

MINUTES OF THE A.G.M OF SURREY COUNTY BRIDGE ASSOCIATION
Held on Sunday 17th July 2011 at 5.00 pm
at Bookham Old Barn Hall

APOLOGIES:

76 members were present. Apologies from Jill Cook, Tim Cook and Steve Foster.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS YEAR

The minutes of the 2010 AGM were agreed.

MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising

PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

Shirley Pritchard gave the following address:

“I am very fortunate to have enjoyed two years as Surrey President. I was asked to stay on for a second year as the Chairman and Secretary of Surrey were new to the committee and it was felt it would provide continuity.

Despite the huge increase in the number of members in Surrey since P2P was introduced the numbers of people who are entering competitions has been falling, although I am delighted to see the numbers here today, which is a record for our AGM Swiss Pairs.

We intend to try and remedy this fall in numbers by introducing a new competition the Club Challenge this Autumn. The first heat of this will take place in clubs this August so please look out for it. There is also the revamped league, details of which are on the flyers on your table.

We are moving most of our events to a central venue at Old Woking – this will enable us to store all Surrey's equipment centrally rather than have to move it from event to event which will enable our directors to set events up more easily.

Some of you may not know that since P2P was introduced Surrey is only one of three counties that do not charge members for belonging to the county – all services except competition entries provided for members by the county are free.

The future of bridge is important to us all and Surrey have taken the initiative by developing a network of District Training Centres which would work with the county in liaising with local teachers and clubs in order to bring on beginners and improvers, encourage players into club play, and further into county competitions. Another key objective of this scheme is to identify players with the potential to be selected to play for Surrey and then to help these players fulfil this potential.

Wimbledon Bridge Club has agreed to work closely with Surrey as the first District Training Centre and already runs a full programme of lessons, supervised sessions and sessions for novices. The club is developing plans for fulfilling the other objectives. Farnham are also looking to develop something similar.

Among my other tasks this year I have presented a cheque for £2500 to CHASE Children's hospice in Guildford. This is in addition to the cheque which we present annually to the Banstead rehabilitation Centre as a result of clubs participation in the Dorin Salver. On behalf of the committee I would like to thank you for your generosity to these causes.

This brings me on to a couple of words about two of my fellow committee members who are retiring from the committee – Holger Marsen has been the organiser of the Green Point event and also has done valuable work looking at alternative venues for that event.

Graham Wells has organised the two Simultaneous events we run each year for charity in February and September – he has developed these into streamlined events where the final

rankings and scores are available on the Surrey website and the masterpoints issued within a day of the final hands being played. He has developed a valuable rapport with clubs in the process. I am delighted to say that Graham has agreed to continue with this task as an activity manager even though he is standing down from the committee.

I would also like to thank all the other members of the committee for their hard work and dedication to the cause of Surrey Bridge – I think a special word of thanks is due to the two Steves Bourton & Foster who have taken over from where Roland left off in the organisation of our competitions – no easy task indeed. And a thank you to Edmund too for whom this is his last event directing for Surrey after many years service.

I am now handing the role of President to Graham Davison and I wish him good luck for the forthcoming year and trust he enjoys the role as much as I have”

ACCOUNTS FOR YEAR ENDING 31st MARCH 2011

Malcolm Curtis presented the accounts. There was a deficit of about £1,800 which, as a policy decision had been planned and met from reserves – currently around £37,000. There will be no county pay-to-play element for 2011-12

Acceptance of the accounts was agreed.

APPOINTMENT OF HONORARY AUDITOR

Tim Cook was appointed as the auditor for the coming year.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The election of officers was agreed as follows:

President: Graham Davison

Chairman: Mac Derwig

Secretary: Alison Williams

Treasurer: Malcolm Curtis

Match Secretary: Peggy Griffin

Competition Secretary: Frances Trebble

Communications Officer: Douglas Wright

ELECTION OF COMMITTEE

The following were elected to the committee.

Jill Cook

Julia Brough (Web Manager)

Bomi Kavarana (County Youth Officer)

Peter Bentley

Steve Foster

George Gardiner

Steve Bourton

Trevor Hobson

Neil Morley asked if the size of the committee was specified in the constitution. The constitution specifies a committee of 18.

APPOINTMENT OF COUNTY SELECTOR

Jeffrey Allerton was appointed to replace Graham Osborne who has completed his 4-year term as selector.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Neil Morley (senior TD) said that the bridgemates currently in use should be upgraded to version 2 and that Surrey as one of the largest counties should keep up with the latest technology. Brian Grainger said that the BM2 was popular at Bookham. Mac Derwig said that the committee would consider the matter.