



WELWYN GARDEN CITY BRIDGE CLUB

Minutes of committee meeting held on 13 April 2016

Present: Berwyn Aston, Gordon Barker, John Eyre, Sheila Gabriel, Bill Gordon, Jeff Green (Chairman), Derrick Kime, Rodger Livesey, Helen Robinson, Frances Wilson, Rose Windler

Apologies: Gary Ames, Jo Childs, Barbara Kime, John Phalp

1 Minutes of the last meeting were accepted.

Matters arising

Ethics & Etiquette Leaflet: It was thought that Best Behaviour at Bridge covers most situations. However, for clarification, John Eyre was asked to prepare a summary of ethics and etiquette with a view to the different situations which may occur at the various bridge sessions.

2 Chairman's report

2.1 Thanks to Bill Gordon and Rodger Livesey who attended the recent EGM at the GSP and on a show of hands there was unanimous approval to the transfer to Greenwich Leisure (GLL). Justin Jardine of GLL made a presentation which confirmed the supportive attitude at the previous informal meeting. WGCBC seems to be high on the list of organisations which GLL wished to support. The target date is 1st June.

2.2 Rose and Jeff met with the GSP prior to the committee meeting and a copy of the minutes is attached. The Chairman is working on a financial analysis of the Club's contributions to GSP including HBA/EBU events. He is also producing a wish-list of actions the Club would like done by GLL when they take over in June.

2.3 Committee resignation and appointments

- Paul Littlewood has resigned from the committee due to extensive travel plans. On behalf of the Club Paul was thanked for his support and commitment given over the years. Roy Button has kindly agreed to take over the role of Webmaster but will not be joining the committee.
- Jo Childs has agreed to join the committee as Publicity Officer and to promote the Club externally. The Club is planning to make a presentation to the Isabel Hospice in the summer involving GLL and the press.
- Nadia Button has kindly agreed to become the Club's Equipment Officer once she has the spare time to do so but she will not be joining the committee.
- The committee confirmed that Bob Turnham will assume the Chief TD role when Derrick Kime formally vacates that role in August but in the meantime Bob will deal with new initiatives.

2.4 There was discussion about TD announcements. Gordon Barker volunteered to take over the responsibility of issuing TD announcements alongside the tournament committee and Gordon will be liaising with TDs on a weekly basis.

2.5 The Chairman reported that Bob Turnham has now taken over directing the popular Thursday mornings from Derrick Kime.

- 2.6 H&S and the urn: from a health and safety consideration it has been decided to keep the urn in situ. GSP will be asked to put the cleaning of the urn and surrounding area on their cleaning schedule.
- 2.7 The committee approved the formation of a tournament committee comprising Helen Robinson (Chair), Gordon Barker, Bob Turnham, Jeff Green and Sheila Gabriel, to consider in detail and approve proposed amendments to the Club rules and associated matters relating to events.
- 2.8 Best behaviour at bridge: the committee was asked to lead by example and to report any issues to the Chairman.
- 2.9 A partnership desk meeting will be rearranged as soon as practical.
- 2.10 Thanks to Gary Ames for the report on students' feedback. The conversion of students to membership via the likes of gentle duplicate and Chicago & Cake is a critical path to increasing our numbers. Peter, Gary and Sheila are working very hard to achieve this and we have already agreed lessons for 2016/17 and the marketing of those to maximise our student numbers.
- 2.11 Margaret Wright and Sandy Usher Smith have kindly volunteered to provide biscuits and drink supplies for the club.
- 2.12 The Club will be participating in the GSP Highland Games which is being run at the end of May.

3 Treasurer's report

John Eyre summarised his previously circulated report. He confirmed that the Club's financial affairs are in good order.

4 Membership Secretary's report

- 4.1 There is concern that those members under 60, approx 15% of our current membership, pay double GSP membership and that this may be proving a disincentive to membership of WGCBC. It was proposed that those under 60 years should pay a reduced GSP rate. The Chairman felt that it would be best to wait until GLL are in place before considering this further. In the meantime the GSP has been asked if they will waive the membership fee for the over 90s.
- 4.2 Frances Wilson agreed to call those who have lapsed membership and who have not responded to reminders. Gordon Barker offered to call the Tuesday lapsed members.

5 Tournament Director's report

- Three teams have got through to the 4th round in the NICKO.
- The Randall event is now completed.
- One entry will be made into the Cadet Teams event.

6 AOB

- 6.1 The committee discussed when it would be appropriate to send flowers on behalf of the Club. In order to provide a consistent approach it was agreed that flowers will only be sent in exceptional circumstances. However, a card will be arranged by Berwyn and all members are asked to let her know if a member is ill or reaching their 90th birthday. Jo

Childs will arrange a presentation of flowers to two players who had a 90th birthday recently. For deceased members, a donation will be given to the deceased's nominated charity with a letter which Berwyn will arrange.

- 6.2 The committee discussed whether club's equipment should be allowed off site. It was agreed that if anyone wishes to borrow equipment from the Club, they should email the Chairman with a copy to Nadia Button.
- 6.3 Members are asked to leave any spare pens in the bridge room on the shelf behind the TD table. Jo Childs will be asked to look into purchasing WGCBC pens.
- 6.4 The Club will consider later in the year whether it wishes to change its preferred charity.
- 6.5 Gordon Barker distributed schedules of table numbers. He was asked if the schedules could be produced quarterly indicating numbers attending on Wednesday evenings split out from the teams events.
- 6.6 Arrangements are in hand to deal with the repair of any broken chairs.

Date of next committee meeting: Monday 18 July 2016 at 5.30 pm

Date of AGM: Friday 21 October 2016



WELWYN GARDEN CITY BRIDGE CLUB

Minutes of the meeting held on 12 April 2016 with the Gosling Sports Park (GSP)

Representing the Bridge Club: Jeff Green, Rose Windler
Representing GSP: Neil Jaggard
Copy to: David Hutchinson

1 Toilets

- a) The installation of toilet air fresheners/disinfectants has started.
- b) The proposal with Oaklands College to provide an upgrade to the bar toilets has fallen through. This matter will now be referred on to Greenwich Leisure (GLL) on the assumption they take over in June.

2 Flat roof

The flat roof resurfacing will be going ahead when the weather improves. The drainage holes in the roof are being cleared each month.

3 Fire evacuation procedure

Neil was asked to provide the procedure applicable to the bridge area. Bob Turnham will then speak to Stuart Henry-Warby regarding training the Club's TDs.

4 Lift repair

Engineers are due to return this week. Neil will obtain a progress report for the bridge club.

5 Vestibule lights

The GSP was asked if a motion sensor light can be installed in the vestibule. Neil will advise if this is possible.

6 Statistics

The GSP was asked if statistics are kept on which members are under/over 60 and life members. The GSP was asked if members aged 90+ could be given free membership. DH to advise. Jeff's target is an increase to membership from approx 380 to 500 over the next 5 years.

7 Outside passage towards hotel

The clearance of paving stones and cutting back the hedgerow will be referred to GLL on the assumption they take over in June.

8 Outsourcing catering

It was confirmed that the GSP outsources all catering. It is not known how GLL may manage catering. The Hertfordshire Bridge Association and English Bridge Union like to hold events at the bridge centre. However, there are concerns about the high costs and standard of

provision. The quality of food has improved with a recent change of supplier but the cost is still a significant factor. Neil will find out about the removal of a corkage charge when the bar is closed.

9 Highland Games

The GSP confirmed that the Highland Games will be going ahead. The bridge club will liaise with GSP re our participation.

10 Charitable donation

In order to assist with our joint marketing objective, Jeff would like to invite a representative from GSP/GLL to be part of the presentation of a “large” cheque to the Isabel Hospice in the summer when the press will also be present. GSP/GLL to advise who will attend in due course.

11 GSP charitable foundation

Jeff suggested that the club has input to the Foundation. Neil will discuss with DH.

Date of next meeting: Monday 18 July 2016 at 5.00 pm (tbc)