

MINUTES OF THE LCBA AGM HELD AT THE COUNTY BRIDGE CLUB ON WEDNESDAY 14 SEPTEMBER 2022

1. **Present:** D Benton (chair), D Pollard, R Rees, J Hand, P Beasley, N Beasley, L Pathan, D Pathan, P Halford, A Mackriell, S Stokes, P Bowyer, J Mason, L Hilton, S Ennals, A Humberstone, A Gurd, S Rumbelow, C Gurr, A Byrne, K Boulter, J Smith, S Wright, A Wright, B Barclay.
2. **Apologies:** B and S Stockdale, R Bell, L Stone, A and L Lord, K and F Moore, P Watson, B Norton, D Jones, M Ayres, K Ganatra, A Lennox, D Hague, A Potterton, J Wilcox, J Hill, I Krantz, J Hughes, C Hulse, I Pacey, A Morris.
3. **Minutes** of last AGM were accepted as accurate. There were no matters arising.
4. **Report of the Committee for 2021-2.** Dean Benton reported that when he became chair in 2019 he did not expect to go through such challenging times. The Committee met on Zoom apart from its November meeting when he presented well-earned Dimmie Fleming awards to Dick Pathan and John Wilcox. In particular he thanked Dick and mentioned the various posts he has held, as Dick is standing down from the Committee. In the Midlands Counties League the first and third teams finished 4th and the second team 8th. Dean thanked Bill Barclay for setting up the home matches on RealBridge. Simon Stokes has taken over Dick's role. He thanked other officers: Steve Wright for being Tournament Secretary, Anthea Byrne for taking over as Education Secretary, Richard Smith for his work on the website and Dave Pollard for his work as General Secretary. He mentioned the survey of members, which had a good rate of response. There was a slight preference for face-to-face bridge over online, which fed into the calendar for 2022-3. Entries are requested for the forthcoming teams of 4 league (to replace the teams of 8 league). He added that he has represented Leicestershire on the Midlands Counties Working Group and referred to the educational initiatives that have taken place or are planned. Sadly, Melton and Lutterworth clubs have closed.
5. **Treasurer's report.** Richard Rees explained that the accounting period for 2020-1 was an exceptional 16 months, whereas 2021-2 was the normal 12 months. Income from clubs was slightly lower because of Covid and the lack of a Green Point event, but expenditure was negligible because online play was financially beneficial. There was a surplus of £1918, leading to reserves of £11299. Acceptance of the accounts was proposed by S Wright, seconded by B Barclay and agreed.
6. **Committee proposals** a) for 2023-4 the LCBA P2P component remains at 8p. Proposed by A Wright, seconded by B Barclay and agreed; and b) that for direct members the LCBA membership subscription remains at £4, with no charge for juniors. Proposed by S Wright, seconded by N Beasley and agreed.
7. **Prize money.** R Rees reminded the meeting that he had put a paper to the previous AGM and explained that when he became Treasurer, competitions were losing money and he proposed a reduced level of prize money. There was broad agreement on the strategy but

members questioned whether we should offer more prizes to encourage less experienced players. This will be referred to TSC for consideration.

8. **Election of Officers and Committee.** there being only one nomination for each position the following were declared elected:

| OFFICE | NAME |
|-------------------------|--------------|
| Chair | Anne Wright |
| Vice Chairman | Vacancy |
| Immediate Past Chairman | Dean Benton |
| Treasurer | Richard Rees |
| General & Minutes Sec. | Dave Pollard |
| Tournament Secretary | Bill Barclay |
| Fixture Secretary | Simon Stokes |
| Membership Secretary | Richard Rees |
| Education Liaison Sec. | Anthea Byrne |
| Committee Member | Steve Wright |
| Committee Member | Charles Gurr |
| Committee Member | J Wilcox |
| Committee Member | Vacant |
| Committee Member | Vacant |
| Committee Member | Vacant |

9. **Appointment of financial examiner.** Michael Jones was proposed for reappointment by R Rees, seconded by A Byrne. This was agreed.
10. **Resolutions from members.** None received.
11. **Any other business.** D Pollard reported that he had received a request for play in LCBA competitions to start at 7.00. The meeting was supportive of this. It was reported that Bagworth Whistlestop club is starting bridge tuition. D Benton was thanked for his period of office in the chair.
12. **Presentation of trophies.** Pat Beasley, the guest of honour, thanked the committee for inviting her to present the trophies. She reflected on how she started her bridge playing career.