

SCBA
MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE MEETING
Held on Friday 29th January 2016

PRESENT:

Trevor Hobson (Chair); Charles Chisnall (President); Shirley Pritchard; Mike Clements; Gail Norman; Jeffrey Allerton; Ian Lewis; Bomi Kavarana, Jill Cook; Douglas Wright; Tim Warren; Richard Millard.

APOLOGIES: Frances Trebble

<p>Before the formal meeting began, Trevor welcomed Tim to the committee to replace Bomi. This was Bomi's last meeting and he was thanked for all the work he had done on School's Bridge in particular the annual School's event where he will be missed.</p> <p>Trevor also announced the resignation of Mac from the committee. Mac felt that since standing down as Chair there was no role for him especially since the University bridge at Guildford had been taken over by Paul Shannon. Mac was warmly thanked for taking over the Chairmanship at short notice 5 years ago, and doing the job so effectively.</p> <p>Trevor also announced that Frances would be remaining on the committee, but would not be attending meetings. She would retain control of the Lady Rose, but Shirley would take over as Competitions secretary.</p> <p>1. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING These were agreed</p> <p>2. MATTERS ARISING Jeffrey's paper on the proposed new scoring system for the Victor Ludorum was approved. The Green Point event will be included in future. It will be shown on the website so players can see their running totals. A note to the effect that the league results are not included until the end of the season will be added. Shirley will circulate the note from the EBU defining Primary membership of a county. Ian has constructed a league system for the website. All competitions for the forthcoming season should be shown on the website. There has been no progress at the EBU on constructing a satisfactory league scoring system. The suggestion of holding a Pro-am event has been deferred. Douglas mentioned that this year the final "Play with the Stars" event will be held after 9 years. This might make the availability of top players easier.</p> <p>3. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT Trevor suggested that in order to complete league matches more promptly Surrey could follow the example of Berks & Bucks where dates on which all matches are to be held are chosen in advance of the season. If individuals cannot make those dates or come up with a suitable alternative the match is forfeited. It was felt that this approach should not be followed by Surrey. The legacy website will shortly be stood down, and anyone who wished for any particular information from it should contact Ian to ensure it is preserved. Trevor would like the committee to discuss a 5 year plan for bridge in the</p>	<p>ACTION</p>
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county going forward. He will circulate the EBU "Best Practice for counties" to assist with forward planning.

Trevor urged all members to seek to identify potential new energetic talent for the committee to assist in particular with the running of competitions and marketing.

A bullet pointed list outlining a job description is required.

4. COMPETITIONS SUB-COMMITTEE

Shirley reported that so far this season events had gone well with the Mixed Pairs being oversubscribed. Unless entries to the Men's and Ladies Pairs improve in the next couple of weeks these events will make a loss and the committee will be asked to decide on their future at the next meeting.

100% of entries had been received via the website since its reincarnation. This greatly reduces the job of the Competitions secretary, and bodes well for the Green Point.

Jennifer Breeden who has run the Golfbridge event for the past two years had queried the apparent surplus of £770 that the event had made and wondered what Surrey had done with the money. Although she did not directly ask for its return, the committee agreed that £100 should be sent to her to increase the prize fund for this year's event.

The committee agreed that the Met Cup was not an event which Surrey had the resource or inclination to run. After the event last year Steve had sent out an email informing other counties that the event was looking for an organiser. Middlesex had expressed an interest in the continuation of the event, and Shirley will write to Peter Hasensen the Chairman of Middlesex explaining Surrey's position. It may be possible for him to pay an organiser to run it if the county don't want to do it themselves. [Post meeting note - Peter Hasensen has offered to continue to run the Met Cup as 3 separate events with each section A, B & C playing at Tunbridge Wells, Richmond and YC. The events need not be on the same day, and the clubs would organise them]

5. COMMUNICATIONS REPORT

Following the request to pay Meena Samani £38 to teach pupils at Claremont Fancourt school which was made at the last meeting, Meena refused payment but it was agreed she could be offered mileage.

There are no plans for another Minibridge teaching session following the one held at Wimbledon which was full.

The publicity for the Green Point event will mention the amount of prize money on offer.

Richard

6. MATCHES REPORT

Jeffrey said that when it was ascertained if the Met Cup was going ahead, Surrey should give some guidance to the organisers as to who should be included in the teams.

2 matches had been played in the Home Counties League - the restrictions of the numbers of grand masters in each team had been removed.

Surrey won their group comfortably at the Tollemache qualifying heat.

Julia Brough and Mike Ulyyet had represented Surrey at an inter-county event organised by Sussex.

A team from Richmond qualified to represent Surrey at the Garden Cities regional final on 7th May.

Charles raised the question of whether the selectors should impose a restriction on players representing Surrey when they do not enter any

Surrey county event or play in any clubs. This was not agreed and the status quo for selecting members will continue.

7. CHAIRMAN'S LUNCH

The committee were asked to decide on the viability of this event. It costs c £450, and some clubs give nothing back in that they do not enter the Sims or encourage their players to play in county events.

The committee felt that the event should continue as it was a useful opportunity to engage with clubs and for clubs to learn from each other.

The amount of time given to bridge should be reduced leaving an extra 30 minutes for discussion.

8. YOUTH BRIDGE

Tim proposed a county charity event in association with an existing event perhaps including non EBU members such as those who currently play with the U3A.

The continuing survival of the University Bridge Club may be in doubt due to Paul Shannon's illness. Bomi said that in his experience only by training an "in house" teacher would its success be assured. The target is for the club to be financially self-sufficient. A suggestion that they should be capable of joining the Novice League was not agreed. Tim will investigate.

Tim

Tim

9. TREASURER'S REPORT

The budget for the season 2016/17 was agreed. Trevor said the county should be financially secure and agree a budget that more or less balances. It must not be financially irresponsible.

A surplus of £1000 was agreed as the target of competitions rather than break even.

Teaching or development within clubs involves clubs asking us for funds to hire halls for events. U3A may be an example that could be followed although Douglas felt that the bridge players who attended U3A were more social players.

It was felt that a contingency was not required - Mike reminded the meeting that P2P would bring in £3800 p.a. from April this year.

Mike will republish the budget with the agreed amendments.

10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Jeffrey asked for comments on the Member's survey to be brought to the next meeting.

Trevor said that in future meetings should be for discussion on topics where papers had been pre-distributed.

He also asked if the committee were prepared to meet on a weekend to discuss strategy.

Gail said she had received a request for some director's training within the county.

NEXT MEETING - Friday 15th April at 2.p.m. at Oxshott (provisional)

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