

GLoucester BRIDGE CLUB

Minutes of the Committee Meeting
held at 1100 on 28th January 2025 at Coffee House 43, Hucclecote, Gloucester.

1. Present

Jon Nicholls (Chair), Elizabeth Bourne, Jeff Chaplin, Stewart Harrison, Ken Morritt, Carol Neale, Alan Stanfield, John Stirrup, Carol Wheeler.

2. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the committee meeting held on 26th November 2024 were approved.

3. Matters Arising from the Previous Committee Meeting

- a) Membership. Now 61 Members. Anyone who had not renewed are no longer members. Alan queried whether our EBU Club Members list is up to date. Stewart & Jon to action.
- b) Additional Directors. Jon to send out email request to Members. Ongoing.
- c) Club Newsletter. No volunteers, not to be produced.
- d) Training. Last session for 2024/5 today. Averaged 16 students per session, 7 or 8 are likely to play on our Tuesday afternoons.
- e) Player Development. General discussion held, key points:
 - Beginners – at table support for a period agreed - EBU Code 12 (MPs but not NGS).
 - Beginners – split sessions are possible.
 - All on Tuesday – select a hand from last week for 5 minute discussion at start of the following session? Will need someone to analyse the nominated hand and provide some material to refer to in the discussion. Stewart & Jon to consider.
 - Alan suggested a new evening training session. All to consider.
- f) Feedback on afternoon party on Tuesday 21st January. 35 Members plus the students attended first “bring and share” food and drink session, before the Members played Bridge. Thanks to Carol W for collecting names and food/drink (but who didn’t need to intervene on that brought), and Stewart for the Bridge.

4. Treasurer's Report

- a) Ken handed out monthly summaries for 2024/25, showing no significant change, even though several capital items purchased. Typically ~£3000 balance. Noted.
- b) Agreed not to charge table money if a player is called in to make up numbers.

5. Captain's Report

John: EBU had advertised National Pairs (23 March) and Nine-High Corwen (various dates).

6. Correspondence

Jon had received posters for the Newent Bowl on 22 March. Jon to add a copy to the notice boards. [Post-meeting Note: Done.]

7. Premises

Heating good, have replacement key for that which failed, door catch fitted. We appreciate the Community Association actions.

8. Complaint Process

A complaint has been received, which is being investigated by the Conduct Sub-Committee (Jon, Carol N & Jeff). It was agreed that, if needed, Jon would recruit appropriate members of a Disciplinary Sub-Committee.

9. Any Other Business

- a) Christmas / New Year Calendar. Jon suggested something like “No Bridge on 24th December to 1st January inclusive”. This was agreed. [Post-meeting Note: Online calendar updated.]
- b) Thursday Sessions. Those that do not play on Thursday evenings may not attend as they either rely on public transport or do not like driving late at night. It was suggested that lifts might be arranged for anyone in that position. Jon to consult Members via email.
- c) Bridge in the Gloucester Area. Alan pointed out that there were no Bridge Clubs in the South of Gloucester. Should we run an online session? Agreed need for a survey on online sessions. Jon to draft an email survey.
- d) School Bridge. Alan is assisting St Thomas Rich’s School, and there might be another school in need of support. Alan (via the Club) has asked volunteers, and has two already.
- e) Scores Option on Bridgemates. John suggested this should be enabled, to allow changes to scores on that round, eg. when wrong board number entered. Agreed. Stewart.
- f) EBU Permitted Agreements. Thursdays are EBU Level 4. Stewart recommended, and the Committee agreed, that Tuesday Sessions should be EBU Level 2 where “more imprecise” bids (eg. the Multi 2 ♦) are not permitted. [Post Meeting Note: Level 2 for Tuesday sessions added to website on “Information” tab, together with link to EBU Level 2 table.]
- g) Date of AGM. To maximise attendance, it was agreed that the AGM should be at the start of a Tuesday afternoon session; 20th May was agreed. Jon to update website Calendar. [Post-meeting Note: Done.]
- h) Risks. Alan suggested we should consider whether there are any risks to the Club that we should mitigate. All to consider what process we should employ.

10. Date and Time of Next Meetings

- The next meeting was confirmed for 11am on 25th March 2025 at Coffee House 43.
- The subsequent committee meeting was agreed for 13th May. Jon to book.

11. The meeting closed at 12:10