SCBA MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE MEETING Held on Friday 16th January 2015

PRESENT:

Mac Derwig (Chair); Graham Osborne (President); Shirley Pritchard; Trevor Hobson; Mike Clements; Gail Norman; George Gardiner; Peggy Griffin; Jeffrey Allerton; Peter Bentley; Bomi Kavarana, Jill Cook.

APOLOGIES:

Frances Trebble; Julia Brough; Steve Foster; Douglas Wright.

ACTION

1. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

These were agreed

2. MATTERS ARISING

Jeffrey said that although he understood the need for space restriction for County News in the new format of *English Bridge*, he still did not agree with the prescriptive nature of the entries. Shirley said she would try and put in some county items in the next issue and see what happened. Surrey members' lack of success in National tournaments meant the Surrey contribution was very small.

3. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Graham and Mac are meeting to discuss the appointment of a new president.

He reported on the progress of the Surrey University Bridge club. There were 16 people at the first meeting and 8 at the second because of exams. The possible teacher could not make the first session.

The Chairman's lunch will be on the 18th November.

He reported that Sussex had obtained a lottery grant of £10,000 for teaching bridge in schools.

He reported that Guy Ableman has now finished his involvement in the Surrey SIMS. Trevor has agreed to take over this role.

Graham confirmed that the Charity for next month's SIMS would be the Meath Epilepsy Centre in Godalming.

Gail and Julia have created a database showing all clubs.

4. TREASURER'S REPORT

Mike reported a potential deficit of £4,000. This is dependent on the redemption of the vouchers given to participants in last year's Club Pairs Challenge final. Only 16 people out of 108 have claimed free entry so far and the financial effect of future claims is likely to be significantly less that the £1320 included in the forecast.

It could reduce the deficit by about £1000.

The issue of raising P2P will be discussed again at the pre-AGM meeting, but Mike felt that we need a plan for using the money.

Trevor made the point that the County needs more enthusiastic and committed volunteers to do work rather than ask for more money.

There will be no change to the financial year to bring it in line with the Competitions year.

5. EBU SHAREHOLDERS' MEETING

Nothing to report.

6. COMPETITIONS SUB-COMMITTEE

The issue of free entry to the Lady Rose vouchers had been a success with 21 teams this year compared with 14 last year.

There was not a similar increase in Division 2 numbers and those vouchers will not be issued again.

Publicity for the new Spring Teams Congress was discussed. Jeffrey felt that including Friday evening may limit the numbers.

7. COMMUNICATIONS REPORT

Douglas had suggested in his report that we should ask clubs to appoint a development officer to promote training. Shirley pointed out that large clubs such as Richmond and Wimbledon already held several teaching sessions for various stages of learners. It appears that the 40+ age group is the most productive as a target audience for teaching.

Gail sent the newsletter to non affiliated clubs and had a response from a few of them.

Bomi said that John Cadge was standing down after 15 years of teaching at Claremont School. He said that he had asked Simon Barb at the EBU to look into giving John an award for his work.

8. MATCHES REPORT

Peggy reported that the Tollemache team failed to qualify for the final. Sussex and Oxon were contacted about their invitation events. Oxon have given us a date for the Beck Cup.

9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Jeffrey will circulate his thoughts on amendments to the constitution via email. He quoted an example where the constitution says we should have a CTD and a magazine editor - both roles no longer exist.

Mac asked if Martin Lee's retirement in June could lead to problems for our competitions. Shirley said that this season was covered, and that next season Steve was looking to use Gary Conrad. Surrey are short of suitably qualified directors who can use the Jeff Smith's scoring system.

Gail will circulate an updated contact list.

NEXT MEETING - Friday 8th May at 2.15 at Oxshott