



## Minutes of Annual General Meeting

**Sunday 3 June 2007 @ West Midlands Bridge Club**

**Present:** Jon Downing (Chairman), Darren Evetts (General Secretary), Leslie Reece (Treasurer), Stephanie Galvin (MasterPoints Secretary), Colin Lang (Vice-Chairman), Beryl Latham (Admin Secretary), John Robbins (Match Secretary/Publicity) and 30 Members.

1. **Apologies** were received from John Birch (Membership Secretary), Myra Scott (Newcomers Development Officer), Dodo Georgevic, Gerald Abrahams & Shaunagh Wand

***It is with sadness that we record the death of Michael Allen. Michael was an exemplary player not only in skill but in table manner also. Michael had served on the committee in various capacities for many years***

2. **The minutes of the AGM held 4 June 2006** were circulated and with one amendment made agreed and signed as correct.
3. **Matters Arising** – None
4. **Treasurer's Report – Attached (Leslie Reece)**

Net result was a surplus of £805 compared with only £33 last year. This was much better than anticipated.

Three items principally brought about this result: 1) Subscriptions - Membership remained almost the same at about 840 compared with 850 last year, and the fifty pence increase in subscription contributed an extra £425.

2) The success of the new WPL. We revamped the invitation pairs competition and attracted more entries producing an additional net income of £327. 3) Council scrapped the printed calendar, which was costing £500 a year.

On the down side: 1) The continued decline in competition entries reduced the net surplus by £162. 2) We had four county home matches this year compared with three last year. There was also an under provision last year which slightly distorts the comparison.

Finally for this year I would like to draw your attention to the footnote, which shows that WCBA members contributed £877 to St Mary's Hospice as a result of our two charity events in the year, a very satisfactory figure.

For next year much will depend on the continued success of the WPL. Entries for our Green Point event in May were disappointing, and our net result will be down from over £500 to about £200.

### 5. **Chairman's Report (Jon Downing)**

- Thanks to Leslie and Darren for their work over the past years.
- EBU – Kettering had not proved to be the solution it had intended to be, the main problem being the lack of a hotel on site.
- The announcement/alerting rules are still in the experimental stages however they are likely to become permanent.
- Best Behaviour at Bridge – Warwickshire do not seem to have experienced any problems in this area, a very positive sign for Warwickshire.
- Thanks to Colin for sourcing sponsorship for WCBA – we are the first County to secure sponsorship.

## Competition Report:-

### League Winners

- Division I – Coventry (Jones)
- Division II – Coventry (Griffins)
- Division III – Moseley (Lewis)
- Division IV – Incomplete

**Handicap** – Final between Robbins & Oldbury

**Goodman Cup** – Won by David Franks, Adam Wood, Nick Woosnam, Mick Morriss, Adrian Knight & Leslie Reece. The team will represent WCBA in the Pachabo.

### Inter-County Leagues:-

Dawes 4<sup>th</sup>, Porter 3<sup>rd</sup> and Markham 1<sup>st</sup>. Congratulations to the Markham teams for winning their division and qualifying for a national final in July. It was agreed to pay 50% of the entry costs for 8 players in the Markham team.

**Notable Performances:** Congratulations to Martin Jones, team member of Spring Fours Winners for the second consecutive year. Coventry once again in Garden Cities Final.

Jon closed by thanking the committee for their support and hard work over the past four to five years. He noted that all officers had changed during this time and the transitions were seemingly painless.

## 6. Election of Officers for 2006/7

The following Officers and Committee were proposed, seconded and agreed by all:-

<b>Chairman</b>	Colin Lang	<b>Vice-Chairman</b>	Jon Downing
<b>Secretary</b>	Darren Evetts	<b>Treasurer</b>	Leslie Reece
<b>Admin Secretary</b>	Beryl Latham	<b>League Secretary</b>	Jon Downing
<b>MasterPoints Secretary</b>	Stephanie Galvin	<b>Match Secretary/Publicity</b>	John Robbins
<b>Membership Secretary</b>	John Birch	<b>Tournament Secretary</b>	Pip Whitehouse
<b>Youth Officer</b>	Vacancy	<b>Newcomers Development Officer</b>	Myra Scott

### Non-Representative Members (10 Max):-

Carolyn Fisher, Dodo Georgevic, Jane Hall, Barry Holloway, David Jones, Alan Pagett, John Pyner, Hylda Townsend, Nick Woosnam

**The following will be co-opted:** Roy Moore, Norman Selwyn

Colin Lang took the Chair.

Colin thanked the members for the privilege of serving County as Chair, and paid tribute to enormous contribution of Jon Downing, whose experience and enthusiasm would fortunately remain available to Council.

He made reference to declining attendance at County events in recent years and the need to reformat where necessary. We should encourage new players and regular Club members to come forward. The County should not be regarded as for an elite few, but available for all, and a way of improving.

The EBU are facing the same fundamental problems, if not worse in certain Counties. A major review of all aspects of the game is being made under its new Chairman. Essential that our members make their views known.

Colin expressed concern that many Clubs were not represented at Council meetings. Although detailed minutes were circulated, were they reaching the membership? Council meetings are

available for all to attend, and Colin urged members to do so. If not, make their views known to him, or through others who would be there.

Chairman's Corner - to be initiated on our website to make contact with hundreds if not thousands of Bridge players across the County, whether members or not. (Members or Clubs who have problems accessing this may request a paper copy from the Chairman). The intention is to focus on major issues facing the County or the EBU and hopefully to obtain members' opinions.

Warwickshire was truly fortunate to have in place an experienced and dedicated team. Help them to help you.

Finally Colin expressed hope to see all members present, and others, at next County event (Frank Cup) in 3 weeks.

**7. Election of Honorary Auditor** – Mr R Galvin was proposed by Darren Evetts, seconded by Jon Downing and agreed unanimously.

**8. AOB**

- John Robbins proposed a vote of thanks to Colin Lang for securing sponsorship for the County.
- Members felt that the cost of EBU events was very high.
- It was noted that the EBU were proposing to move to universal membership. One of the positive aspects to this would be a reduction in membership fees.

**9. The 2008 AGM** will be held at West Midlands Bridge Club on 1 June 2008 at approximately 5pm.

D Evetts  
June 2007