
SUSSEX COUNTY CONTRACT BRIDGE ASSOCIATION

**Minutes of the meeting of the Management Committee of the SCCBA, held at West
Sussex Bridge Club at 1030 hrs on Sunday 17th July 2005.**

Present:

Mr M Pool	Chairman
Mr D Galpin	Hon. Treasurer
Mrs J Newton	Minute Taker

Mr P Bates, Mrs K Batting, Mr R Buddery, Mrs S Bugden, Mrs V Chandler, Mrs J Clinton, Mr B Gould, Mrs M Langmaid, Mr B Loasby, Mr D Newton, Mrs D Strauss and Mrs C Watson.

Delegates: None.

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from: Mr P Kent, Mr E Williams, Mr D Clifton, Mr A Southwell, Mrs M Langmaid (leaving early) and Mr D Newton (arriving late).

2. Minutes of the meeting of 24th April 2005.

2.1 Accuracy

May Langmaid, seconded by Val Chandler proposed that the minutes be approved. This was agreed nem.con. and were duly signed as being a true record of the meeting.

2.2 Matters Arising

2.2.1 Negotiations are continuing with the insurers with regard to the injury complaint [2.2.1].

2.2.2 The playing cards have been delivered [2.2.2].

2.2.3 The agreement has been drawn up between the Avenue Bridge Club and the SCCBA [2.2.4].

2.2.4 Pat Kent has contacted 27 schools to find out if they have a bridge club and whether they would like help with tuition [2.2.5].

2.2.5 The **National Newcomers Pairs** event - we are waiting to hear from the E.B.U.[2.2.6].

3. Chairman's Report

3.1 The very sad loss of Tom Bradley our President will be greatly felt both as a man and for his bridge knowledge and integrity. A donation was sent by the County to the chosen charity and flowers were also sent. The funeral was very well attended by representatives from the County and the E.B.U.

3.2 The Chairman congratulated Vida Bingham and Marie Gritt at being raised to the rank of Grand Master.

3.3 The Management Committee expressed disappointment that the SCCBA had not been represented at the Pachabo Cup for the last three years and the Chairman was asked to investigate as to why this had occurred. *[In October 2005 Management Committee meeting, the Chairman said that he had received a letter from the Captain explaining why his team was unable to represent the County and this was accepted by the Management Committee. In the January 2006 Management Committee meeting it was agreed that the original 3.3 minute be revised to the one above].*

3.4 No bids for the Duplimate machine, together with 1,000 plus packs of cards by sealed tender have yet been received. *[Subsequently three bids were received and the Duplimate machine sold].*

3.5 1000 decks of cards have been sold separately to St Leonards Bridge Club.

3.6 E.B.U. wrote to ask for nominations for the Board. Sally Bugden has been put forward again. *[Subsequent to this meeting Martin Pool has also been proposed]* Ron Buddery thought that Board appointments should be for three years and not annually, the same as standard E.B.U. committees.

4. Secretary's Report

The Secretary had nothing to report.

5. Treasurer's Report

5.1 New Duplimate machine and cards were bought for £6,700 and therefore our overall reserve may well drop this year.

5.2 We have £33,000 in the bank, most of it in an interest bearing account.

6. Membership Secretary's Report

There was nothing to report. Jackie Clinton said that some cheques were being dealt with slowly.

7. Tournament Committee Report

7.1 Matters arising from the Tournament Committee meeting of 6th May 2005 [6.15] recommended that there be a reduction in number of boards for the final and semi finals of the **Sussex Championship Teams** to 48 and 32 respectively and that this be referred to the Management Committee. Brian Gould proposed that this be accepted and was seconded by Doris Strauss and was passed 9 votes to one.

7.2 Peter Bates commented that the committee had not mentioned the **SCCBA Individual** event. This year there were only 5 heats scheduled and there is a need to generate more interest. Henfield members did not want to run County heats during Club nights and therefore their heats are being held on Sundays.

7.3 Val Chandler said that the comment in the minutes about the David Pavey numbers dropping was not correct.

7.4 It was reported that Beryl Pitman thought that numbers were falling in **Novice** events possibly because the point requirement had been raised. Peter Bates suggested that there be two levels, including a lower level for teachers to introduce their pupils. Brian Gould

suggested a change from Swiss to multiple teams but this was thought not to be a good idea. Peter Bates was requested to consider how this should be organised.

7.5 It was suggested that the **Chairman's Cup** be renamed the **Tom Bradley Chairman's Cup** and this was agreed nem.con. The Chairman said the Tournament Committee should consider moving this event from February to the autumn, when the County Calendar is less crowded and the other advantage being that current winners of various county events could be selected as opposed to the winners of the previous year. Carol Watson agreed to organise this event for 2006.

7.6 Pat Kent was requested to select the County Committee Teams for the **Kremer Dersch Trophy** and this was agreed nem.con.

8. Selectors Report

Comments were made about players who had said they were available to play for the county and subsequently withdrawing. It was recommended that the Selectors should take account of this when making future selections.

9. Conduct Committee

Two matters are under consideration at the present time. One has been sent to the E.B.U. and the other is still under consideration by the committee.

10. Rules of Competitions

Some minor corrections have been made to the General Rules for competition and one change to increase the appeals deposit from £10 to £20. David Newton said he would hope that there could always be someone available to act as an advisor during appeals. Ron Buddery and Peter Bates endorsed this.

11. Consideration Focus Group's Recommendations on Membership Development

Sally Bugden gave the report on the findings of the Focus Group:

11.1 It was suggested that the County should set up a students congress at the **Autumn** and **Spring Congresses** starting April 2006 with a minimal entry fee. This was proposed by Val Chandler and seconded by Ron Buddery and passed nem con.

11.2 She emphasised that she would try to get all Bridge teachers and pupils involved and not just the Bridge for All Teachers and pupils. David Newton agreed it was imperative to include all teachers within the County and it was agreed nem.con. that each committee member would try to find out the names and contact addresses of teachers in their areas.

11.3 After a full discussion, it was suggested that the word "No Fears" be removed from the title of "**No Fears Pairs**" in order to make the event more welcoming and it was suggested that it should be renamed **Basic Bridge Pairs**. This was proposed by Peter Bates and seconded by Doris Strauss and agreed nem.con.

11.4 The County website could be improved by setting up links with education and university pages. The Chairman asked Brian Gould to look into this. *[Subsequently carried out]*.

11.5 All congresses remain closed.

11.6 Publicity could be improved by trying to get someone to write a bridge column for a local newspaper and encouraging bridge clubs to get results published.

11.7 The Tournament Committee's continual assessment of our Congresses, particularly over three days was felt to be vital.

11.8 Try to get copies of our newsletter made available at social and charity bridge events.

11.9 The merits of the SCCBA Zero Tolerance Policy were recognised and a long discussion followed, including whether the sheet should still be put on each table. The Chairman asked Sally to revise this policy in the light of the experience gained.

12 Charities

12.1 Val Chandler brought several organisations forward and it was agreed that our charities for 2005-2006 should be The **Leyden House Trust** at Chailey, which offers, supported accommodation for severely handicapped adults and the **Elphinstone Family Centre Project** at Hastings which helps victims of child abuse.

12.2 In the past, some clubs have made donations to the charities selected by the SCCBA, even though they have not themselves held charity events. Pat Kent was asked to include a request for donations in his next letter to the Club Secretaries.

13 EBU Ltd Shareholders Meeting Report

There was insufficient time to make a report and this was deferred to the next meeting.

14 SCCBA President/Vice Presidents

The Chairman said that we do not have to have a President or Vice-President, but should we decide to do so then the Management Committee should put forward the name for president and up to five names for vice presidents to the A.G.M. where the election takes place. The S.C.C.B.A. President to be discussed at the next committee meeting.

15 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on 23rd October 2005 at 10-30 am at the Eastbourne Bridge Club. *[This was subsequently changed to the Avenue Bridge Club as the meeting clashes with an event at Eastbourne].*

16. Any Other Business

16.1 West Sussex Memorial Teams in memory of Tom Bradley is being organised by the West Sussex Bridge Club and will be held at Clare Hall on November 20th 2005.

16.2 Ron Buddery was unhappy about the problems at Ardingly and thinks an apology should be made in the next newsletter.

16.3 Jill Newton said she would like scoring one round in arrears and not concurrent.