



## Essex Contract Bridge Association

A constituent member of the English Bridge Union

Minutes of the Committee Meeting held at 19.30 on Wednesday 31 October 2018 at Paul and Val Mollison's house – Tekoa Lodge, Mayes Lane, Sandon, Essex, CM2 7RW

**Present:** Petra Bromfield, Linda Fleet, Pat Johnson, Paul Mollison, Val Mollison, Sue Thorburn

1. **Welcome** Paul Mollison welcomed those present. Apologies received from Bernie Hunt, Chris Taylor and Dennis Valtisariis
2. **Minutes of the last meeting held on Wednesday 20 June 2018** These had been circulated prior to the meeting. It was agreed that the minutes were a correct record of the meeting. A copy was signed by the chairman.
3. **Matters arising from the minutes not already included in the agenda** There were no separate matters arising.
4. **Reports from Officers**

**a. General Secretary** (Sue Thorburn)

**EBU** The Essex county working group is now active and we are participating. We are not currently involved in the EBU Membership campaign. The county officers' questionnaire has been returned. There were no nominations for the Silver award or Dimmie Fleming.

**General Data Protection Regulations** After a protracted email debate the EBU agreed there was no need for a contract between clubs and the EBU with the proviso that clubs must comply with the regulation.

**Bridge in Schools** The first full term is underway at Halstead. There will be a review at the end of term in December. More "buddies" to mentor the children would be helpful but, probably due to the distance, it has been difficult to generate interest outside clubs in the Chelmsford area.

**Essex Clubs** The Ann Owen club has withdrawn from the EBU. Joan McGuffin has started a new club for beginners and fast track classes.

**b. Treasurer** (Linda Fleet)

Bank Balance on 19/06/2018

£9143- Barclays (£10,380,8231 at 27/10/2017)  
£15,827 - Skipton.

**Competitions** The monthly Warboys continues to make a small surplus. The Summer Seniors showed a good surplus, but because of the difference in cost of hall hire and catering, the Autumn Seniors just broke even. Entries for the Autumn competitions have been slow coming

in. Some of the costs in the quarterly accounts are estimated and do not include a donation of £134 following the sale of a cup owned by Margaret Curtis.

**P2P** Payment for April - October 2018 is £1520 (2017 - £1635).

Tony Philpott has kindly kept this list up to date for several years but wishes to stand down at the end of the financial year. It was agreed there was no requirement to maintain detail at club level and a record of payments received from the EBU is sufficient.

**Electronic Banking** We have successfully set up on-line banking with Lloyds and the authorisation of payments seems to be working very well. It was agreed Sue would be the third signatory for both Barclays and Lloyds accounts.

### **c. Tournament Secretary (Val Mollison)**

**Events** After the cancellation in June, the remaining Warboys went OK. The bad behaviour issue will be covered separately, see minute 6.

The Seniors events in July & Oct went OK apart from some confusion over the start time. It was agreed it should be 10.30 for 10.45. Petra will make sure this is clear on the website.

The discussion on P2P prompted a comment that Southend & Leigh, as one of the large Essex clubs, would like to host an Essex competition. It was felt another Essex competition in the Southend area would not be popular but, if Southend chose to run their own competition, the ECBA would provide support. Further to this it was agreed that Val and Pat would look at the possibility of running all the Seniors events at Barleylands.

There was a problem with the Fletcher scoring. It was agreed there would be a statement on the website that the problem was known and was being worked on. There had been some comments that the Fletcher finished late and, possibly, had too many boards. It was agreed it would be unchanged although the subject could be raised at the AGM by a member.

The knockouts are running on schedule. Invitations for direct entry into Teams of 4 plate will be issued shortly.

There is currently discussion between the counties about the date and venue for the Metropolitan Cup.

There has been one county match since the last committee meeting.

**Directing and Scoring** Graham Beeton passed the county director's course with distinction and is happy to become a playing director but not to get involved in movements or scoring.

Richard Banbury has been booked for next year's Fletcher. It has not been possible to get an EBU director for the Mixed Pairs as it clashes with the EBU Directors' training weekend. We need to check for similar clashes when arranging next year's programme.

There is a problem in the scoring setup which makes it easy to make a mistake with Butler scoring. Ian Mitchell has agreed to make a software change but it is not likely to happen in the short term. It was agreed Val would continue with scoring until the issue is resolved.

In the longer term a larger pool of scorers is needed. Cath Fox has shown an interest.

**Catering** The long-standing caterer has retired. After a discussion of various options, it was agreed Val would use Chicks for the January county match. They are likely to be more expensive than other options but provide a comprehensive service. A budget of £5 per head would be set and reviewed after they have catered in January.

d. **League Secretary** (Bernie Hunt)

Everything running to plan. Bernie will be asked to remind captains about paying league fees and providing names of team members.

The proposal for the replacement of the George Curtis will be carried forward to the next meeting.

There was a misunderstanding with the EBU on the status of the League and Premier league cups. Bernie has resolved this and confirmed both competitions are in abeyance.

e. **Webmaster** (Petra Bromfield)

Work on streamlining the website and improving accessibility continues. Petra is trying to make sure all updates, particularly results of events, are made promptly. Work on the history of Essex bridge is in abeyance for the time being

f. **Shareholders** (Linda Fleet)

Neither Linda nor Dennis were able to attend the May meeting. It is hoped Dennis can attend the AGM in November.

g. **ECL Team Selection Committee** (Chris Taylor)

All ECL results are on the website. Results are mixed. The Tollemache qualifier is organized for 17/18 November.

h. **Publicity Officer** (Pat Johnson)

Pat's role as publicity officer has lapsed but she is now working on the draft calendar. She has also proposed the weighting for the leagues to be used in the Eve Goblets.

5. **Herts/Essex joint venture.** The proposed distribution to each county is £1,700 compared to £2,000 last year. The change of date to 15/16 September 2018 unfortunately clashed with the Premier League final round but Alan and Linda are confident entries will increase moving forward. Ware is now booked for September 2019 and July 2019. The supply of free tea, coffee and biscuits provided by Bernie went down very well!!

The committee approved the financial statement: the money will now be transferred.

6. **Best Behaviour policy and procedures** Following the incident in September's Warboys event Val and Paul have discussed how directors could be helped in handling incidents and how to curb repeated bad behavior when individual incidents would not warrant a substantial ban.

Best Behaviour policy table cards based on the EBU document were introduced at the Fletcher. The main benefit appears to be to make less experienced players aware that they should call the director rather than put up with bad attitudes.

To curb repeated offences the proposal is:

- a. Using a statement on the website and entry forms, make it clear to players that the director is entitled to apply a penalty to the results of any player exhibiting bad behaviour (10% of a top or 3 Imps for first offence, double for 2nd offence) and even expel a player from the competition if the bad behaviour continues.

- b. Use the EBU procedural penalty form. to report any bad behavior even when it has not resulted in a penalty. When a penalty has been applied, points will be given and accumulated in a similar way to those awarded for driving offences. When a number (yet to be agreed) have been accumulated a ban will result. Points would be dropped after a set period
- . The committee agreed the principle. Val will continue to work on the proposal and will consult the EBU.
- 7. **Appointment of a third shareholder** Keith Thompson had agreed to be the third shareholder.
- 8. **Café Bridge** Tony Verran had contacted Bernie about a Café Bridge event. In Bernie's absence, Pat outlined what she knew about the plans. It was agreed the ECBA would back it and Pat would keep aware of the plans
- 9. **Any other business** Val is considering replacing the cards in old bidding boxes but, as they are used only at the Fletcher, the cost of £240 may not be justified. Linda will look for any EBU special offers.
- 10. **Date of next meeting** The next meeting will be held at 7.30pm on Wednesday 16 January 2019 at Val and Paul's home. Paul then closed the meeting. The committee would like to thank Val and Paul for their hospitality.

						Competitions 2018/19						
Competition	Date	Entry	Entry Fee	Room Hire	Refreshment	Tournament	Hands	Prizes	Capitation	P2P	Profit/	
		Fees	2017/18			Directors	Bridgemates				Loss	
Championship Pairs Pairs 2017/18		670.00	30.00	296.00		200.00		140.00	432.00		-398.00	**
Teams of Four		240.00	30.00					96.00	226.00	23.04	-105.04	***
Switch Cup		90.00	18.00					36.00		10.08	43.92	
Mixed Teams	13/05/2018	180.00	20.00	50.00	12.00	40.00	15.00	36.00		7.60	19.40	
Club Pairs	10/06/2018	210.00	10.00	50.00	12.60	40.00	15.00	30.00		7.98	54.42	
George Curtis (Blue Point)	17/06/2018	216.00	36.00	100.00	16.80	80.00	30.00	72.00		37.52	-120.32	
Warboys & B Flight	11/04/2018	280.00	5.00	80.00	36.80	40.00	30.00	10.00		10.64	72.56	
Warboys & B Flight	09/05/2018	280.00	5.00	80.00	36.80	40.00	30.00	10.00		10.64	72.56	
Warboys & B Flight	13/06/2018	280.00	5.00	80.00	36.80	40.00	30.00	10.00		10.64	72.56	
Warboys & B Flight	11/07/2018	280.00	5.00	80.00	36.80	40.00	30.00	10.00		10.64	72.56	
Warboys & B Flight	08/08/2018	270.00	5.00	80.00	36.80	40.00	30.00	10.00		10.26	62.94	
Warboys & B Flight	12/09/2018	230.00	5.00	80.00	36.80	40.00	30.00	10.00		9.88	23.32	
Summer Seniors	18/07/2018	750.00	30.00	25.00	321.00	50.00	15.00	52.00		9.50	277.50	
Autumn Seniors	24/10/2018	750.00	30.00	130.00	460.00	60.00	15.00	52.00		9.50	23.50	
Fletcher/ Club Trophy	28/10/2018		70/35								0.00	
Sue Taylor Trophy	11/11/2018		36.00					72.00			-72.00	
Mixed Pairs	09/12/2018		21.00					80.00			-80.00	
Swiss Pairs	13/01/2019		25.00					86.00			-86.00	
Gwen Herga	19/01/2019		13.00					72.00			-72.00	
Cornell Sponsorship											0.00	
Cornell Trophy	17/02/2019		55.00						276.00		-276.00	****
Spring Seniors	20/03/2019		30.00					52.00			-52.00	
Seniors Cup											0.00	
Championship Pairs 2019	14/04/2019										0.00	
Sub Total		4726.00		1131.00	1043.20	710.00	270.00	936.00	934.00	167.92	-466.12	
Premier League	2018/2019											
League S.E	2018/2018									53.28	-53.28	
League West	2018/2019									37.44	-37.44	
		0.00		1131.00	1043.20	710.00	270.00	936.00	934.00	167.92	-466.12	
One Day Event*		0.00		—	—	—	—	—	—	—		*
Total		0.00		1,131.00	1043.20	710.00	270.00	936.00	934.00	167.92	-466.12	
					Thornwood		270.00			167.92		
					Barleylands				Disc			
					Anglo European					167.92		
					Thorpe Bay BC			* Half share of net surplus.				
					Little Baddow VH			**Includes entry to Corwen				
					**** includes entry to Garden Cities			*** includes entry to Pachabo				

	P2P Submissions for Year to 31st March 2019											
	April	May	Jun	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	March
Club												
Alpha	11.12		9.04		10.72		10.40					
Ann Owen	5.76		14.00									
Apple	6.00	5.28	6.16	10.32	8.16	9.28	7.60					
Billericay Mayflower	13.76		15.68		14.32		13.44					
Brentwood & District	4.32		2.72		4.16		2.00					
Brevion	13.12		13.20		12.80		11.04					
Chelmsford	8.80	3.28	2.24	4.40	4.28	3.36	2.80					
Collier Row	6.48		7.84		7.12		7.12					
Felstead	12.96		14.24		13.20		10.40					
Hamlet Court	7.52		10.72		9.36		8.80					
Hutton	6.72	5.92	7.12	5.92	7.84	8.64	16.64					
Ilford	6.40		5.52		8.08		5.20					
Lingwood	12.56		14.88		13.92		13.68					
Loughton	11.36		16.56		15.92		18.32					
Mid Essex	25.68	25.60	26.56	24.56	24.84	23.60	22.00					
Monday	4.56	5.36	2.64	5.52	7.36	4.48	4.88					
Mountnessing	13.52		19.92		13.52		14.80					
Old House Friday	2.40	1.60	3.28	2.16	4.48	3.44	3.12					
Rochford & Rayleigh	5.92			8.24	4.32							
Southend & Leigh	34.08	38.16	35.92	36.64	34.88	35.20	33.68					
St. Annes	7.84	8.24	11.68	8.80	6.80	9.36	6.88					
Thorpe Bay	27.92	28.40	27.20	30.88	31.76	35.44	26.32					
Waltham Forest	2.96	3.12	4.64	5.12	5.20	5.36	3.68					
Westbury	12.80		12.16		12.72		12.08					
Witham		1.04	2.32	1.52	1.68		0.96					
Woodham Ferrers	5.68		8.16		7.20		7.44					
	270.24	126.00	294.40	144.08	284.64	138.16	263.28	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Adjustments by EBU												1520.80
Previous year	296.88	163.36	294.72	148.08	305.92	143.48	282.60	154.48	285.52	101.36	269.12	128.48
Difference	-26.64	-37.36	-0.32	-4.00	-21.28	-5.32	-19.32					2574.00
Total to date 2017.2018	296.88	460.24	754.96	903.04	1208.96	1352.44	1635.04					
Total to date 2018.2019	270.24	396.24	690.64	834.72	1119.36	1257.52	1520.8					
Cumulative Difference	-26.64	-64.00	-64.32	-68.32	-89.60	-94.92	-114.24					

