

SUSSEX COUNTY CONTRACT BRIDGE ASSOCIATION

A meeting of the Management Committee of the SCCBA took place at West Sussex Bridge Club on Sunday 2nd November 2008 starting at 1030

Present:

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

Mrs A Galpin, Mrs N Gillespie, Mrs H Kent, Mrs D Strauss, Mrs C Watson, and Mr M Wotton. Mrs B Herold was also present.

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from Mr M Pool, Mr E Williams, Mr P Bates, Mrs S Bugden, Mrs V Chandler, Mrs T Hennings, Mrs M Langmaid and Mr P Pennant.

2. Minutes of the meeting of 27 July 2008

2.1 Accuracy

Para 3.7 line 3 should read "no *Friday* afternoon events...".

Para 8 second para. Delete and insert "*One team had taken up the SCCBA subsidy of the entry fee at the Spring Fours and this team had done well, finishing 7th despite only being seeded 32nd. DG proposed that this arrangement be continued for 3 years. This was unanimously agreed.*"

Para 12 last line should read "the support of SCCBA would be acknowledged."

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

2.2 Matters Arising

2.2.1 Basic Bridge Rules (item 7.1). EW had produced a convention card which had been circulated to the committee. This card was agreed and JS was asked to produce 500 copies. These would be given to NH who would make them available to all Basic Bridge organisers.

Action: JS/NH

2.2.2 Ferring BC (item 4.4). The Chairman had contacted Ferring BC and established that they did not want their details to be entered into the SCCBA calendar but should they wish to join the SCCBA they will contact the Hon Secretary. The club affiliated to the EBU only to obtain a reduction in insurance.

2.2.3 Postage Overcharges (item 3.5). Only 2 claims had been received and these had been paid.

2.2.4 Letter from West Sussex BC (item 15.3). Members have pointed out that this para infers that the SCCBA Management Committee has acted

against the democratic process that underpins its constitution. This is emphatically not the case. The process of coming to a decision on P2P was fair and unambiguous. The Committee's recommendation was clearly laid out in the minutes of the management meeting of 27 April 2008. The final decision was taken at the members meeting on 19 May 2008. It was agreed that a further letter to West Sussex should be sent and be signed by the Chairman.

Action: JC

3. Chairman's Report

3.1 EBU AGM. The Chairman attended the EBU AGM in October as proxy for the Hon Sec who was overseas. Mrs S Bugden had been elected Chairman of the EBU and congratulations from Sussex had been given. Mrs Bugden had asked that her thanks for the support of Sussex be recorded.

3.2 P2P. A request from the EBU had been received to nominate an individual from the Management Committee who will be responsible for P2P liaison between clubs and the county committee to help clubs in terms of the county aspects of P2P. JW as Membership Secretary kindly volunteered to do this.

Action: JW

3.3 Storage of Equipment. A letter had been received from Lord Newton indicating the Avenue BC needed the space currently used by SCCBA for storage. The Chairman stated that we had been extremely fortunate to have an offer of storage space from the Bugdens at no cost. Mr P Langston (Chairman Patcham BC) had offered to have the duplimate boards, machine and computer stored at Patcham BC under a similar arrangement as that at the Avenue. In addition he will duplimate all the boards required for Sussex events. The contents of the room have already been reviewed by JC, JS and Mr Langston. It is proposed that NH should hold all the Bridgemates. The Chairman informed the committee that arrangements have been made for Malcolm Wright to move the furniture on Nov 11th. The committee thanked the Bugdens and Mr Langston for their generous offers and endorsed the arrangements in place. It was agreed the Chairman would ask the equipment officer to make an inventory of the items being moved and give a review of the position and ordering of stationary goods.

Action: JC

Further it was agreed that letters of appreciation should be written to Lord Newton, Julian Mitchell, the Bugdens and Peter Langston.

Action: JC

3.4 WSBC Building Project. Clarification on the points raised at the last management meeting has been received. SCCBA will be a licensee under the agreement. Maintenance will be undertaken by WSCC Education Department and should they move/close the school and terminate the license compensation will be payable to the SCCBA. Further WSBC have now decided to go ahead with the project and storage at the Avenue Bridge Club is no longer available (see previous item). The Chairman has therefore in accordance with the agreement at the last meeting informed WSBC of the SCCBA's wish to have storage space in the new building and that legal costs will be shared with WSBC on a proportional basis to space occupied. To keep members informed the Chairman will place an article in the next newsletter.

Action: JC

3.5 Directors' Course. A letter of thanks has been received from David Cross.

3.6 Newsletter Editor. Due to the increased work as a result of her election as Chairman of EBU SB has reluctantly resigned as Newsletter Editor. The Chairman thanked her for all the work she had done and informed the committee that Mr Bryan Stephens had volunteered to become editor; the committee expressed their grateful thanks to him.

3.7 Novice Swiss Teams Master Points. The master points have now been awarded and the venue is being changed for next year.

3.8 Autumn Congress. The Chairman thanked CW for all her hard work.

3.9 Loughborough Youth Weekend. A short report had been received from DA stating that only 4 children had participated at a cost to the county of approx £1K. The committee considered that the method of funding for next year would need to be reconsidered and asked the Chairman to contact DA to discuss this.

Action: JC

4. Secretary's Report

4.1 Amendments to Calendar. These were sent to all members in August

4.2 Basic Bridge events. The names of two teachers have been received, Barbara Herold and David Gostyn. JS will inform the organisers to send Basic Bridge entry forms to them and to Beryl Pitman.

Action: JS

4.3 Distribution of Newsletter. Only three replies were received on the proposal to change the distribution of the newsletter. – two wishing to have newsletter sent directly to them and one to their club. It was agreed to take no further action at this stage.

4.4 New Law Books. These have now been sent to Arun, Rottingdean and Crawley. Dg reported that Mid Sussex and Crowborough have also paid their fees and EW should send them the law books.

Action: EW

4.5 Kremer Dersch Trophy. It was agreed that club representatives should be invited to a meeting at 1115* on the day of the Kremer Dersch event (15 Feb 09) at which JW will explain the proposals to implement P2P in the county. JS will send out the invitation to all club secretaries with the Kremer Dersch notice. Light refreshments will be provided.

Action:

JS/JW

**post meeting note – now arranged for 1130*

5. Treasurer's Report

The bank balances stood at £5728 in the current account and £25655 in the High Interest Account. It was expected that the end of year balance would be very slightly better than last year. The increases in Directors' fees had been notified to all concerned.

6. EBU Matters

The Chairman welcomed Barbara Herold to the meeting. She was attending to inform the committee about the EBU committee set up to directly liaise with the EBU and all bridge clubs in order to facilitate the transition into the new era of universal membership and P2P. She was the South East representative and her role was to bring to the attention of clubs any matters on which the EBU needs feedback and to listen to what the clubs wanted and their needs from the EBU. Her immediate concern was the level of the county contribution to P2P. It was agreed that this should be agreed at the next management meeting and the Treasurer was asked to make a recommendation for approval.

Action: DG

There was concern too that some clubs were thinking of disaffiliating. JW as the SCCBA Management Committee representative on P2P matters agreed to work with Barbara Herold to try to ensure that all clubs were fully informed of the proposed way ahead. He would give an update on progress and reactions to the proposals to the SCCBA Officers before the AGM.

Action: JW

Barbara Herold requested a full list of names and addresses of all affiliated clubs in the county to ensure that none were overlooked.

Action: JS

The Chairman thanked Barbara for attending the meeting and said that it was most important that we should all keep in close communication as the plans for P2P.

7. Membership Secretary's Report

JW reported that he was working hard to get a complete set of records of members from the EBU but there were some anomalies with the records of those who paid via SCCBA.

8. Tournament Committee Report

8.1 Autumn Congress 2009. The Tournament Manager reported that there had been a decline in attendance at the Autumn Congress at Steyning over the last few years. He had received a proposal from the Chairman of Patcham BC to run the congress there. Patcham could provide room for 50 tables and had volunteered to organise the event. Two rooms could be made available at less than half the cost at Steyning. It was agreed that as Patcham would be a more central venue than Steyning the congress should be held there in 2009 and the offer of the Chairman of Patcham BC to organise the event should be gratefully accepted.

8.2 Devonshire Cup and Plate. The Tournament Manager reported that the Devonshire Cup event at the Autumn Congress had not been popular or in the spirit of the event. It was agreed therefore that clubs should be invited to run heats again and that a final would be held at which the winners would take the Cup and the runners up the plate. NG as the organiser will write to all affiliated clubs informing them of this.

Action: NG

9. Selectors' Report

DG reported that 5 pairs had been selected for the Tollemache team this year and that a seminar to be given by Sandra Landy had been arranged for 20 players on 8 Nov.

10. Conduct Committee's Report

There was nothing to report.

11. Master Point Secretary's Report

Once again there had been a problem with the uploading of results from the Autumn Congress as the director had used Jeff Smith's programme and not ScoreBridge as requested. As a result some of the EBU numbers and some awards were incorrect and in the case of the Swiss Teams the scoring had been done manually. It was agreed that the scoring to be used at the Spring Congress must be agreed and laid down at the next management meeting in January to enable any problems to be sorted out in advance. MW will speak to Gwynne Hughes at the EBU about software to be used with Jeff Smith's programme for scoring and NH should contact Stephen Bligh to ask for a solution to the ScoreBridge problems with Swiss Teams.

Action: NH/MW

12. Communication Coordinator's Report

Despite many efforts to get copy into the Middie there had been no success. However CW was pleased to report that the recent edition of Club Focus had carried an article about our Gladys Hakki award to Phyl White.

13. Education Report

In the absence of the education coordinator there was no report.

14. Charities

The Hon Sec stated on behalf of VC that there was nothing to report.

15. Date and Venue of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Wed 7 Jan 2009 at Worthing BC commencing at 1030.

16. Any Other Business

16.1 Minutes on the website. It was reiterated that the minutes of SCCBA meetings should only be placed on the website when approved.

16.2 Welcome Pairs. The player teacher club at Haywards Heath which is run by A Pettit will be entering them into the Welcome Pairs at Uckfield. SB is continuing to organise this event.