Chairman’s Report 2020

Not surprisingly 2020 has been a somewhat different year for HIWCIO. The year started benignly with our usual competitions and seminars taking place with decent attendances.

Our major event of the year which would have been the 3rd Hampshire Congress was due to take place on the weekend of 21st and 22nd March. A record number of pairs and teams had entered, unfortunately we all know what happened shortly beforehand and the event had to be cancelled.

It soon became apparent that the pandemic would curtail any face-to-face bridge for the foreseeable, so a decision was taken to run all events online. A weekly pairs was set for Sundays, the first taking place on 27th April and continuing each Sunday throughout the year. Also a county online league running on Tuesday nights with a 2 month cycle as well as all the usual events. Our charity simultaneous events moved to online and as usual saw a good uptake, with a total of £???? being raised for the local air ambulance. A huge thank you to Mike Kinsey for setting all this up, it has been hugely well supported and in the words of one player has save them from insanity during lockdown.

As ever I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone on the committee for their efforts throughout the difficult last 12 months. Special mentions also for Ian Fearon for running all the County Leagues and KO’s, Tim Smith our Webmaster, Dave Huggett for his seminars, Roger Johnson for auditing our accounts, our shareholders for representing us at EBU events and last but by no means least all the tea ladies at Romsey, although their season was cut somewhat short.

I hope to see you at a County Event soon.

Regards

Andy Hughes

Chairman HIWCBA