She urged organisers to take photos (on camera not phone please) at events if she was not present and send them with a report to her and a copy to the newsletter editor. She also asked that reports for the EBU magazine be very precise as words were limited.

## **13. Education Report**

The Education Coordinator made the following report:

- This year 12 youngsters had attended Loughborough and DA thanked the committee for their sponsorship of the children at this event and Blatchington Mill School for the provision of the mini bus. Two of the children had played in the Top Guns and been invited to go to Manchester for further tuition.

- A report on bridge for youth in Sussex has been made in the latest county newsletter. In addition DA reported that he has been invited to attend the inset day for all Brighton schools in March and hopes to persuade schools then to put bridge onto the maths syllabus. He is looking at similar occasions to speak to Eastbourne, Crawley and Worthing schools.
- Four children had played at the autumn congress at Patcham.
- A grant of £250 had been received from the Educational Trust for British Bridge following a report made by DA on Sussex youth at Loughborough and with this a group of children are being taken to play at Young Chelsea later this month.

The committee thanked DA for his hard work. The growing numbers of children playing at schools was most commendable and welcomed however there was a need to encourage clubs to be more welcoming to young players.

#### **14. Charities**

VC reported that she had asked the newsletter editor to do a feature on supporting charities next year and proposed that MW put information on the website. The selection of charities for support in 2010/11 was being considered and VC gave some details on two possible ones – Lord Snowdon Awards (to assist in FE of the physically disabled) and Crossroads (carers for the carers). The committee expressed a wish for support to be given to “Sussex” charities. VC pointed out that at least 9 charities that have been supported in recent years have been the Sussex groups of national charities. VC will bring firm proposals to the next meeting.

**Action: VC**

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

The next meeting will be held on Friday 8 Jan 2010 commencing at 1030 at Worthing Bridge Club.

#### **16. Any Other Business**

There were no items of any other business.