



MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 23 June 2014.

1. Apologies received from: Steve and Georgia Ray, Brian Lumsden, Ann Caygill, Stephen Reay.
2. Minutes of AGM held 3.6.2013 were accepted, proposer Ian Eckford, seconded Gill Gold. There were no issues arising.
3. Chairman's Report:

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

We remember with fondness Morrie Rowland who sadly passed away this year.

We currently have 107 members which allows us to enter three teams of eight to the NEBA Inter Area. The A team in division "A" finished a credible 2nd, the "B" and "C" teams were both in Division "C" finishing 4th and 5th respectively, the results of their match being an honourable 10-10 but possibly a moral victory for the "C" Team. Three teams will again be entered into this year's Inter Club competition.

My thanks go to all those players who gave up their valuable time to support Brunton Bridge Club.

In other NEBA events: notably the NEBA Club Pairs and Teams events, Brunton players won both events and therefore the John Clark Salver was won by Brunton, as overall NEBA Club of the Year.

NEBA has had a hard time with people attending some events, a number having to be cancelled. A sub-committee headed by Vice Chairman Liz Muir has recommended that certain Clubs take responsibility for an event. We are therefore hosting the Arnold Deane at Brunton in February next year and I hope for a "massive" turn out.

At last year's AGM we stated that we would support the EBU Simultaneous pairs at a cost of an extra £1 – we have had one and the second will be in the autumn. This year we managed to achieve the overall 3rd and 4th place – your Chairman having the pleasure of playing with the EBU relations office Andrew Urbanski who

had been invited to the club to hear concerns regarding the EBU and Liz Muir and David Brickland.

Despite the Captain's Charity Teams not being held monies raised on the night were donated to the Blyth Wildlife Trust. Last year I proposed that the Christmas party have a charge of £5 per person – all proceeds being given to a homeless charity. This duly happened and a very pleasant Party was had by one and all ... a massive thank you to the people who did all the work."

The Committee is proposing a session of daytime bridge specifically for Teams bridge. This is for all members, you need not come as a team as Steve and Georgia Ray along with Liz Muir and I will be on hand to either play or advise – teams tactics are different to those in a pairs event."

Following the Chairman's report, members approved continuing with 2 EBU Sims event p.a. and interest was shown from several members with regard to the Teams proposals. Members regularly use the website and no suggestions for improvements were made.

4. Treasurer's Report:

The Treasurer could not attend the AGM as on holiday but submitted the following report:

"We have made a loss of approximately £900 which is half of that made the previous year. We have accumulated funds of nearly £14,000, £2,300 of which is the Ian Spoor's bequest. There is therefore no need to increase membership or table money at this stage.

We had 107 members in 2013/14 compared to 111 in the previous year. The average number of tables for the year has remained at 15.

There is nothing to report. If you have any questions about the accounts that cannot be answered by members of the Committee tonight please e-mail me and I will provide an answer when I return.

I would like to thank Norman Gray for auditing the accounts this year"

5. Election of Officers:

Steve Ray was elected onto the committee and Liz Muir has resigned as she has now taken on the role of Vice Chairman of NEBA. Brian Pacey proposed as Auditor. All other committee members remain unchanged as no other nominations received.

6. Change of start time to 7 pm:

Proposal accepted by the members. Chairman advised would implement this change from September on a trial basis.

7. Any other business:

- Brian Pacey raised the issue of his appointment as auditor whilst being a member of the club. Members accepted Brian's appointment unanimously.
- Brian also requested the Committee to look at more teams events, similar to the Niman-Israel event, and the Chairman advised would investigate this proposal.
- Anne Hauxwell raised concern that the proposed daytime bridge might clash with Newcastle Bridge Club on Wednesdays. Chairman noted this point.

Before closing the meeting, the Chairman presented this year's "Brunton Book" to Liz Muir for all her hard work and dedication to the club over the last ten years on the committee and was sorry Neil Aiston was not present to receive the members and committee's appreciation of all his hard work in producing the Book for the Club.

As no other matters were raised the meeting closed at 7.20.