



Key points HBA COMMITTEE MEETING – Friday 24th January 2025

Chairman's Report

- Paul confirmed that the free playing cards from the EBU Cancer Research event had now been distributed to clubs.
- Paul commented that he was disappointed by the level of interaction and engagement with our clubs.

Tournament Secretary's Report

- John reported that recent HBA events had gone well, although entries for most had been disappointing and down on 12 months before.
- The new format for the Eccles Cup (to be held in February) had resulted in a higher number of entries than for the 2024 event.
- A Competition Committee meeting was to be held in February. Issues to be discussed include the 2025/6 calendar and the balance between online and face to face.

Treasurer's Report

- Oliver confirmed that we are on target to produce a slight surplus for the current year.
- Current reserves are a little higher than needed and ideas for distributing some of the excess were discussed. Some of these will be discussed in greater detail by the Competitions Committee.

Communications/Membership

- Alan reported that player sessions in 2024 across Herts clubs was 8.5% higher than in 2023 and 2023 itself was 7% higher than 2022.
- HBA membership stood at 2,125, some 100 above the figure at the AGM – with the caveat that membership numbers are cyclical throughout the year. More than 95% of the membership receive the monthly member communication.

Selection Committee

- Roger updated on the Eastern Counties League. The Herts B and C teams are comfortably ahead in their respective divisions and both should qualify for their national finals (which both teams won last year). The A team currently lie third in their division and stand a chance of finishing runners up which should also gain them a place in their national final.

Green Pointed Events

- All on track for our two 2025 events. Surprise was expressed at how many non Herts pairs played in our last event in July 2024 (15 out of 40) even with the discounted entry fee for primary Herts members.

Date of Next Meeting

Friday April 4th at 16.30.

Hertfordshire
Bridge
Association

HBA