

SCBA
MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE MEETING
Held on Thursday 24th January 2019

PRESENT:

Trevor Hobson (Chair); Tim Green; Mike Clements; Shirley Pritchard; Jeffrey Allerton; Tim Warren; Douglas Wright; Gail Norman; Harry Figov.

APOLOGIES: None

	ACTION
<p>1. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING These were agreed.</p>	
<p>2. MATTERS ARISING</p>	
<p>Tim G was thanked for finalising the loan policy which he had already circulated as a draft. It is attached at the end of these minutes.</p>	
<p>Trevor had written to all Surrey affiliated clubs advising them that the EBU has now introduced Secondary County membership and asked them to inform their members. He also wrote to all the Visitors on our database with the same message. The take up of this has not been significant (four people at the moment).</p>	
<p>The action from the last meeting for Douglas to draft and Trevor to send an email to all of last year's GP participants seeking their views on the future structure of the event will be carried forward.</p>	Douglas
<p>The action from last meeting for Douglas to plan a suitable seminar for the Met C teams was carried forward.</p>	Douglas
<p>Trevor mentioned the feedback from the Chairman's lunch which was largely positive and the committee felt it should continue. After discussion it was felt more appropriate to rename it Chairman's Consultation to avoid giving the impression that it was purely a social event. Tim W reported that since the discussion which Douglas led on teams play, Chobham were going to run a cross imp event to try and give members a teams experience without the difficulties of arranging teammates.</p>	
<p>Douglas will invite club Chairmen to an existing teams event as part of our promotion of team playing.</p>	Douglas
<p>Douglas said that 3 Counties had provided 5 teams in the Novice League this year, and that they were all enjoying it very much.</p>	
<p>3. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT</p>	
<p>Trevor reminded the committee that new committee members were required. Some names were mentioned, and Trevor was in the process of contacting them. Some said they were too busy at present but might be interested in the future.</p>	
<p>Trevor asked all committee members to look out for potential members within their clubs. Douglas said that he had a few people in mind to approach. Trevor will send him a list of the areas where we are currently looking for help.</p>	All
<p>Mike reported that both of the people recommended as a potential new treasurer had subsequently not felt able to take on the role at this time. However he was having a meeting with a third potential candidate the day after the meeting.</p>	Mike
<p>4. COMPETITIONS SUB-COMMITTEE</p>	
<p><i>Club Pairs Challenge</i></p>	
<p>Despite concerns over falling numbers 21 tables took part this year compared with 18 last year and it ran successfully.</p>	

<p><i>Blue Point Swiss Teams</i> Shirley said she had done nothing about organising this event so far, but the last weekend in November might be a suitable date. Jeffrey mentioned that at the Teams of 8 the director had displayed the scores on the screen before the final round of the event which is contrary to Surrey policy. Shirley will remind directors of this in their pre-event notes.</p>	Shirley
<p><i>Email from Marietta</i> Marietta had emailed Trevor with a number of suggestions to improve the running of Surrey events. These included the use of alternative venues, Bridgemate apps and results being posted within 10 minutes of the end of an event. The committee felt that many of her points were valid and they will be looked at further. Oxshott Village Centre had been asked about the provision of Wi-Fi to enable results to be loaded before the director gets home, and their response is still outstanding. We welcomed her suggestions and Trevor will respond to her on these points.</p>	Trevor
<p>5. TREASURER'S REPORT</p>	
<p>Mike had circulated the proposed budget for 2019-20 earlier this month. It proposed a deficit of £2000. This could be dealt with by running down the reserves or raising the UM charge. The committee agreed at this stage to use the reserves, and try and increase the amount raised from the Green Point event this year. He said the deficit for the current year looked like being around £660.</p>	
<p>Tim W was asked by Trevor if it was possible to quantify the outcomes of the amount spent on Youth Bridge. Tim W said that the costs of the Surrey Schools Cup had increased this year. He suggested that we would be represented at the Fresher's Fair at Surrey University only if a designated person was available to run a Bridge Club at the university.</p>	
<p>6. MATCHES REPORT</p>	
<p>Jeffrey reported that the Tollemache team came second in their group in the heats and thus qualified for the final next month. He confirmed that the same team would be playing in the final. The EBU had asked for the views of counties on their proposed changes to the format of the Tollemache heats. Jeffrey will respond.</p>	Jeffrey
<p>7. YOUTH BRIDGE</p>	
<p>Tim W reported on the one day Junior event at Wimbledon which took place in November. 30 youngsters came and, alongside a teaching team including the U21 and U16 squad leaders, the event was run largely by members of the club. Farnborough 6th form college now had 6 players regularly playing.</p>	
<p>8. COMMUNICATIONS SUB COMMITTEE</p>	
<p>Douglas had nothing to report. He mentioned that the County could possibly investigate the use of Facebook to remind members of forthcoming events.</p>	
<p>9. DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE</p>	
<p>Tim G confirmed that the appellant had now dropped his appeal to the County. The EBU L & E subcommittee had confirmed in their meeting of October 24th that this was a matter for the County.</p>	
<p>10. SHAREHOLDERS REPORT</p>	
<p>Gail confirmed that she had informed the EBU of Richard's death. His share will be taken over by Jeffrey at the moment pending new members possibly joining the committee at the AGM.</p>	
<p>Jeffrey confirmed that at the EBU AGM in November it was agreed that there will</p>	

only be one shareholder meeting annually which will be the AGM each November. However any shareholder could request a further meeting if it was felt that one was required, and the Chairman of the EBU undertook to publish a half year summary in May each year to update shareholders on the current state of the EBU.

11. MEMBERS SURVEY

113 members had responded to the survey which was mainly aimed at asking their views on Surrey events. There seemed to be a preference for beginning events earlier in the day, and this ties in with the new pricing structure at Oxshott which is effective from January 2020. It was therefore agreed that with effect from the Bank Holiday Swiss Pairs this year all our events will begin at 11.00 a.m. except for the Green Point event this year which continue to start at noon. There were other complaints about the chairs at Oxshott which have now been replaced, and the chairs at Guildford where cushions are provided. The additional cost of importing chairs to the Spectrum would have to be included in the entry fee for the event. There were comments about bad behaviour at the table at Guildford, and directors will be asked to mention at the start of the event that any of these instances must be reported to the director at the time. Several people claimed not to be aware of our events. Gail will send flyers for our upcoming events to clubs every 2 to 3 months as appropriate. It should be an aim to have feedback forms on the table at the break at GP weekend events at the Spectrum. Trevor will respond to the points made in the survey.

Gail
Trevor

12. EBU MEMBERSHIP CAMPAIGN

Following on from Tim Anderson's appointment as Membership Development Officer at the EBU, counties were asked if they would be willing to co-ordinate a campaign in their own county. Douglas expressed some concern about the benefits such a campaign might achieve. The committee approved this suggestion in principle as long as a resource was available. It was agreed that £200 would be put aside in the 2019-20 budget for this under the heading of "other Development".

13. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Tim W asked if he could put a double dummy article in the next newsletter and offer a prize of free entry to a county competition for the winner. This was agreed. Mike said that despite the talk of declining numbers of clubs the UM figures for last year showed 190,000 sessions played which is level with the previous year. Trevor paid tribute to Richard Millard's contribution to the committee. Shirley confirmed that she would be attending his funeral next week.

NEXT MEETINGS - Thursday 11th April; Wednesday 24th July at 7.30 pm.
AGM is Sunday 30th June

Surrey County Bridge Association - Loan Policy January 2019

Overview

The SCBA Committee has decided that SCBA may from time to time make loans available to affiliated clubs.

Purpose

Loans may be made to clubs to expedite the purchase of necessary or desirable bridge equipment which cannot be funded from current income and reserves of the relevant club.

Available Funds

As determined by the Committee from time to time. Currently aggregate amount of loans outstanding shall not exceed £10,000

Loan Conditions

Amount: Loans individually or in aggregate to any club shall not exceed £1500

Contribution: In general, SCBA will not fund more than 50% of the cost of the equipment to be acquired

Term: No longer than 3 years, but consistent with the useful life of the asset

Repayments: Equal semi-annual instalments over the loan period. Loans will become immediately repayable should the borrowing club resolve to cease affiliation to SBCA.

Interest rate: As determined by the Committee from time to time. Currently nil% p.a. on the reducing balance payable semi-annually or as specified by the Committee.

Security: Unsecured

Requirements

Applications shall be made in writing to the Hon. Treasurer, SCBA. Clubs seeking loans shall submit:

1. Details of the equipment to be financed including expected useful life.
2. Estimated cost of the equipment.
3. Amount to be provided by the club and/or external grants.
4. At least two preceding years' financial statements of the club. As the loan facility is unsecured, the SCBA needs to be satisfied that the club is capable of repaying the loan.
5. An outline cash flow forecast indicating the club's capacity to repay the loan(s).
6. A statement from the club's chairman and committee supporting the application.
7. An acknowledgement that the club making use of the SCBA loan facility will undertake to support Surrey bridge by entering pairs/teams in SCBA events including, for example, the Mary Edwards and Wanborough Cups.