



MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 1st June 2015

1. Apologies received from: Jocelyn Gordon, Sadie Robson, and Brian Pacey.
2. Minutes of AGM held 23.6.14. were accepted, proposer Liz Muir, seconded Susan Green. There were no issues arising.
3. Chairman's Report: "I calculate that this is our 40th AGM. Two or three of the original members still plodding along.

Now into my fourth year as Chairman of Brunton Bridge Club, so what if any differences since last year's AGM.

We remember with fondness Belle Boast and Tony Bell who sadly passed away.

Also our thoughts go out to those members who are presently recuperating after illness - Janet Angel ...Gavin & Cynthia Bolton.

I would like to acknowledge the outstanding work carried out on our behalf in the NEBA executive and Council, the following members Liz Muir/Mary Page/Ann and Sue Caygill, David and Gill Gold, Elaine Purvis, Brian Pacey, Steve Ray & Neil Aiston. An unprecedented 10 of 16 Exec and Tournament Secs.

Membership is slightly up from 107 to 111.

This year we decided to hold a team's teaching/practice session on Wednesday afternoons, ably lead by Steve Ray & yours truly along with other members of the A team adding their considerable amount of experience to the sessions. The number of members participating ranging from two to four tables. It was deemed a great success by all and I am pleased to say that we will be resuming once again in September with the added decision to allow non-members to participate for a small fee. (We will discuss format etc. briefly in AOB).

It gives me enormous pleasure to announce that all of the Teams entered into the NEBA Inter-Area won their respective leagues – of the sixteen matches played we won 15! Incredible! Unprecedented in the Clubs history. I am a little biased though by stating that maybe the team's practice sessions had something to do with it!

Brunton A regaining the title after nine consecutive wins by Hurworth A. The B & C Teams didn't lose a match both gaining promotion, could it be possible that we could end up with three teams in the A division!!? The success of a club is always down to the goodwill of those members who go a little further in the running of the Club – I would like to thank not only the committee members but those players who have 'made' the Club the envy of all others when it comes to catering not only for home league matches but the Xmas party and NEBA events - we all know who they are! Mary Page, Gill Gold, Irene Sharff, Susan Green, Elaine Purvis, Liz Muir, Ann & Sue Caygill, Georgia Ray.

If I have missed anybody my sincere apologies.

The Club hosted the Deane Salver this year and the whole event was exemplary run with 'General Mary' organising everything superbly with 17 ½ tables, the largest turn out for an NEBA event. I hope we will be hosting this event for many a year, BUT this relies on the goodwill of many who I thank once again.

In NEBA events: Brunton members have done notably well, retaining the **John Clark Salver**, and therefore overall **NEBA** club of the year.

The 'Roll of Honour'!

Don Reid 2nd in the NEBA player of the Year
Gazette Cups, (Don Reid and David Brickland)
Deane Salver, (Liz Muir & Don Reid)
Kempson Vases, (Don Reid & David Brickland, Neil & Inga Aiston),
Niman Israel, (Mary Page & Brian Lumsden, Neil & Inga Aiston)
Summer Pairs, (Mark Stanners & Ray Green)
Swiss Pairs, (Mary Page & Aileen Cunningham)
Club Champions Teams: (Brian Lumsden, Frank Springett, Guy Herzmark and Peter Avery)
2nd in the Club Championship Pairs, (Don Reid and Liz Muir).

Our usual successful Captains charity teams event recipients were once again the Blyth Wildlife Trust. Last year I proposed that the Xmas party have a charge of £5 per person all proceeds being given to a homeless charity. This duly happened and a very pleasant Xmas party was had by one and all.....a massive thank you to the members who did all the work.

Brunton Book – The Club wishes to acknowledge the hard work that Neil Aiston carries out in producing our commemorative book. This year's recipient

is Ian Eckford. Ian has been a 'little treasure' to the club over the last few years – Mr Reliable, unfortunately (for us) Ian has decided to move to pastures new namely to South West Scotland. We wish him and his family our very best.

4. Treasurer's Report:

Ann presented the accounts for members approval. She explained the deficit this year of £1876.48 was down to £600 for teaching sessions which can be deducted from Ian Spoor's donation, reducing deficit to £1300 and the purchase of new cards - £400. Tables numbers were down from 15 tables per week to 14,5 tables per week.

Liz Muir asked due to deficit if the club should be increasing table money. Ann advised committee did not intend to increase table money this year but could look at increasing membership fee next year. No other matters raised.

Ann thanked the Auditor for producing the accounts.

5. Election of Officers:

Committee members were willing to stand for re-election this year and were re-elected by the members. Eunice Ferguson was voted onto the committee to be assistant secretary as was Peter Avery as chief scorer.

6. Resolution from the Committee:

- Bridgemates – After a short discussion an overwhelming decision to go forward and buy a set at a cost of approximately £ 2,500 was agreed.
- Golding Salver:
Committee proposed that we change the qualifying rules for the competition to the top 12 pairs in the overall average percentage list. This will ensure that only the top 12 pairs play in the event. This was carried unanimously.
- Short Discussion on Teams practice sessions. – Apparent that most evenings would be inconvenient for majority – I proposed that we do them in 12 week sessions at a charge of £12 – 3 play sessions followed by an analysis by Steve on hands from first three sessions.
- A 7.00 pm start time was again voted for by the members.

7. Election of Auditor:

Brian Pacey was re-elected as Auditor.

8. AOB:

As no other business meeting closed at 7 pm.

