

Minutes of 52nd Annual General Meeting

Stockton Bridge Club
Yarm Fellowship Hall
Tuesday 11th June 2019

1. Apologies for absence from Sue Andrews, the Waine family, Rob Maude, Gypsy Nichol and Ken Yates.

2. Minutes of 51st AGM (unavailable due to oversight)

3. Matters Arising - None.

4. Chairperson's Remarks

Firstly, I would like to thank Steve for his continued hard work to ensure the smooth running of the Club. I would also like to thank the rest of the committee, directors, scorers, refreshments organisers and you all for attending week after week to provide a welcoming environment in which to play bridge. I would be good if more people volunteered to have a go at scoring or directing or joining the committee.

From where we were just a couple of years ago, the club is in a much healthier position with the number of tables often being in double figures, however I would ask you all to encourage more, new, people to come and try bridge at the club. I know Fred has said he is planning on running lessons from late September so I would ask you all to advertise this as widely as possible as the club always need new members.

Overall the club has performed well over the year with the A team being promoted to the B division and the B team having another consistent year. Thanks to Sue for running the B team, and once again I would encourage all members to support the teams where possible to prevent the constant selection headaches but also, if you haven't played teams before, it is an excellent way of playing against new people, improving your bridge, and having a really good tea. We finished fourth in the North East rankings thanks in no small part to Peter and Fred winning the club champions' pairs.

If anyone has any ideas on how the club could continue to improve please let the committee know

Finally, best wishes to Ted on a speedy recovery. Once again, many thanks to you all. Paul

5. Secretary's Report

Apologies for omitting to write last year's minutes, but in my defence no one noticed !!

Following last year's increase in table money (£2 to £2.50) we were able this financial year to buy 12 new Bridgemates which, I think all will agree, has delivered a vast improvement in reliability and functionality.

Next, a few thankyou's . . . firstly to the Waine family, all of whom, very soon after their arrival in Teesside have made a significant contribution to the club in terms of helping set up the tables, collecting boards, directing, joining the committee, auditing the accounts etc. Thanks also to Tony and Joyce for taking on the mantles of scorer and Treasurer . . and not forgetting Fred for doing all of that, and also continuing to teach the beginners class. Lastly, thanks to John Lambert and Pat Mitchell who recently volunteered to take an interest in scoring and the web site.

Perhaps the only blot on our landscape this year was the unfortunate disagreement between two members. I mention this not to open up old wounds, but just to say that it highlighted severe shortcomings in our ability to adhere to the requirements of our own constitution which calls for the creation of separate sub committees, disciplinary sub committees etc. etc. none of which we have the membership capacity to 'man-up'. It was decided by the committee that that, in future, every effort should be made to fully address grievances before those involved leave the building. It is envisaged that such matters might require the involvement of all the directors present, and perhaps with additional support from some or all of the attending committee members.

Due mainly to health issues, we have lost recently several directors leaving us only with Fred Robinson, Tony Waine, Ruth Studholme. Fortunately, the Secretary has just completed the Director's course and should be qualified by 16th June. Hopefully the current Directors (and members) will be supportive of him (me!) gaining experience of directing as much as possible over the coming weeks and months, particularly with respect to law rulings. At this point I'd like to remind the membership that **ALL** infractions at the table should be dealt with by the Director and not be addressed by the players themselves; in fact, so doing negates your right to any rectification that might have benefitted the non-offending pair. The Director should be called, not only for major offences such as revokes, or reserving rights, but also

for leads out of turn, bids out of turn, inadvertently exposed cards, etc. The non-offending pair may often gain slight advantage following a minor infraction of the rules so it's worth it (and the right thing to do . . . and good practice for those who play in Interclub matches).

Addendum. Please see the notice on the EBU web site regarding incidences of spam / phishing e mails. The threat applies mainly to e mail addresses on our web site, so shouldn't affect other members, but please be vigilant. (I intend to check our anti-virus software is OK asap)

Please see EBU web site for If you have any concerns regarding emails received from the EBU please contact us directly on 01296 317200. Any suspicious emails should be reported to [Action Fraud](#)

6. Treasurer's Report (financial summary appended)

7. Items Raised

The proposal to increase the table money to £3 to include the cost of refreshments was rejected (quite overwhelmingly) by a show of hands. Proposed by Fred R, seconded by Ruth S.

8. Election of Committee (Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, Members.)

None of the club officials have resigned, nor has anyone been proposed or volunteered.
The Secretary proposed that the individuals listed below are re-elected 'en bloc'. Frances S Seconded.

Chair	Paul Clarke
Treasurer	Joyce Wales (assisted by Claire Akel)
Secretary	Steve Woodward
Committee Members	Sue, Andrews, Judy Waine, Tony Lobo Fred Robinson.
A Team captain	Paul Clarke
B Team Captain	Sue Andrews

David Rossiter kindly volunteered to assist with uploading club archive documents to the web site.
Similarly, Pat Mitchell and John Lambert offered to learn how to operate the electronic scoring system.

9. AOB – No comments

10. Presentation of Trophies (First, second, third)

Darnborough	Fred R & Peter Li P - Rob & Tony - Ted & Tony
Metcalfe	Ted M & Tony W - Rob & Tony - Alex & Steve
YMC	Ted M & Tony W - Fred & Peter - Rob & Tony
YMCA Shield (Handicap):	Rob M & Tony J
Stockton:	Ted M & Tony W - Rob & Tony - Ian & Paul
Individual (Kirby) Cup	Ted M & Tony W (joint 1st) - Tony Jackson - Rob Maude.
Norman Dykes Trophy	Claire Akel and Judy Waine
Hughes Teams	Alex M & Steve G, Ian R & Paul C, with David Rossiter
Hughes Rosebowl	David M & Henry W with Sue A & Steve W
Summer pairs (May-Sept 2018)	Fred Robinson - Peter Li Ping - Ted & Tony (Joint 3 rd)