

MINUTES OF THE A.G.M OF SURREY COUNTY BRIDGE ASSOCIATION
Held on Sunday 15th July 2007 at 5.00 pm
at Cobham Hilton Hotel

APOLOGIES:

Malcolm Channing, Marion Jones, Hazel Farmer, John & Kathryn McKimmie, Julie Kennedy, Richard Sheridan, Margaret Lee, Judi Lawson

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS YEAR

These were agreed and signed

MATTERS ARISING

- a) Surrey has now purchased Bridgemate terminals. Sadly they had not been programmed correctly for the AGM Swiss Pairs so could not be used.
- b) The editor of English Bridge has asked that County news items should not include long lists of successful names for competitions, only the winners. Counties could use the space to publicise forthcoming events.

PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

Frances Trebble said that this year Surrey players had some very pleasing results. Bob Rowlands and Peter Lee won the National Pairs, with Arun Suri and Bob McRobert coming 3rd. Jane Green and Penny McLeod won the National Women's Pairs, with Bob Rowlands and Ting To coming 3rd in the Men's Pairs.

Our Tollemache team came second which was a splendid result, and the Lady Rose team came 3rd in the Pachabo.

Surrey won the A division of the Metropolitan Cup and a Surrey team won the London Championship Cup.

It is very pleasing that our best players support Surrey events. I must commend Jeffrey Allerton, Frances Hinden, Mike Scoltock and Graham Osborne who have won the Lady Rose Cup, County League and Surrey Bowl. Frances also won the Ladies Pairs with Paula Leslie. The final result of the Victor Ludorum will not be known until the end of this event.

There were increased numbers entering the Lady Rose, County League and Surrey Bowl and we hope this upward trend will continue. However pairs events have shown a disappointing decline in numbers. Because of this the format of the County Pairs will be changed to a 1-day event with general pairs session in the afternoon. The top 24 pairs will compete for the Cup in the evening, and the rest of the pairs compete for the Plate.

The Committee won its match against the London Committee thanks to a ruling by an independent adjudicator on one hand, but lost to the Sussex Committee.

The Committee has been looking into ways of helping new players to make the difficult transition from classes into clubs. Elizabeth Hammergren-Smith has been working hard on this and has recently opened two intermediate centres in Bletchingley and Coulsdon where students can go for 6 to 12 months to gain more confidence in duplicate play. This initiative has been funded by Surrey. Leigh Harding and Paul Shannon amongst others, are also encouraging beginners into club duplicate. If other members would like to become involved around the county, please contact Elizabeth or any other Committee member.

Frances thanked all the members of the Committee and Activity Managers for their hard work on the members' behalf.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Malcolm Curtis presented the financial report. There was a small surplus due to revenues

from the Green Point weekend being higher than expected. In reply to a question from the floor, Malcolm said the Bridgemate equipment was paid for from the accumulated funds. He thanked John McKimmie for auditing the accounts again this year. Acceptance of the accounts was proposed, seconded and agreed.

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION FOR THE YEAR 2007-8

The Treasurer proposed that the subscription remains the same for the year 2008-9. This was proposed, seconded and agreed by the members present.

APPOINTMENT OF HONORARY AUDITOR

A proposal was made, seconded and agreed that John McKimmie should be re-appointed as Honorary Auditor.

AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION

The following amendment to the constitution was agreed by the members:

It was resolved that paragraph 8(A)(2) of the Constitution should be amended by the addition of the phrase "With the exception of the Match Secretary," at the beginning of the seventh sentence. This has the effect of removing the four-year limitation on the Match Secretary's term of office.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The election of officers was agreed as follows:

President: Graham Wells

Chairman: Chris Stableford

Secretary: Leonie Lockhart

Treasurer: Malcolm Curtis

Membership Secretary: Jean Virley

Chief Tournament Director: Roland Bolton

Match Secretary: Peggy Griffin

Competition Secretary: Frances Trebble

Editor of Surrey Bridge: vacancy

Communications Secretary: vacancy due to the resignation of Julie Kennedy

ELECTION OF COMMITTEE

The following were elected to the committee.

Jill Cook

Malcolm Channing

Julia Brough (Web Manager)

Bomi Kavarana (County Youth Officer)

Shirley Pritchard (Master Point Secretary)

Elizabeth Hammergren-Smith

Holger Marsen

Judi Lawson

EBU STRATEGY PROPOSALS

The Chairman, Chris Stableford, told the members that all Surrey clubs had been notified of the proposals for reorganisation of EBU membership and the national funding of bridge. He thanked the clubs for their prompt responses. He did not propose to discuss the matter at this stage, but informed the members that the Committee representatives would be meeting with the EBU at the end of July to discuss the comments that had been made by Surrey clubs.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Judi Lawson was thanked for providing the prize for the lottery.

The meeting finished at 5.25 and the second half of the Swiss Pairs competition was played. There were 96 members playing plus directors and scorers.

Signed

Date