
SUSSEX COUNTY CONTRACT BRIDGE ASSOCIATION

A meeting of the Committee of the SCCBA took place at The Henfield Hall on Friday 24 July 2009 starting at 1900.

Present:

Mr E Williams	Vice Chairman (in the chair)
Miss J Simpson	Hon Secretary
Mr D Galpin	Hon Treasurer
Mr N Hardy	Tournament Manager
Mr J Williams	Membership Secretary

Mr P Bates, Mrs V Chandler, Mrs A Galpin, Mrs T Hennings, Mr R Lowe, Mr P Pennant, Mrs D Strauss and Mr R Whiting.

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from Mr M Pool, Mrs J Clinton, Mrs M Langmaid, Mr D Armstrong, Mr B Loasby, Mr R Buddery, Mrs H Kent and Mr M Wotton.

2. Minutes of the meeting of 10 May 2009

2.1 Accuracy

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

2.2 Matters Arising

2.2.1 Revised Master Point System. The EBU consultation paper had been circulated to all clubs and the committee members. It was agreed that the proposals looked promising and awards at different levels were welcomed. However members felt that the timing of the introduction at the same time as P2P was ambitious. RW had highlighted a number of details that need to be addressed before implementation and it was agreed to forward his letter to the EBU in response to their request for county response. Other points and questions raised which will also be passed to the EBU were

- How will those not currently EBU members find a correct status, and can they register MPs issued prior to April 2010?
- There was a need to define “open” and “closed” events.
- The MP handbook will need major change before implementation
- What will be the status of the existing black point scale – maintained or discarded?

3. Chairman’s Report

EW made a report on behalf of the Chairman

3.1 Freddie North.

It had been very sad to hear of the death of Freddie North, our President for 30 years. A minute's silence had been held at the Ardingly Summer Event in memory of him. JC had spoken to Margaret, his widow, and she had said how very touched she was by this gesture. Members of the SCCBA committee had attended the funeral (unfortunately JC had been struck down with swine flu at the time) and a donation of £100 from the county has been made to Freddie North Memorial Fund at Worthing Bridge Club.

3.2 Autumn Congress.

Entry forms have been sent to all members and clubs. Please tell your club members that it is not necessary to be a member of Sussex to play and encourage as many as possible to give their support.

3.3 Newsletter.

A very good job is being done by Bryan Stephens. There have been some negative comments from members about the distribution of the October newsletter to clubs. However it is hoped that some non members will have a chance to enjoy it then.

3.4 Tournament Organisers.

BL has taken on the role as organiser of the Teams of Eight. Julian Mitchell has agreed to be the organiser for the next Chairman's Cup.

4. Secretary's Report

4.1 Dimmie Flemming Award.

The committee had no nominations for this year's Dimmie Flemming Award. It was agreed to place this item on the next agenda for consideration of next year's award.

Action: JS

4.2 Constitution.

The EBU had approved on 7 Jul 09 the change to the constitution agreed at the AGM with the following changes

- Reference changes para 26 to refer to para 25 and para 28 to refer to para 27
- In new clause 11 "fees" to be changed to "subscriptions".

The Committee agreed to the suggestion by MP that as the meaning had not been changed it was reasonable for the changes to be in force until the next Annual General Meeting can formally approve them. The changes were therefore agreed on behalf of members and the amended constitution will be logged with the EBU.

Action: JS

The Hon Sec was asked to contact Mr Roberts re his offer to review the current and model constitutions (see item 6.1 of last minutes)

Action: JS

4.3 Partner Teacher Club – Harlequin Bridge Club.

An email has been received from Andrew Petit asking if the Harlequin Bridge Club teaching club, where all players are required to be members of the EBU, was known and/or should be known to the SCCBA. The committee felt that if the county is to formally recognise the club then it must be affiliated to the SCCBA. Once affiliated then information about the club can be placed on the website and included in the calendar and newsletter.

4.4 Autumn Newsletter.

Clubs will be circulated shortly with the number of copies they will receive for distribution of the October Newsletter. If possible the newsletter will also be placed on the website. JS to confirm with MW.

Action: JS

4.5 P2P Affiliating Clubs

To date 15 clubs have told the secretary they are affiliating to EBU for P2P.

(post meeting note – a further 3 have now affiliated)

5. Treasurer's Report

The bank balances stood at £9140 in the Current Account and £27031 in the Interest Account (currently at 1.05%). These show an increase of approx £2K since the last meeting largely due to profits from the Green Point Events.

Donations of £500 each have been made to selected charities.

6. Membership Secretary's Report

The number of members paid up to date was 1049 and there were a further 274 unpaid. Reminder letters will be sent at end of July. JW reminded the committee that there will be a 2 month delay in receipts for membership after the introduction of P2P.

7. Tournament Committee Report

NH reported that two members had shown interest in becoming county directors. EW stated that a refresher course was still under consideration and he was seeking input from directors.

Changes to the laws and Orange Book come into force on 1 Aug 09 and EW will notify county directors.

Action: EW

The organiser job lists are being updated.

Action: NH

To assist in the reformulation of the Chairman's Cup EW offered to look at qualifications required to participate and will report to the next Tournament Committee Meeting.

Action: EW

8. Selectors' Report

DG reported that two meetings had been held since the last meeting. The May minutes had been circulated. The second meeting was held this week and the Metropolitan Cup players have been selected. The Tollemache Team will be selected at the next meeting. It was planned to have a training day in the spring.

9. Conduct Committee's Report

The management committee ratified the appointment of Harold Linfield to the Conduct Committee.

10. Master Point Secretary

MW had informed the Hon Sec there was nothing to report.

11. Communication Coordinator's Report

Nothing to report.

12. Education Report

The Hon Sec reported that a flyer had been sent to all clubs about "Family & Friends Days" to be held in July at the Avenue. The committee expressed concern at the absence of a report from DA on this and other junior projects at this meeting and asked that a full report be made at the next meeting.

Action: DA

13. Charities

The charities for this year were confirmed as the Sussex Wildlife Trust and the Worthing Project for the Homeless. VC will send information about them to NH for inclusion in the newsletter and flyers before the charity event in the New Year and with the handout.

Action: VC

14. EBU Matters

The Hon Sec briefed the committee on items from the last Shareholders meeting including JV funding share, Revision of Byelaws, progress on EBU charitable status and the New Grading System being proposed by the EBU. Members requested copies of NGS be copied to them..

Action: JS

Revisions to the EBU Bye Laws will be put to the Shareholders for approval at the AGM in October. The Committee agreed that the Officers should review the revisions and advise Sussex shareholders on their vote.

Action: Officers

15. Date and Venue of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Sunday 18 Oct 09 at West Sussex BC commencing at 1030.

16. Any Other Business

There were no items of any other business.