

GLOUCESTERSHIRE COUNTY BRIDGE ASSOCIATION

Minutes for the GCBA committee meeting held at Cheltenham Bridge Club on Monday 7th October 2019.

In attendance were Patrick Shields (President), Andrew Bull (Secretary), Mike Wignall (Treasurer), Ian Sidgwick, Roger Williams, Richard Butland (REC chair) and Anne Swannell (CBC rep).

Finance

1. Mike confirmed that our contract with Pianola was cancelled in June 2019.
2. It was agreed that the training sessions have raised enough money to pay for a session with an external trainer, though this would have to be an open session.
3. Patrick had responded to the South Cotswold Bridge Club regarding their request for help funding the purchase of a Duplimate dealing machine; they are checking which other local clubs would be interested in sharing its use, and have responded to Roger's survey of Gloucestershire clubs (see below).
4. Mike is intending to present the updated accounts at the November meeting.

Other Business

5. Patrick had attended the recent CBC meeting and produced a brief write-up; there were no issues that we needed to discuss.
6. The clash of the GCBA training session with Stroud's Wednesday evening session has now been sorted. For future session, the scores at Stroud will be incorporated into the GCBA scores.
7. The latest EBU minutes have been issued, and their AGM will be in November. Nominees for the EBU committee posts will be distributed shortly for us to consider. Patrick will attend the AGM, and Ian also expressed an interest in attending.
8. A problem had arisen with the movement and scoring at a CBC session after some players had switched to a GCBA session on the same evening. It was noted that the problem would have been avoided if players had reported the issues they'd spotted on the Bridgemates immediately, and that players should be reminded to do this.
9. Paul Denning has agreed to come up with a proposal for us to consider for mapping out the relationship between the current GCBA competitions and the trophies and honours boards.
10. Painswick had asked for Director training - they have about half a dozen interested members - and Judy Sanis will be arranging this with Patrick as trainer. As other clubs might also be interested in having such training, we will advertise the fact of this in the next newsletter.
11. **GCBA Youth Bridge:** Alison Nicholson has held a coffee morning for potential volunteers to help out with this; she hopes the school sessions will start next term.
12. Avon CBA have issued a glossy newsletter; this is something we could consider doing, and we should check whether they think it was a success.
13. **Stanley Shield:** Alan Wearmouth has proposed a schedule for this as a Swiss Teams event to take place in Hatherley Manor Hotel on 10th January 2020, with the boards to be borrowed from CBC, and manual scoring. Due to the required catering, the capacity is limited to 26 tables,

GLOUCESTERSHIRE COUNTY BRIDGE ASSOCIATION

so entry will initially be restricted to one team per club, with further entries allowed as space permits.

It was agreed that the event should proceed as suggested, and that teams should have at least one player familiar with the format. The question of how to handle too many clubs' submissions was raised, and it was agreed we would give priority to Affiliated Clubs.

14. Roger had suggested that we nominate Andrew Kambites for the Tony Priday award, and has put together a citation with help from Paul Denning, Alison Pritchard, Dave Atthey and Val Constable. It was agreed that we should submit the citation to the EBU, and Patrick will find out the process for this.
15. **GCBA engagement with clubs:** Roger has sent out a survey to each of the clubs in various regions of the county, and so far has had three replies. Patrick noted that there are significant areas of the county without major clubs, and we are also interested in the bridge being played in these areas. The committee members agreed to consult with people we know who play at other clubs, and it was suggested we could engage with neighbouring counties to see if they would be interested in being involved.
16. **League regulations:** We had added a rule that nominated members of a team cannot play as a substitute for another team. It was agreed that this should be amended to allow a player in a lower-division team to play as substitute in an upper-division team.