

---

# SUSSEX COUNTY CONTRACT BRIDGE ASSOCIATION

---

A meeting of the Committee of the SCCBA was held at the Henfield Hall  
on Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2006 starting at 10-00 am

**Present:**

Mr M Pool	Chairman
Mr P Kent	Secretary
Mr D Galpin	Treasurer

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

## 1. Apologies

Apologies were received from: Mr D Clifton, Mrs J Clinton, Mrs M Langmaid and Mr E Williams.

## 2. Discussion of Minute 3.3 from MOM of 17<sup>th</sup> July 2005

Philip Poulter put in a request to the Chairman to address the committee on minute 3.3, from the Management Committee meeting of 17<sup>th</sup> July 2005, representing both himself and the rest of the team. He addressed the committee, answered questions and then withdrew. The main complaint was that the committee had been judgemental in the minute before giving the captain a chance to explain what had happened. The committee discussed the minute in some depth and were in full agreement that they had every right to express their disappointment that the County had not been represented at the Pachabo Cup for three consecutive years, but were saddened that the minute had caused such an upset to the team members. In the interest of healing the wounds it was agreed that the minute be reworded and Pat Kent suggested the following: *"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."* A vote was taken as to whether the minute should be changed to the above text and all but one was in favour.

Further questions were raised with respect to the method of team selection when the winning team cannot field a full team and have to include members of the runners up team. The Chairman said that the Selection Committee would address this.

### **3 President/Vice-Presidents**

This item was re-scheduled for the end of the meeting and in the event there was no time to discuss this. This will be discussed at the next meeting.

### **4. Minutes of the meeting of 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2005.**

#### **4.1 Accuracy**

There were two typos; in 2.2.3; should be “Lewes” and “Blatchington.” For clarity in 7.2 it was agreed to add “(ie winners of the League)” after Division One in 2<sup>nd</sup> line. The minutes were then agreed nem.con and were duly signed as being a true record of the meeting.

#### **4.2 Matters Arising**

**4.2.1** No progress on the injury claim [3.2 of 25<sup>th</sup> July 2004].

**4.2.2** Awaiting final signature of the agreement between the Avenue Bridge Club and the SCCBA [3.4 of 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2004].

**4.2.3** Alison Nicholson visited Sussex in November and held discussions on Schools Bridge at the Avenue Bridge Club with seven members of the SCCBA Management Committee, including representatives from clubs. The discussions were wide-ranging and useful in going forward with encouraging bridge to be played in schools.

**4.2.4** It was decided to stay with Steyning as the venue for the Autumn Congress, and that Patcham might be suitable venue for single day events.

### **5. Chairman's Report**

**5.1** The Chairman thanked the members of the Management Committee for all their hard work and their support over the past year. The members of the committee in turn gave wholehearted support to their Chairman.

**5.2** The new website has been well received and in particular praised by Anna Gudge (manager of the EBU website).

**5.3** A Bridgemate training day has been arranged for 1<sup>st</sup> February 2006 at 1-30 pm at the Avenue Bridge Club.

**5.4** The Chairman requested that when Ambassadors visited their clubs that they should advertise; the new website, Scorebridge program and Bridgemates. It was suggested that a briefing note would be useful to assist the Ambassadors.

**5.5** The Chairman said that he had received three letters from County members and that they had all been dealt with.

**5.6** The Chairman reported that the SCCBA had received a legacy from Tom Bradley's estate of £500 to be used for a trophy. No decision was taken at the meeting as to what event the trophy should be allocated to, and any suggestions would be most welcome.

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

**6.1** The Secretary said that he had made a slight change to the form sent out to clubs requesting "Information for County Calendar." To comply with the Data Protection Act, there was now a requirement for the form to be returned by the due date, otherwise the clubs data could not be printed in the County Calendar. It was suggested that a reminder be sent out to clubs who had not responded to give them a second chance.

## **7. Treasurer's Report**

**7.1** The Treasurer estimated that there would be a slight loss of £1000 this year due to extra expenditure on equipment.

**7.2** The Treasurer reported that it is now possible to pay the EBU/County subscriptions via the new County website by credit card, but emphasised that direct debit was the easiest option.

**7.3** The Treasurer responded to a question that there would be no increase in the County subscription for the coming year.

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

Nothing to report.

## **9. Tournament Committee Report**

The unapproved minutes of the last meeting had been distributed to the committee.

**9.1** The Chairman said that contrary to the insertion in the County Calendar, the EBU rules state that non-members are not allowed to play in County Competitions except for Basic Bridge events, first round events such as the David Pavey and the Elisabeth North Trophy and other specified events. The Chairman was requested to make representations to the EBU on the behalf of the committee for a relaxation of these rules.

**9.2** Sally Bugden (Publicity Officer) said that the practice of awarding trophies at the AGM (ie out of timing) was not helpful when trying to publicise bridge in Sussex in the media and recommended that they be awarded when they are won. The Chairman explained that the default position was to award the trophies at both the time they are won and at the next County Congress (Spring or Autumn) where the winners are present.

**9.3** The Chairman said the Sussex had provisionally been awarded two dates in 2007 for green pointed events; 12<sup>th</sup> May in Ardingly and 22<sup>nd</sup> July in Hove.

## **10. Selectors Report**

Minutes of the meeting of selectors held on 7<sup>th</sup> December 2005 were distributed to the committee. The main points arising were that it is unlikely that the SCCBA will enter a team for the London League. Sussex did not qualify for the Tollemache final. It is likely that this year, Sussex will again be entering an “A” “B” and two “C” teams for the Metropolitan Cup.

## **11. Conduct Committee’s Report**

One complaint from last year can no longer be processed, as the person is no longer a member of the EBU/SCCBA. One further complaint is being investigated.

## **12. Focus Group Report**

**Sally Bugen gave the report:**

**12.1** That students will be invited to participate in their own congress at the Sussex Spring Congress and that applications will be made via their teachers.

**12.2** That she had re-written the “Zero Tolerance Policy” and renamed it “Best Behaviour at Bridge” and that it be published in the next Newsletter.

## **13. Charities**

### **13.1 2005/2006 (Leyden House Trust + Elphinstone Family Centre Project)**

We have received a cheque for £93.60 for the David Boston Simultaneous Pairs, which is down on last year due to fewer participants from Sussex Clubs.

### **13.2 2006/2007 (To be selected)**

There were four charities considered and the two selected for the year 2006/2007 were:

- Motor Neurone Disease Association;
- St Wilfred’s Hospice in Eastbourne.

## **14. Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be held on Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> April at Worthing Bridge Club.

## **15. Any Other Business**

A plea was made by several organisers for the compiler of the County Calendar to consult with them before selecting dates for heats etc.