
SUSSEX COUNTY CONTRACT BRIDGE ASSOCIATION

A meeting of the Management Committee of the SCCBA was held at the West Sussex Bridge Club on Sunday 14th October 2007 starting at 1045.

Present:

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

Mr M Pool, Mrs M Langmaid, Mrs S Bugden, Mrs A Galpin, Mrs H Kent, Mr A Southwell, Mrs D Strauss, Mr M Wooton, Mr R Roberts (delegate)

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from Mr E Williams, Mr P Bates, Mrs V Chandler, Mrs N Gillespie, Mr P Pennant, and Mrs C Watson.

2. Minutes of the meeting of 25th July 2007

2.1 Accuracy

Para 3.3 to read Swiss Pairs event

Para 8.1 line 4 delete "Treasurer" and insert "Chairman of the Selection committee"

Add new para 17.4 "DG proposed that the Aspergers Syndrome Society be considered for one of our charities for 2009. Details were given to VC.

The minutes were then 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). The need for a course for county and club directors to cover, amongst other things, Scorebridge, the use of Bridgemates and Best Behaviour was reiterated. MP volunteered to arrange a course in November and NH to contact all club and county directors.

2.2.2 Licensed events on SCCBA Website (Item 3.2). JS will be asking for information on EBU licensed events on the annual request form for information to clubs.

2.2.3 Financial subsidy for leading county players (Item 8.1). The position of teams if they win was raised by MP. This was referred for later discussion following the completion of the trial period.

2.2.4 Website (Item 11.2). JC thanked MW for agreeing to take on the position of Webmaster.

2.2.5 Charities (Item 14). VC was requested to provide information on the charities being supported for the website and newsletter.

3. Chairman's Report

3.1 Dimmie Fleming Award. Kay Batting had received a Dimmie Fleming Award and it had been presented at the EBU AGM last week. JC had received a letter from Kay thanking all for their support.

3.2 Steyning Congress. Some complaints had been received about the directing and scoring at the Steyning Congress; NH is investigating these. In addition Bridgemates and Scorebridge had not been used. The committee agreed that the use of these should be mandatory at county events. The matter was referred to the Tournament Committee to provide guidance and instruction (when necessary) for future events.

3.3 Weissburger Trophy. Mr M Weissburger had donated a trophy for the winners of the Sussex League Division 1 and had presented it personally at the Steyning Congress to this year's winners.

3.4 Communication with clubs. Contact with many clubs in Sussex had been made concerning the EBU P2P proposals. Together with MW a meeting with the EBU had been held to discuss the feelings of Sussex members and clubs on the proposals. JC thanked MW for his hard work in collating all the comments.

3.5 Loughborough 2007. A card from all the children attending Loughborough 2007 had been received thanking the committee for their support.

3.6 St Wilfrid's Hospice. A letter of thanks had been received from St Wilfrid's Hospice following the presentation of a cheque for £500 to their chief fundraiser.

4. Treasurer's Report

The bank balances stood at £8124 in the Current account and £24034 in the High Interest account. There were outstanding payments due for Loughborough 2007 (£1000+) and Tollemache Cup (£1000+). No further major sources of income were due this year. The Treasurer is forecasting a breakeven/small surplus for the end of year figures.

5. Selectors Report

The selectors' report which had been circulated previously was noted. Due to the lack of availability of most of the Tollemache team members on the date arranged for the Sandra Landy seminar it had been cancelled. DG agreed to email the names of the Tollemache team to MW for the website.

6. EBU Matters

Strategy and P2P Proposals

SB outlined as follows the progress of the EBU strategy proposals put to Shareholders in Jun 07 and the plan to revise the proposals to seek approval of the membership at a Shareholders' EGM scheduled for 4 Jun 2008.

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| Jun - Sep 07 | Met 39 counties to discuss and hear comments on the original proposals |
| End Sep 07 | Revised proposals issued to Shareholders and published on EBU website. |
| 3 Oct 07 | AGM. Revised proposals discussed and it was agreed that universal membership should be sought. A plan for further data collection followed by the production of final proposals for approval at an EGM on 4 Jun 08 was set up. |
| Nov 07 – Jan 08 | Further data collection and consultation with clubs. All clubs will be circulated via county secretaries. Replies are requested direct to the EBU by end Jan |

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| Feb- Apr 08 | Production of final proposals to include financial appraisal and transition plan and approval of Board of directors |
| By 1 May 08 | Clubs receive final proposals |
| 4 Jun 08 | EGM to seek approval of the shareholders for implementation of the strategy proposals. |

SB emphasised that the status quo was no longer an option. The EBU was losing 1000 members a year. It must be restructured to provide a sound basis *“to elevate and maintain the status and procure the advancement of the game of bridge in England.”*

Following some discussion about how to communicate the proposals and seek the views of members in Sussex it was agreed that:

- a. JS would inform all clubs of the timetable above and refer them to the papers on the EBU web site (clubs not on email will be sent a copy of the outline paper and executive summary).
- b. Between now and end Apr JC would visit any club wishing to have discussions on the proposals.
- c. An EGM of the SCCBA will be held on 10 May 08 at Ardingly to consider and vote upon the final proposals as to be received by 1 May 08 from the EBU.
- d. MP would be available for to discuss the implications of the proposals from an EBU perspective.

7. Membership Secretary's Report

No report was made and therefore the report from DC on non paid up members and delinquent clubs remains outstanding. It was noted that Chancton Bridge Club has re-affiliated and JS will seek details for publication on the website.

8. Tournament Committee Report

The Tournament Committee meets on 17 Oct 07. NH reported that Ardingly was available for JV Swiss Pairs in 09 but not available for JV Swiss teams in July 09. He is looking for alternative venues or another date.

The need to input EBU numbers into Bridgemates had been questioned by a member> The Committee agreed unanimously that this should be a condition of competition and instructed the Tournament Committee to produce a statement to organisers/directors of events to this effect..

9. Education Report

9.1 Loughborough 2007. JC reported that 11 members had attended and one, James Hebden had been accepted for a trial for the U19s JC proposed to speak to his father, to offer, if needed, some financial assistance. This was agreed.

9.2 Strategy for Youth Education in Sussex. No report; held over to next meeting.

9.3 Annual Junior Bridge Competition. JC reported that she had obtained a grant of £200 towards a youth day from Sandra Landy, Chairman of the Bridge Educational Trust. Plans for the event were awaited from DA

10. Conduct Committee's Report

The conduct committee report was noted and the resignation of John Garrini. The proposal by Joy Mayall (chairman of the conduct committee) to invite Richard Burnett to be a member of the Conduct committee was approved.

11. Master Point Secretary's Report

MW reported that no final file on the Steyning Congress had been received. Information to date was incomplete and in places inaccurate. There were no details of hands, points errors in the file for teams, and errors in names given. Further he pointed out the split for the evening session in the Congress Pairs had not obeyed the rules for consolation events and he had downgraded the points accordingly. NH agreed to consider these points at the forthcoming Tournament Committee and to take measures to ensure that these mistakes do not happen again.

12. Communication Coordinator's Report

JS gave the report on behalf on CW. A few reports have been on the papers; but there had been no photos of the Autumn Congress due to lack of space on the page. The Argus had done a superb report on Loughborough 2007. Clubs have been asked to provide news but to date none has been forthcoming.

The EBU are starting a regular column about interesting people among the EBU membership and have asked for ideas. CW is seeking suggestions from clubs and members.

13. Newsletter Editor

SB reported that the October newsletter was with the printers. MP had produced the entry forms for Chichester and East Grinstead for inclusion in the mail out. The spring congress forms are ready but awaiting further input from EW.

14 Secretary's Report

Minutes of SCCBA committee meetings are available on the web site from Jan 05.

15. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Wed 9 Jan 08 at Eastbourne Bridge Club commencing at 1045.

16. Any Other Business

Ladies Pairs Event. DS reported on behalf of the organiser of the ladies pairs to be held at Patcham on 21 Oct that no help had been received from Patcham BC. JC agreed to contact the secretary of Patcham BC to discuss this.