



Key points HBA COMMITTEE MEETING – Saturday 24th July 2021

Chairman's Report

Paul had been in touch with clubs who had not been playing online and all reported that some of their members had been playing online at other clubs. Clubs are working on reopening plans although there were a couple of clubs who may struggle to re-open.

Secretary's Report

Clubs had received an EBU communication to do with the resumption of face to face bridge. Clubs had been requested to let HBA know once their plans were finalised so they can be communicated via the HBA website.

Treasurer's Report

Oliver reported that the provisional accounts for 2020/1 showed a small deficit after the return of almost £2,000 of county UM to clubs. Overall HBA had a healthy surplus and given the difficulties Covid had posed it was agreed that HBA would make entry to all HBA competitions (other than the joint Green Pointed events with Essex) free for all players whose primary county affiliation was to Hertfordshire, as an encouragement for them to enter the HBA events. The usual additional £2 per player would still apply for the club heats of the Marjorie Lukyn as this accumulated to the HBA charity donation.

Tournament Reports

- The playing calendar for 2021/2 was confirmed. It was agreed that all HBA competitions would be played online (RealBridge) with the possible exception of the Championship Pairs final as this would remove any need to cap entries. (It was agreed subsequently that the Championship Pairs final would also be played online).
- An event for less experienced players was added to the calendar on 21st November with eligibility based on NGS at time of entry. This would be run as a stratified event (NGS 7 and 5) dependent on entries. The importance of clubs support for these events was emphasised. Further events could be added if this initial event was well supported.

Green Pointed Events

Gary reported that entries for the online event were lower than expected at that time (although they did rise sharply afterwards).

Membership Report

- Bridge on the Heath (Bushey) Bridge Club had disaffiliated from EBU as they had essentially been closed due to Covid problems.
- Overall club memberships had risen by almost 15% since July 2018 but this was expected to drop back once clubs carry out their next membership renewal exercise.

Selection Committee

For the 2021/2 season – after two matches – the B team lead their division whilst the A and C teams lie second in theirs. At the national finals for the 2020/1 season the B team won their event whilst the C team came third in theirs.

Any Other Business

The HBA Annual General Meeting would be held on Sunday 26th September. This would start at 14.00 and be held on zoom. As with the 2020 AGM, written officer reports would be prepared and published on the website before the AGM. The formal notification of the AGM and request for nominations and motions for the agenda would be published on the website in due course.

Date of Next Meeting

15.00 on Sat 2nd October 2021 via zoom

Hertfordshire

Bridge

Association

HBA