

SCBA
MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE MEETING
Held on Thursday 6th October 2016

PRESENT:

Trevor Hobson (Chair); Charles Chisnall (President); Jeffrey Allerton; Ian Lewis; Douglas Wright; Gail Norman; Richard Millard; Shirley Pritchard.

APOLOGIES: Mike Clements; Tim Warren.

	ACTION
<p>1. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING These were agreed.</p>	
<p>2. MATTERS ARISING Charles said that his proposed Pro-Am would not now be happening. However Douglas said that as part of his organisation of the Guildford Cafe Bridge next year, he would like a few experts to come along to play, with the cost of "hiring" them going to the charity. This idea was agreed. Richard's exploration of a Schapiro Spring Foursomes type of event is ongoing.</p>	<p>Douglas Richard</p>
<p>3. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT Trevor reported on his work with Ian Mitchell and Gwynne Hughes to ensure the compatibility of the results of the Green Point Swiss Teams and their interface with the website. He reported that Peggy Griffin and Julia Brough had been awarded the Dimmie Fleming award for services to the County. He reported on the decline in numbers entering the Surrey leagues and Lady Rose this season. The Lady Rose now has 17 teams compared with 20 last year and that figure includes two new teams. It appears that new teams are playing for one year only. Douglas and Ian agreed to investigate why teams' events are on the decline at club level. Charles suggested that Divisions 3 and 4 of the league were combined, but league 4 currently includes non EBU members which may be an issue. It was agreed to leave the structure as it was for this season, but re-look at it for next year. Trevor asked for committee members to send him a password to enable them to access the shared data drive. The old website will be closed down at the end of the year as the cost is £70 p.a. Ian said that Bridgewebs may be introducing this service next year so we could transfer our data to them.</p>	<p>Douglas/Ian</p>
<p>4. COMPETITIONS SUB-COMMITTEE <i>Dorin Salver</i> Shirley proposed that in order to discourage pairs from winning the trophy in a very small field, the rules for the trophy winners will be changed to ensure that they play in a field of at least 5 tables and play at least 18 boards. This was agreed. Douglas asked if the event could be moved to later in the year as there were several EBU Sims in the early Autumn. <i>AGM Pairs</i> It was agreed that the AGM Pairs would in future revert to a single Mitchell movement with the number of rounds dependant on the length of the AGM. The finishing time should be advertised as 6 p.m.</p>	<p>Shirley</p>

5. TREASURER'S REPORT

Mike reported that with several items of expenditure still to be included, the Green Point event should make a surplus of £2k.

6. MATCHES REPORT

Jeffrey said there were 2 teams in the Home Counties league this year.

5 pairs have been chosen for the Tollemache qualifier this year.

The Matches s/c would like the Met Cup to be resurrected as it is useful to identify upcoming players. Although a director could be found, there is still an organiser required and so far no county has volunteered for this role. Richard agreed to ask the relevant counties via a questionnaire at the Tollemache for their views on the future of this event.

Richard

7.COMMUNICATIONS SUB-COMMITTEE

Douglas reported that due to a clash with Richmond 3 Counties had to cancel a proposed heat of the Really Easy Afternoons. Richard said that Richmond had run all 4 of these events annually since the start, and would not wish to stop. Douglas will approach other clubs to see if they are interested in running them.

Douglas

8.YOUTH BRIDGE

Tim had circulated a very comprehensive report of his activities which the committee found very impressive. Tim was commended for his work.

9. CHAIRMAN'S LUNCH

It was agreed that during an hour over lunch players would be divided into groups to discuss the draft SCBA Strategic Plan. Each group will have a committee member to lead the discussion and make notes. Trevor will circulate the plan in advance.

Trevor

10. GREEN POINT

Richard agreed to circulate the Post Event Implementation Review before the end of October. Lessons had been learnt this year, and it was important that there was a blueprint for future years. Prizes have still to be awarded. Richard was concerned about the future of the event in the light of declining attendances at all events.

Richard

11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Charles had been monitoring website hits which had increased to 800 per day as players were looking for the Green Point results. He felt there should be more prominence given to teaching on the website.

Douglas said that Andrew Robson sent out monthly emails to people on his mailing list with short items of interest with links to the main website. He suggested the county could do something similar. He would circulate an example and members were asked to let Douglas have their comments.

Jeffrey asked Douglas what plans he had to replicate last year's excellent targeted emails to potential players which resulted in an increase in attendance at events. Douglas admitted he had not considered this again for this year, but members felt it was vital to continue with this. Trevor said that marketing of our events should not "fall between the cracks".

Douglas

NEXT MEETINGS - Thursday 12th January was confirmed. Members had emailed Gail with their preferred availability and Mike said he couldn't do Thursday evenings.

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