

GLoucester BRIDGE CLUB

Minutes of the Committee Meeting
held at 1100 on 15th July 2025 at Coffee House 43, Hucclecote

1. Present

Jon Nicholls (Chair), Elizabeth Bourne, Jeff Chaplin, Stewart Harrison, Ken Morrith, Carol Neale, John Stirrup.

Apologies received from Wynne Watts and Carol Wheeler; Wynne was welcomed onto the committee in her absence.

2. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the Committee meeting held on 13th May 2025 were approved with a minor amendment. [Post-Meeting Note: Added to the website.]

3. Matters Arising from the Previous Committee Meeting

- a) Additional Directors. Noting the cost of ~£200, Ken asked for, and received, Committee confirmation of his attendance on the Director's course. Action on Stewart to provide notes on use of the computer – ongoing.
- b) Tuesday Player Development. This is ongoing on the first Tuesday of each month.
- c) Risks. Action on Jon to prepare instructions on the website for Jeff – ongoing.
- d) First Aid. Ken reported that the kit is in the cupboard.
- e) Rules for Afternoon Handicapped Pairs. Agreed rules are on the website.

4. Programme for 2025/26

John handed out a draft showing two options. Much discussion around the programme in particular and various competitions in general:

- agreed to hold 10 sessions of Winter and Summer Pairs (but see next item)
- Summer Pairs (where you have different partners) are not well attended; do we hold a Summer event like the Winter Pairs?; Jon to consult Members
- confirmed agreement to hold two simultaneous pairs events for both Tuesdays and Thursdays – Jon to identify
- Tuesdays – agreed to hold a handicapped “Player of the Month”, Stewart to apply 150% handicaps as a trial for review in a few months
- Men's / Women's competitions – no conclusions
- Teams events – hold on an ad hoc basis?
- Hannaford & Smyth – John suggested Tuesday afternoon to ensure more 9-high contributions; agreed to be a good idea, John to consult with Cheltenham.

5. Treasurer's Report

- Ken handed out an account summary; little change from last year.
- Move to online banking – progressing.
- Consider charitable status? Ken to draft a short briefing note – ongoing.

6. Captain's Report

Nothing to report.

7. Correspondence

Jon read out several items from the EBU 11 July 2025 email. Of particular relevance are a club webinar on promoting classes and club websites and an EBU video on transitioning learners to club sessions. [Post-Meeting Note – email circulated to Committee.]

8. Premises

Ken has requested a third set of keys.

9. Feedback from AGM on Afternoon of Tuesday 20th May

- Moving AGM to a Tuesday afternoon was good for attendance.
- Wynne replaces Alan Stanfield on the Committee.

10. Response to Member's Complaints

Jon had circulated a note. After much discussion the Committee view was:

- any bad behaviour should be dealt with at the time by the Director, as per EBU policy
- there was no need to change the Constitution or produce a Behaviour Policy
- Members should be informed of the process to follow, both by email and at the start of some sessions – to be reinforced at intervals; action on Jon.

11. Any Other Business

- a) Gift of Bridgemates from the closed Eckington Bridge Club. Stewart reported they were usable whilst not pristine, but could be used to run two separate sessions on a Tuesday. It was agreed we should donate £100 to charity, to add to the next payment for simultaneous pairs.
- b) Request for clubs to consider what GCBA could do for them. It was agreed that more advertising of Bridge would be valuable. John suggested more inter-club competitions, not just whole county events such as Rank Xerox or Bredon Vale, which don't seem to be thriving. 9-high competitions at clubs on afternoons? Committee to consider any further suggestions before we reply to GCBA.
- c) Trophy policy (note circulated by Jon). It was agreed that some trophies should be awarded. Jon to review further and report back.
- d) Card holder. Following a request by a Member, Carol N suggested we buy some card holders. Agreed that we should buy two – Ken.

12. Date and Time of Next Meetings

- 11am on 16th September at Coffee House 43 (booked)
- subsequent meeting to be held on 25th November if Coffee House 43 available, or 11th November if it isn't available on 25th but is available on 11th; Jon to book.

13. The meeting closed at 12:15