



## Clare Bridge Club

### Minutes of Committee Meeting, Monday 9 September 2019

Present: Sarah, John H, David, John S, Jenny, Kathy, Nina, Nick, Joyce

Apologies: Will

1. **Minutes of previous meeting:** 14.5.2019 postponed as some members were unable to open document. To be re-sent by Sarah.
2. **Matters arising:**
  - Partner broker – Jenny explained the problem of using 'Find a Partner via the website'. Nina has offered to assist by helping with the website. Sarah offered to speak to Jenny Morley who is our current partner-finder, but does not use the computer.
  - Committee Meeting minutes should be being published on the Clare website.
  - Sarah had contacted Gordon Rainsford at the EBU to take the club out of the GDPR contract with the EBU as previously agreed.
  - Duplimating boards – these are now provided by Paul Rickard. Asked whose responsibility it is for boards on the night, Sarah explained that it is the director's responsibility to ensure that there are boards that can be played. We have 6 sets of boards which rotate to Paul, and various people who can pick these up and bring them to Clare if necessary. We keep up to 4 sets at Clare at any one time, but we also keep a set of boards which could be hand-dealt if necessary.
3. **Treasurer's report:** Will absent from today's meeting, but had circulated copies of club accounts, attached.
4. **Secretary's report:** None
5. **Captain's report:** The first and second teams are doing well in the Summer League, with the first team currently leading and looking to be favourite to win. Jenny will choose a team for the Suffolk Teams of Eight in November. Joyce and John were thanked for their contribution to the first team matches.
6. **Webmaster's report:** Jenny suggested that Cleopatra be congratulated for doing a wonderful job.
7. **GDPR Officer's report:** Sarah expressed her concern at the current state of affairs as Derek is no longer attending the club or club committee meetings, although still technically remaining a member, which leaves us vulnerable for GDPR. Sarah will contact Derek to clarify the situation.
8. **Feedback from County Club Representatives meeting:** Jenny and John S attended the meeting.
  - Duplimated board security was felt to be an issue and was discussed. It is not felt to be a particular problem for Clare at present.
  - Jacks Morcombe and Peter Bushby are offering training on directing and scoring on Bridgemates
  - Suffolk has a Conduct Committee, chaired by Malcolm Pryor – they offer the opportunity to take conduct issues away from the club. This was welcomed by Sarah who added that Jeff Orton had been very helpful previously after an issue at Clare Swiss Pairs.

- Suffolk asked that members update their details on the EBU website as they can check these if they need to contact an individual. Sarah to announce.
- Suffolk are looking at updating their constitution
- Jenny pointed out the “play it again” function on the website which may be useful to members wishing to improve their play. Sarah to announce.
- Other clubs have experienced fraud. EBU suggested treasurer details be removed from the website. John H suggested that the problem lies with the banks. Will was congratulated for being extremely vigilant to date. Sarah will chat with Will and suggest his details remain on the website but “Treasurer” comes off.

9. **October and February 2020 Robson:** October Robson is full. Sarah apologised that Clare members did not get the information first. John S thinks that Stephanie will be able to help as last year, but she is recovering from a broken wrist. He will check.  
February 2020: the hall has been booked by David. Sarah will send out information. Entry fee raise to £40/head agreed. There may be an issue with supplying our own alcohol in Lavenham Hall.

10. **Teaching programmes:**

- Bridgebites – Conor has been asked to take over management of bridgebites evenings. This programme has been a success, boosting club attendance.
- Supervised play proposed. Wednesday night, once a quarter with better players – Jane, David, Nick, Cleo, to assist and advise on play of boards, or/and have themes as subject. John S suggested mentioning this on guest night. Nick felt they were fundamentally different so should be kept separate.

11. **Guest night:** Wednesday 9 October. Joyce to provide cakes and John S, even though he will be away, will provide wine and glasses for approximately 40 people. Sarah will organise director and scorer for the evening.

12. **Afternoon club proposal:** Discussed. There is lack of sensible hall availability and problems arising with requirements for directors and scorers. Decision is not to proceed.

13. **Cafe Bridge:** Details of Nick and Sarah’s research into how the event works and whether it could be held in Clare shared. If we go ahead, Clare would be the first club in Suffolk to hold a Cafe Bridge event. Sarah was sure we would have the support of Suffolk Bridge. The intention would be to support small local charities with proceeds.

Nina suggested the use of the Old Goods Shed in the Country Park, but there were concerns around distance for people with poor mobility.

Sarah put forward a vote to investigate further and after considerable discussion the vote was 6 For, 2 Against.

Nick will chair a sub-committee who will report at the January meeting.

14. **AOB:**

- John H voiced concerns that people find the club unfriendly and can be intimidated by the perception of an expectation of high standard of play. Some discussion but no resolution.
- Due to lack of time, the following 3 items to be put forward to the next agenda:
  - Need for a host (JH)
  - Need for people not to always sit in the same place (JS)
  - Handicap Competition run by Stowmarket (JP)

**Date and time of next meeting: Monday 13 January 2020, 5.30 pm**