



## ELECTION OF FOUR DIRECTORS FOR THE YEAR 2021/2022

### AGENDA ITEM 10

The nominations are as follows:

**Name**  
Cathryn Fox  
Ron Millet  
Kay Preddy  
Tony Russ

Applications by all candidates are attached in alphabetical order.

*The current 2020/21 elected Board of Directors are as follows:*

	Term ends		Term ends
Jerry Cope (Treasurer)	2021	Ian Payn (Chairman)	2023
Adrian Darnell	2023	Gillian Fawcett (Vice Chairman)	2022
Cath Fox	Appointed Director	Kay Preddy	Appointed Director
Anthony Golding	2021	Bev Purvis ( <i>Resigned Feb 2021</i> )	2022
Kiat Huang ( <i>Resigned Feb 2021</i> )	Appointed Director	Pat Shields	Appointed Director
Rob Lawy	2023	Gayle Webb	Appointed by affiliated clubs
Ron Millet	2021		

Four nominations have been received for the four vacancies. Although there is no requirement for an election, a vote is required to ascertain the term of office for each nominee. The top three persons duly elected will serve for a three-year term of office expiring in 2024 and the fourth will serve for a one-year term of office expiring in 2022.

**Gordon Rainsford**  
**Company Secretary**  
**November 2021**

# APPLICATION FORM FOR ELECTION TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE ENGLISH BRIDGE UNION LTD



Please complete the following:

- 1 Full Name
- 2 Please indicate any aspects of professional experience or public service which help to qualify you for Board membership. Include here professional qualifications, experience and anything else that you consider relevant to being a director

I have been qualified in successive UK Government Consultants and Business Advice registers since the mid-1990s. I have supported innumerable businesses in building business, marketing and IT strategies including using data and marketing analytics. I have sat on several committees and boards supporting the growth and development of businesses mainly within Essex or the East of England.

I have run my own successful software development and data analytics business, Objective IT, since 1987. (My daughter has now taken the business over and I act as a consultant when needed.) Prior to that I studied Economics and Sociology at Southampton University and studied (but never completed due to other commitments) the ACCA's Accountancy course.

Comments from colleagues –

Jim Muttram, then Managing Director of Reed Business Information. "I've known Cath since we first worked together in the mid-90s at the dawn of the internet era. I've always found her great to work with - very straight and honest."

Abdul Rahim, Director Crowd Helix/Aspen Waite in Business/Bone Wells Urbecon/Vision2020. "Cath has an amazing ability to translate strategy into systems that will support the outcomes required. She has a very focussed mindset and is able to instantly identify weaknesses in proposals."

- 3 Employment Status
- 4 Past and present activity in bridge administration (at club, county or national level)

Chelmsford Bridge Club Chairman May 2016 for three years.

Chelmsford Committee Member May 2019 to date.

Main scorer – Mayflower Bridge Club, Mountnessing Bridge Club, Essex County Matches (normally deputised Alan Rogers and Val Mollison).

Directed and Scored as a backup @ Collier Row Bridge Club

Current secretary of Essex Selection Committee.

Organised and supported Youth Bridge in Essex Summer 2021.

Ran Chelmsford first Café Bridge Event January 2020 raising over £1,000

Ran Charity Bridge Marathon 2018 raising over £1,000

Organised and marketed annual Charity Swiss Pairs for Chelmsford Bridge Club

Have undertaken and passed Tournament Director and Teaching courses @ the EBU/EBED

Sat on the Midland County Working Group representing Essex during Lockdown

Attended many overseas and congresses as a **player** 🎮

- 5 If you were on the Board during the previous year, what committees, working parties, etc, did you serve on, and what was your area of responsibility?

A year prior to joining the board I worked on the Executive Working Group for Technology at the EBU and remain on this working group. The first year was about replacing the incumbent IT developer. Since then, we have built prioritisation and resource management procedures to organise workflow, a more resilient staff structure, fine-tuned and modernised the IT infrastructure, reduced costs through supplier negotiation and more. Additionally, we have released features including but not limited to the new System Card facility, the new Calendar, a donation facility for the shop and a scoring system for the Lockdown League.

I am also taking the lead reviewing the use of IT systems internally and looking at how they can be improved. To this end we had a series of workshops with staff in Summer 2021. More to follow.

Since joining the board in March 2021, as well as the IT remit, I have mainly worked on the Marketing sub-group. Working closely with Gaye Webb and Kay Preddy we have put considerable effort into understanding the needs of members, clubs and counties and making a steady stream of improvements. We have introduced a monthly mailing, consolidating all important messages from the EBU into an easy reference point. [EBU Board Updates to Clubs and Counties](#) | [English Bridge Union](#) I have also launched the EBU Blog. [Blog posts](#) | [English Bridge Union \(ebu.co.uk\)](#) . The Blog will allow the EBU to share unofficial news and celebrate stories and events from clubs and counties. The Blog should also boost our Social Media presence.

Additionally, I have worked on press releases, and we have had reasonable success with local press and some national. Sam and I have been building a Press Contact list and hope to increase publicity in the coming year.

- 6 Number of Board meetings attended in the previous year

All.

- 7 What would you personally hope to achieve during your tenure on the Board?

For the EBU to remain a first-class National Body.

To support the EBU mission to "Bring Bridge to Everyone"

For the EBU to be recognised and respected as a friendly and helpful organisation.

To help with a significant membership drive through a well thought out marketing strategy.

To help members of all levels enjoy Bridge and Bridge competitions. This could include social games such as Café Bridge and competitive games such as Swiss Pairs. I am supporting Charlie Bucknell in developing new ways of enjoying Bridge for the Competitions Committee to consider.

To help build toolkits that make it easier for clubs and counties to promote and run Bridge. This includes IT tools, templates for press releases, leaflets, posters and social media support.

To ensure that the IT systems at the EBU support the day-to-day work of staff and officers as well as the ambitions of its stakeholders.

8	Please confirm the following by putting Y or N in the appropriate box	Y/N
	<input type="radio"/> I have read the Board Director Role Description	Y
	<input type="radio"/> I have read and understood the duties listed in the Role Description and agree to adhere to the requirements listed within the document	Y
	<input type="radio"/> I understand the time commitment required therein and I confirm I am able to meet it	Y
	<input type="radio"/> I have read and understood the statement on good standing and agree to abide by it	Y
	<input type="radio"/> I understand I may be asked by the Chairman to undertake, or help	Y

	with, one or more of the activities detailed in Section 9	
	o I have read and understood the policy on Being an EBU Committee Member	Y

9	Please indicate in which areas you would be interested in contributing to the Board's activities. Put Y if very interested, put N if definitely not interested, leave blank if no strong preference	Y/N or Blank
	Bridge Great Britain & NBO	Y
	The Bridge Warehouse	Y
	Business Strategy and Planning	Y
	Club & County Development	Y
	Commercial – Development, Partnerships, Sponsorship, Fundraising	Y
	Competitions & Tournaments	Y
	Communications	Y
	Disciplinary Procedures	*
	Education	*
	Finance	Y
	Governance & Organisational Development	Y
	Laws & Ethics	*
	Masterpoints, licensing and other governance regulations	*
	National Grading Scheme	Y
	Selection & International	*
	TD Development & Training	*
	Junior internationals	*
	*. I am happy to work in all areas. Those marked Y I have more to offer.	

#### Declaration

I know of no impediment to my being an EBU Board Director and I declare that the information I have given in this application is accurate and true.



Cathryn Fox

Date

20<sup>th</sup> October 2021

# APPLICATION FORM FOR ELECTION TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE ENGLISH BRIDGE UNION LTD



Please complete the following:

1 Full Name

Ronald Frank Millet, MSc(Econ) BSc(Econ)

2 Please indicate any aspects of professional experience or public service which help to qualify you for Board membership. Include here professional qualifications, experience and anything else that you consider relevant to being a director

1964 - 68 - London School of Economics, President of the Graduate Students Association.

1970 - 2006 - Director, then Chairman & Joint Managing, of a group of Print, Packing & Property Companies, employing 75+ people, across 3 sites

2006 – 2018 Business Consultant in the Print & Packaging Industry

1970 - 1983 - Councillor, Leeds City Council (pop 750k, area 200 sq miles). Chairmanships of - Environmental Health & Control Committee, then Finance Committee and representative on various national Local Government bodies.

Occasional Postgraduate University Lecturer on Environmental matters and to the Environmental Health Officers Association, Annual Conference. Frequent interviews on press, radio and TV including an interview used repeatedly for an Open University course.

2010 – 2019- Finance Director and Presenter Radiojcom, - a local Jewish Community Radio Station.

2012 – 16 Chair of Leeds North East Constituency Labour Party (2000 approx members)

2017 – Elected honorary Alderman for the City of Leeds

Occasional speech writer for local politicians

3 Employment Status

Recently retired

4 Past and present activity in bridge administration (at club, county or national level)

**Leeds Bridge Club** (circa 400 members) – Main Committee member; until 2016

Chair of the House Management Committee.

Education & Bridge Development Committee Member

**Yorkshire** – Board member of the YCBA.

Congress Committee Member; successfully runs 4 Green Pointed events per annum and now several online games.

Education & Development Committee Member, responsible for encouraging people to learn Bridge and Clubs to teach it. Involved in developing and raising finance for the website Learnbridgeyorkshire.

5 If you were on the Board during the previous year, what committees, working parties, etc, did you serve on, and what was your area of responsibility?

Responsible for overall view on Player Development including Strategy. Working with colleagues on working parties to help develop Recruitment & Education and Marketing & Communications

6 Number of Board meetings attended in the previous year

4 out 5 and numerous  
ad hoc meetings

7 What would you personally hope to achieve during your tenure on the Board?

I have been concerned at the decline in membership numbers over recent years. This has been accentuated by the impact of the Covid Pandemic with many remaining as members but not playing at all. There is a challenge to reverse this development whilst benefitting from the impact of online play. I consider dealing with this challenge to be a major objective of the EBU

8	Please confirm the following by putting Y or N in the appropriate box	<b>Y/N</b>
	<input type="radio"/> I have read the Board Director Role Description	Y
	<input type="radio"/> I have read and understood the duties listed in the Role Description and agree to adhere to the requirements listed within the document	Y
	<input type="radio"/> I understand the time commitment required therein and I confirm I am able to meet it	Y
	<input type="radio"/> I have read and understood the statement on good standing and agree to abide by it	Y
	<input type="radio"/> I understand I may be asked by the Chairman to undertake, or help with, one or more of the activities detailed in Section 9	Y
	<input type="radio"/> I have read and understood the policy on Being an EBU Committee Member	Y

9	Please indicate in which areas you would be interested in contributing to the Board's activities. Put Y if very interested, put N if definitely not interested, leave blank if no strong preference	<b>Y/N or Blank</b>
	Bridge Great Britain & NBO	N
	The Bridge Warehouse	
	Business Strategy and Planning	Y
	Club & County Development	Y
	Commercial – Development, Partnerships, Sponsorship, Fundraising	Y
	Competitions & Tournaments	
	Communications	Y
	Disciplinary Procedures	
	Education	Y
	Finance	Y
	Governance & Organisational Development	Y
	Laws & Ethics	
	Masterpoints, licensing and other governance regulations	
	National Grading Scheme	
	Selection & International	N
	TD Development & Training	
	Junior internationals	N

#### Declaration

I know of no impediment to my being an EBU Board Director and I declare that the information I have given in this application is accurate and true.

Signature	<i>R F Millet</i>	Date	25/10/21
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# APPLICATION FORM FOR ELECTION TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE ENGLISH BRIDGE UNION LTD



27 OCT 2021

Please complete the following:

1 Full Name

Kay Preddy

2 Please indicate any aspects of professional experience or public service which help to qualify you for Board membership. Include here professional qualifications, experience and anything else that you consider relevant to being a director

My professional life has largely been spent as a management consultant advising the Boards or Board members of large companies on multiple aspects of their business.

This required the following skills and experience:

- Understanding all aspects of complex businesses including their finances, clients and processes
- Communication especially taking varied and strongly held opinions and managing the process to come to a consensual decision
- Successful management of multiple large-scale change programs at large international businesses

During the last 20 years of my career, I ran my own management consulting company. This provided experience of all aspects of running a company.

I studied mathematics and Kings College, London University.

3 Employment Status

Retired

4 Past and present activity in bridge administration (at club, county or national level)

I have been a member of the EBU Board since early 2021

NO TDO A

- 5 If you were on the Board during the previous year, what committees, working parties, etc, did you serve on, and what was your area of responsibility?

I am a member of the following Board sub-groups:

- Marketing
- Competitions

- 6 Number of Board meetings attended in the previous year

All

- 7 What would you personally hope to achieve during your tenure on the Board?

I have the following ambitions:

- To attract and retain new players to the game
- To increase participation in tournament bridge
- To support the bridge community in its response to the changing nature of our game as we learn how to adapt post-COVID with the concomitant adoption of online bridge while retaining the face-to-face game
- That bridge has a successful future in this country in all respects including increased participation, financial stability, affordability, enjoyment by all players and success internationally.
- That the EBU and Counties have an assured future
- That the game has a positive reputation by those that play the game and those that do not
- That the EBU is helpful and friendly

- 8 Please confirm the following by putting Y or N in the appropriate box

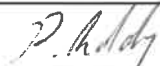
Y/N



○ I have read the Board Director Role Description	Y
○ I have read and understood the duties listed in the Role Description and agree to adhere to the requirements listed within the document	Y
○ I understand the time commitment required therein and I confirm I am able to meet it	Y
○ I have read and understood the statement on good standing and agree to abide by it	Y
○ I understand I may be asked by the Chairman to undertake, or help with, one or more of the activities detailed in Section 9	Y
○ I have read and understood the policy on Being an EBU Committee Member	Y

9	Please indicate in which areas you would be interested in contributing to the Board's activities. Put Y if very interested, put N if definitely not interested, leave blank if no strong preference	Y/N or Blank
	Bridge Great Britain & NBO	
	The Bridge Warehouse	
	Business Strategy and Planning	Y
	Club & County Development	
	Commercial – Development, Partnerships, Sponsorship, Fundraising	Y
	Competitions & Tournaments	Y
	Communications	Y
	Disciplinary Procedures	
	Education	Y
	Finance	Y
	Governance & Organisational Development	Y
	Laws & Ethics	
	Masterpoints, licensing and other governance regulations	Y
	National Grading Scheme	
	Selection & International	
	TD Development & Training	
	Junior internationals	

#### Declaration

I know of no impediment to my being an EBU Board Director and I declare that the information I have given in this application is accurate and true.			
Signature		Date	26/10/2021

# APPLICATION FORM FOR ELECTION TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE ENGLISH BRIDGE UNION LTD



Please complete the following:

1 Full Name

Anthony (Tony) Russ

2 Please indicate any aspects of professional experience or public service which help to qualify you for Board membership. Include here professional qualifications, experience and anything else that you consider relevant to being a director

I qualified as a teacher in 1971 with a first-class honours degree and went on to work in a grammar school as Head of PE, a comprehensive school as director of studies and finally a private school as Deputy Head. During this period, I obtained a masters degree in education and also progressed as a rugby coach and in 1990 I changed tack and during the subsequent 20 years I worked as coach, director of rugby and/or academy manager at a number of leading clubs.

I then made another change and my wife and I ran a small hotel in the Lake District but after three years I was persuaded to return to rugby as the academy manager at Harlequins where I oversaw the development of young players some of whom would become regular internationals.

I retired from Rugby in about 2008

Bridge took a back seat during much of this period but I returned to the game in about 2000 playing in Surrey, Cumbria and lastly Somerset to which county we retired some time ago.

My skill set lies in imagination and effective organisation and planning. I have lots of ideas, some of which I am told are mad, but I have no lack of enthusiasm for the development of the game and in particular at the moment the online version which I believe offers untold opportunities for the game.

3 Employment Status

Retired

4 Past and present activity in bridge administration (at club, county or national level)

I have been treasurer and Chair of Wells Bridge Club and was invited to join the Somerset committee about 12 years ago. My initial role was as Education Officer and subsequently became Chair of Selectors for 5 years and am now in my fifth year as county chair.

As Education Officer I organised courses for players, directors and scorers in addition to seminars from luminaries such as Paul Bowyer and Andrew Robson who still makes an annual visit to the county.

The role of Chair of Selectors is self-explanatory. I also took on the role of organiser of the Western League for a number of seasons.

We have been a very active county and major successes have been a £10000 lottery grant for our teaching programme and our online work during the pandemic when we were running games on four afternoons a week in addition to 13 virtual clubs organised or supported by the SCBA. These include several non-affiliated clubs.

Recently I have been very peripherally involved in the work of the subcommittee looking at selling the EBU to currently non-affiliated clubs.

Having tried on two occasions unsuccessfully to get a South West regional working party off the ground I am an occasional visitor to the Midlands version.

I have organised the successful West of England Congress for the past five years including an online version in 2020 and have also worked with EBED to organise a Bridge Teachers' Course in Somerset.

My experience tells me that what works in Yorkshire (for example) may not be relevant to Cornwall or Somerset and that counties are not a homogeneous group but individual organisations with similar but different priorities which are better grouped by size rather than by geography.

It can be seen that I have been thoroughly immersed (sometimes drowned) in the management and administration of bridge at club and county level and I feel that maybe this experience can be of value to the EBU as it seeks to address the needs of clubs and counties.

5 If you were on the Board during the previous year, what committees, working parties, etc, did you serve on, and what was your area of responsibility?

N/A

6 Number of Board meetings attended in the previous year

N/A

7 What would you personally hope to achieve during your tenure on the Board?

I don't think a board member should have any personal ambitions other than to support the efforts of the board and to use whatever experience they have acquired in a positive way. I feel that more than twenty years spent in bridge administration in all possible ways gives me significant insight into how the EBU may best support the work of clubs and counties.

I feel that I have a considerable amount of 'bottom up' rather than 'top down' knowledge and experience of what it's like at club and county level and I am particularly interested in developing the role of counties within the organisation.

I have also become almost passionate about online bridge and feel that this is a resource which must be developed and not forgotten as we return to f2f. This applies to both playing and teaching.

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	Competitions & Tournaments	Y
	Communications	Y
	Disciplinary Procedures	Y
	Education	
	Finance	N
	Governance & Organisational Development	
	Laws & Ethics	
	Masterpoints, licensing and other governance regulations	Y
	National Grading Scheme	
	Selection & International	N
	TD Development & Training	
	Junior internationals	

## Declaration

I know of no impediment to my being an EBU Board Director and I declare that the information I have given in this application is accurate and true.

Signature	Tony Russ	Date	20/10/21
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