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# SUSSEX COUNTY CONTRACT BRIDGE ASSOCIATION

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A meeting of the Management Committee of the SCCBA was held at the Eastbourne  
Bridge Club on Wednesday 9 January 2008 starting at 1045

**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 M Pool, Mr R Buddery, Mr D Armstrong, Mr P Bates, Mrs V Chandler, Mrs A Galpin,  
Mrs H Kent, Mr P Pennant, Mrs C Watson, Mr M Wotton,

**1. Apologies**

Apologies were received from Mrs M Langmaid, Mr D Clifton, Mrs S Bugden, Mrs N Gillespie, Mr A Southwell and Mrs D Strauss.

**2. Minutes of the meeting of 14 October 2007**

**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 Training of Directors (Item 2.2.1).** A training day for county and club directors will be held by EW on Saturday 7 June 2008 from 1000-1530 at West Sussex Bridge Club. Refreshments will be provided. In addition, MP and EW offered training to county directors in Bridgemates scoring and Scorebridge. JS to publicise

**Action: JS EW**

**2.2.2 Ladies Pairs at Patcham (Item 16).** JC has spoken to Patcham about the misunderstanding over the booking offer events to be held there. The Ladies Pairs event went well it has been agreed that no more events should be scheduled at Patcham.

**3. Chairman's Report**

**3.1 Visits to Clubs.** Visits to Bognor and to Burgess Hill have been arranged to hear queries on the EBU strategy and functions of the EBU.

**3.2 West Sussex Building Project.** Nothing to report.

**3.3 New Year Teams Event.** Following concerns raised at the Steyning Congress she was keen to make the New Year event a success. CW assured the meeting that all arrangements were in place and EW offered to be the scorer.

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

**4.1 Gladys Hakki Nominations.** One nomination for the Gladys Hakki had been received by JS – Phyl White from Eastbourne Club. *Phyl was a founder member of Eastbourne Club and has been an active member ever since. She has served on the committee as secretary and President and has taught bridge in the club and at home. She will be 100 on 4 August 2008 and is still playing and teaching.* The award of the trophy to her was unanimously agreed. JC will contact her and PP agreed to get a photo and article written for the website and to send to the EBU.

**Action: JC PP**

**4.2 Committee Nominations/AGM.** The annual returns for the committee and agenda for the AGM were agreed (and are attached). There are vacancies on the committee and members were asked to encourage nominations. To promote participation in heats it was agreed that JS should write to the event organisers once the dates have been received for the calendar.

**Action: JS**

**4.3 EBU Shareholders.** JS had received a query at the last AGM concerning that the SCCBA Chairman (JC) was not a Shareholder. It was agreed that the current Sussex EBU Shareholders (RB, PB and JS) should stand but should be reconsidered in the appointment of county appointments following the AGM.

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

The bank balances stood at £5000 in the current account and £24700 in the High Interest account. The Treasurer is forecasting a breakeven/small surplus for the end of year figures. MP opined that the absence of surplus which had been available in earlier years was due to reduced entries in competitions and to the Tollemache extra entries.

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

On behalf of the Membership Secretary JS gave his report. The current primary Sussex membership (7 Jan 08) was 1384 comprising

Bridge for all	186
Full Members	1213
Under 25	1
Under 17	4

In addition there were 21 dual members and 43 affiliated clubs (this includes one rubber bridge club). It was noted that Early Bird BC, Ham Manor GC, Hearts Bridge Circle and Saltdean Saturday Night were no longer affiliated. JS was requested to email the list of dual members to all committee members and to ask DC to confirm that dual members are checked for EBU membership.

**Action: JS DC**

#### **7. Tournament Committee Report**

NH reported that Ardingly is not available for the JV Swiss teams in July and he suggested that other options for a green pointed event in Sussex should be considered. This was agreed and referred to the Tournament Committee. Further he reported that there had been a fall in numbers at both Steyning and Chichester last year. It was pointed out that Sussex holds more closed congresses than other counties; however it was agreed that these events were much valued and should be continued. PP proposed that a Swiss Teams event should be held over two days at the autumn congress – this was referred to the Tournament Committee. JC stated that she will be writing an article in the newsletter hoping to encourage more participation in events.

**Action: NH JC**

To improve the scoring at Congresses an extra server was requested by MP – cost £200-£250. This was approved.

## **8. Selectors' Report**

The selectors' report that had been circulated previously was noted. Sussex had finished 4<sup>th</sup> in their group in Tollemache and were therefore not in the final. Selection for the Metropolitan Cup was in progress. MP asked if the expenses paid for petrol (currently £35 per car) were enough. It was agreed that this money was intended to be a contribution to the expenses, not to cover them. DA expressed concern over the poor results in the Tollemache this year and noted that the training weekend with Sandra Landy had not been taken up. It was agreed that selection should be made so that players are notified in time to attend such training periods.

**Action: DG**

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

Nothing to report.

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

Books of master points are currently available to be used at county events in clubs (rule 7 P21 of calendar). MW pointed out that only one club, Crowborough used this. It was agreed that with direct debiting of points becoming more used that the provision of such books should be discontinued and Rule 7 para (1) should be deleted and para (2) should read "*At the semi finals and finals of county events master points will be issued by the Master Point Secretary at the conclusion of the competition*". NH will inform Crowborough BC.

**Action: NH**

EW to note for the next calendar and MW to publish the change on the website.

**Action: MW EW**

## **11. Communication coordinator's Report**

A number of articles had been sent to local press but not published. However DA was praised for the excellent article that was published on Loughborough. CW informed the committee that the EBU were seeking articles on unusual pursuits by members. It was agreed that PP arrange for an article to be written on Phyl White (see item 4.1 above). Further JS should ask all secretaries for information which should be sent to the website.

**Action: JS**

## **12. Education Report**

**12.1 Strategy for Youth Education.** DA considered that more regular events were needed for the young players and proposed that three a year be arranged (in school holidays). It was felt that the money approved by Sandra Landy for youth education could be used for such an event and DA was tasked to provide a costed proposal asap.

**Action: DA**

**12.2 Annual Junior Bridge Competition.** DA reported that this had been held last weekend but numbers had been reduced to 2 tables due to sickness. The winners had received a plaque and DA was asked to provide a photo and report to CW.

**Action: DA**

**12.3 Loughborough 2008.** Following on from the previous year's success DA requested that the county provide some support for children going to Loughborough again. After considerable discussion it was agreed that up to £2000 should be made available and that DA/DG should discuss the final details.

**Action: DA/DG**

## **13. Charities.**

VC proposed that the **The Ferring Country Centre**, an independent charity providing meaningful work experience for young people with learning difficulties, and **ASSERT(B&H)** a local group providing support, education, resources and training to people with Asperger Syndrome, be the charities supported in 2009. These were both agreed and VC thanked for the work she had done in getting the information about them.

## **14. EBU Matters**

JS had circulated the EBU questionnaire on the proposed strategy to all duplicate clubs and had summarised the responses in a paper (attached) sent to committee members. Of the 42 duplicate clubs affiliated responses had been received from 27. Two (Eastbourne and Crawley HS) had expressed a doubt about affiliating under the new strategy.

DA expressed concern that the EBU were not always listening to club views on regulations and announcements etc. MP explained that regulations may be varied by clubs for local use and that the changes in laws being introduced were very small and had implications for directors rather than players.

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

The next meeting will be held on Sunday 27 April 2008 at the Eastbourne Bridge Club commencing at 1030.

## **16. Any Other Business**

**16.1 Calendar 2008/09.** EW would be available and volunteered to do the calendar for 2008/09. PB and JS were thanked for their hard work in putting together the calendar for 2007/08.

**16.2 Entry Forms.** The production of entry forms has been handed over to EW. MP was thanked for his hard work.

