

SCCBA Update

joymayall@btinternet.com



Dear fellow bridge player, You may recall I wrote of the county's new initiatives in our last newsletter, the Outreach Project, and the Schools Project. I am happy to say both are flourishing!

Our display boards have been across the county in libraries and shopping malls accompanied in some cases by a table of bridge players playing nearby. They have attracted significant attention and Crawley bridge club now has a class full of new recruits following the display being in the library for a week.

We will be teaching minibridge in several schools across the County from September. Burgess Hill School for Girls, Holy Trinity School Crawley, Oriel School, Crawley, Feltham Community College, Warden Park School, Cuckfield and Durrington High School, Katie Kennedy is also teaching at Bexhill School. Thank you to bridge teachers, Philip Hunt, John Frosztega, Gerry Stanford, Rosemary Churchill, Dan Austin and Andrew Pettit. And a huge thank you to Cllr Bill Acraman and Linda Souter who have driven this project with vigour.

If you would like to help with either of these initiatives do email me about the Outreach displays.

You will read inside of our desire to encourage more communications by email, to save costs. Hazel Beveridge our Membership Secretary has been working hard creating a membership database. Ideally we should have the email addresses of all those players who want to hear from us with reminders of upcoming competitions they may have played in before. Please don't miss out on this, do let Hazel have your email details. We have set up a Communications Committee to look at how we can improve not just communications but publicity also,.

A huge thank you also to my Management Committee for all their hard work,

With best wishes, enjoy your bridge, Joy Mayall, SCCBA Chairman.

Membership

An update from Hazel Beveridge

The SCCBA is trying hard to hold as complete, accurate and up-to-date database of our members' email addresses as possible.

To this end many of you (if the EBU holds an email address for you at www.ebu.co.uk/members where you can update your email address in your personal Member Login area) will have received an email from the SCCBA Membership Secretary over the past few months. This was sent in order to check your email address and to see if you are happy to receive emails from the SCCBA relating to County events and perhaps also the SCCBA Newsletter. (A proportion were found to be out-of-date or inaccurate and "bounced" back.)

Electric communication is the way things are going so we wish to go this way – this will cost the SCCBA less money and hopefully in the long run costs for Sussex players will consequently be reduced.

The Data Protection Act (1998) requires that personal information is accurate and up-to-date and that it is kept safe and secure. All information about our members is stored in such a way - on a dedicated password-protected computer in a password-protected database.

Our email protocol aims at emailing relevant SCCBA event information/entry forms, in batches where possible, so that our members are not bothered unduly. Emails will come from SCCBA Mailing list (sccbamailinglist@gmail.com) and members can always unsubscribe from them by replying to the email with "Unsubscribe" in the Subject line or in the email itself.

We will be putting slips on tables at upcoming County events and would be grateful if you could let us have your email address.

Thank you for your help,

Hazel Beveridge, SCCBA Membership Secretary.

Editorial



campbellkearsey@googlemail.com

Readers will recall that the February 2013 issue of the newsletter contained a short survey which sought SCCBA Members' views on the future use of newsletters and calendars. A total of 36 views were expressed in response.

Question 1 concerned methods of distribution and frequency and of the 36 views offered, 20 (56%) chose option 4 (no paper distribution), 8 (22%) chose option 2 (twice a year on paper, sent to clubs for distribution) and 6 (17%) chose option 3 (once a year (in July with the calendar) on paper and sent to individual members by post).

Question 2 concerned the use of the savings which might arise from changes to our use of newsletters. Of the 34 views expressed, 24 (71%) chose option 1 (reduce the County P2P charge by up to 2p) and 10 (29%) chose option 2 (invest the savings in other activity). Ideas expressed by the 10 who chose option 2 included:

- Encourage younger players
- Make training cheaper and more accessible.
- Invest more in training and related marketing.
- Bridge in schools.

Whilst it is difficult to draw clear conclusions from such a low level of response, the fact that almost 99% of Members chose not to respond suggests that they do not see this as an issue of priority. That said, if we can regard the 1.2% who did respond as broadly representative, we might draw the following tentative conclusions:

- Distribution of more than one newsletter per annum to individual members by post is definitely no longer justified, not least because nobody chose that option.
- A majority (56%) would prefer to see no paper newsletters issued, relying on the web site (and e-mail) to communicate with the membership.
- A significant minority (44%) do not take that view suggesting we

should continue with a paper newsletter pro tem either by both issues (and the calendar) being distributed via clubs or reducing to just one issue per year sent to individuals by post with flyers at other times sent in bulk to clubs.

- A substantial majority (71%) favour using savings made to reduce what the County Association charges for its services but this would be unlikely to result in lower table charges at clubs and a significant minority (29%) favour further investment in developing the game in Sussex.

These thoughts were discussed at the May 2013 Management Committee meeting and it was decided to set up a new Communications Committee to review the survey results and to take account of a number of other ideas now emerging about how the newsletter and the calendar might be developed in future and how we might further exploit the web and e-mail.

We will, of course, keep you informed about this work and the changes that will flow from it. In the meantime, can I offer two opportunities to you if you wish to ensure that you receive SCCBA information in future? If you haven't yet registered your e-mail address with us or alternatively, if you are keen to continue to receive information annually by post, please register your interest with the SCCBA Membership Secretary, Hazel Beveridge at habeveridge@gmail.com or Sedges, Box's Lane, Danehill, W. Sussex, RH17 7JG.

Many thanks, Brian Campbell-Kearsey, Chairman SCCBA Communications

NOTICE TO ALL MEMBERS

**An EGM of the SCCBA will be held
at 11.30am on Sunday 15th Sept. 2013
at AIBC, Old Barn Way, Southwick, BN43 4NT**

(Before the Autumn Congress teams event, The primary agenda item is the 'New County Constitution' details of which will be published in advance on www.sccba.co.uk)

Bridge News

An update from across the County...

Sussex Juniors

Our Sussex youngsters are continuing to improve and we should be very proud of them. Let me introduce them:

Stephen Kennedy continues to play, often with his mum Katie who is now the Education Co-ordinator in Sussex. Stephen also plays with another junior Frank in St Leonards Bridge Club.

We have two new youngsters coming to Loughborough this year and they are John Mewes who plays at Harlequin bridge club with his father Chris and Roland Bourne who plays with his father William.

Chris Derrick has completed his first year at Cambridge and he is still an avid bridge player. He represented England in the Channel Trophy in December 2012. Jonathan Derrick continues to play at Bridgebug and when lessons permit also at Old Barn Way Bridge Club.

Oliver Powell & George Siddens are at BHASVIC and are introducing the students to bridge. In addition they continue to play at Bridgebug & occasionally at Old Barn Way. George Siddens recently won the Venture Pairs with Liz Hoskins.

Dan Skudder , who used to be affectionately known as the 'little blonde one' occasionally joins us at Bridgebug.

Well enough of the oldies! We now have the Tenquist children Miri, Lulu, Sorchia & Zak. They have weekly bridge lessons at home and also come to Bridgebug all four have huge potential as bridge players. Zak (9), affectionately known as the 'very little blonde one' takes great interest in his scores each week and how well he is doing against his target score. He and sister Sorchia are currently beating their older sisters but there are three weeks left for that battle to be resolved.

We also have Maureen & Andrew Clingan's grandchildren they are Sam, Anna, Noah & Evie who also join the Tenquist children for bridge lessons and very occasionally join us at Bridgebug.

Last but by no means least we have Lily Dibb Fuller, great grand-daughter of Eric Seldon. She started coming to Loughborough some years ago and then gave up for a while. She has now returned and helps Grandad Dave with his lessons at the Tenquist house.

I think that has introduced all Sussex youngsters please let us know if there are any others out there, just before signing off I would like to thank Richard Newton and Julian Mitchell of the Avenue Bridge Club for their continued support.

Jill Armstrong

New Column - REFLECTIONS FROM THE SEA END - MID SUMMER

British Sport is going from strength to strength now the summer has truly arrived and as I sat in my garden enjoying a tub of SWMBO's homemade ice-cream with the company of "Test Match Special" and my constant pussy-cat companions dozing contentedly beside me, I ruminated about the recent successes of Sussex players.

A lot of my information comes from the County Website which can be found at <http://www.sccba.co.uk> and which promulgates the names and even pictures of our victorious brethren in various competitions both national and local. If you follow the link you will learn more of our conquering heroes and heroines and even you may come across a picture of your correspondent!

Yes, even he plays with a modicum of success, but his main function is to pen a monthly column, which is highlighted in tasteful colours on the said website, and which aims to amuse and perhaps even to educate his fellow Sussex members. His stories cover many subjects of bridge interest based on events which first occurred in his youth and offer his esoteric insight into the mysteries of the game.

Also he has set himself a goal of including in his musings, reference to his two other passions in his life. The discerning reader should look at the opening paragraph of this brief article for clues and the answer can be found in the archive pages of the above – mentioned website.

Until next time then.

Geoffrey Wolfarth, Hove

Club Focus



Bexhill Bridge Club was formed in 1988 and celebrated its 25th anniversary earlier this year. 5 of the original members, including 2 of the original committee, still belong to the club.

We currently have just under 100 members but we hope to get back over the 100 in the near future.

In its early days, the club led a rather nomadic existence and had moved to its fifth venue less than four years after forming. However, it has now become more settled and we have played at the current venue, St. Augustine's church hall, for more than ten years.

The hall will take 14 tables plus two more on the stage and our current average is 10 or 11 tables per session. These are the largest evening sessions in the area.

We are now the only local club still playing multi-teams but the monthly event remains popular at Bexhill and we hope to continue for many more years.

Despite the extra travelling from this end of the county, we also have one team in the Sussex League (div 3).

Although we do not currently have any teaching sessions, it is hoped to re-start these later in the year. We find that once new players from other teachers become established, they often join the Bexhill club in addition to their original club.

We always welcome visitors, so if you happen to be in the area why not come and join us?



Hand Review

By Andrew Southwell

This year's Corwen Trophy, a competition held for the top few finishers from each County's main Pairs competition attracted a field of around 100 pairs.

Sussex Pairs finished 8th, 9th and 10th with Nigel Urban and Neil Watts finishing ahead of Peter Clinch and Julian Mitchell and Ian Lancaster and Andrew Southwell with Mike Keeping and Matt Read a creditable 30th and Amanda Bolton and Anthony Whiteway further down having been as high as 20th.

In a big pairs field a huge amount of points can be won or lost on opening lead. Here are four **lead problems** from the event, the full hands appearing below so no peeking!

1. S x H Kxxx D QJxx C KJ95
Opponents bid: 1NT 2C* (Stayman)
2H 2NT
3NT
2. S Ax H Axxxx D Q109x C 8x
Opponents bid: 2NT (various) 3H (Artificial G/F)
3S (Spade preempt) **4S**
3. S A108xxx H Jx D 9 C AJxx
Opponents bid: 3H **4H**
4. S xxx H Qx D 10xxx C KJxx
Opponents bid: 1NT (15-17) **3NT**

Most people will have drummed into them when learning, lead 4th highest of your longest and strongest, and will also learn to lead second highest from poor suits. Many of those reading this article will be familiar with the author David Bird for his Abbott books and his Headmaster articles currently in English Bridge. Fewer will have read his latest book – Winning Notrump Leads which uses computer analysis to offer a new set of principles when leading in Notrumps. In essence David Bird suggest more emphasis should be placed on Major suit opening leads especially from shortness.

With that in mind leading on Problem 1 a spade is the winning lead here, giving nothing away. An unsuspecting Declarer also played the Ten of Spades at Trick One playing the lead to be from the Jack.

The full hand was:

North:	S x	
	H Kxxx	
	D QJxx	
	C KJ95	
W S Axx		S KQ107
H Q987		H Axx
D A97		D 108xx
C A87		C Q10
	S J98xx	
	H J10	
	D Kx	
	C xxxx	

Problem 2, The winning lead here is the Ace of Hearts, scoring most of the matchpoints for taking the Defence's tricks.

The full hand was:

North:	S 10xx	
	H J98	
	D J8xxx	
	C xx	
S K		S QJ9xxxx
H KQ10		H xx
D AKxx		D –
C KJ10xx		C AQ9x
	S Ax	
	H Axxxx	
	D Q109x	
	C 8x	

Problem 3. Many pairs played this hand even above game level and the lead of the Nine of Diamonds only troubled the scorers to the extent of working out the score for 5 Hearts doubled vulnerable with two overtricks- 1250 for anyone who wanted to know! The lead of the Diamond pinpointed the whereabouts of the King enabling Declarer to draw trumps ending in dummy and take the marked ruffing Diamond finesse. Well done anyone cashing their pair of black aces!

**EVENT ENTRY FORMS
CAN BE FOUND
ONLINE
WWW.SCCBA.CO.UK**

The full hand was:

North:	S 9	
	H Q8x	
	D AQJ108xx	
	C KQ	
S A108xxx		S KJxx
H Jx		H x
D9		D Kxxx
C AJ8x		C xxxx
	S Qx	
	H AK1097xx	
	D x	

Problem 4. The winning lead here is the Queen of Hearts. Declarer can yet prevail taking a two way Spade finesse correctly for nine tricks however not anticipating the danger he ducked the Club switch at Trick Two enabling the Defence to take five Heart tricks and a Club for two down. The full deal was:

	North:	S Q9xx	
		H AJ9xx	
		D x	
		C Q98	
S KJ8			S A10x
H K108			H xxx
D Axx			D KQJ98
C 10xxx			C Ax
		S xxx	
		H Qx	
		D 10xxx	
		C KJxx	

Enter the 2nd Annual Golf & Bridge Day

Jointly hosted by the SCCBA & HHGC

10.00am Breakfast Roll

18 Holes of Golf

2 Course Lunch

18 Boards of Bridge – Duplicate style

Prizes for each event and an overall winner!

18th September 2013 at 10.00am

R.S.V.P.

with your payment of £42.50 to: Chris Jago, Tudor Barn, Church Road, Newick, Lewes, BN8 4JZ

You do not need a partner, for more info email jagoc@btinternet.com

Calling all would be teachers!

The next Teacher Training Course is now open for bookings and will be in at Old Barn Way Bridge Club, AIBC, Southwick BN43 4NT

Cost of entry is £102 per person although EBU sponsorship is available for affiliated clubs*

If this appeals to you please contact
Linda at lsouter@outlook.com

*This is limited to one member within a 24 month period.