



ELECTION OF TWO DIRECTORS FOR THE YEAR 2022/2023

AGENDA ITEM 7

The nominations are as follows:

Name

Patrick Shields

Gayle Webb

Applications by both candidates are attached in alphabetical order.

The current 2021/22 elected Board of Directors are as follows:

	Term ends		Term ends
Adrian Darnell	2023	Ian Payn (Chairman)	2023
Gillian Fawcett (<i>Resigned Nov 2021</i>)	2022	Kay Preddy (Treasurer)	2024
Cath Fox (Appointed Vice Chairman April 2022)	2024	Tony Russ	2024
Rob Lawy	2023	Pat Shields	Appointed Director
Ron Millet (<i>Resigned April 2022</i>)	2022	Gayle Webb	Appointed Director

Two nominations have been received for the two vacancies.

Therefore, no election is required and Patrick Shields and Gayle Webb are elected for a three-year term of office expiring in 2025.

Gordon Rainsford
Company Secretary
November 2022

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



Please complete the following:

1 Full Name

Patrick Joseph Shields

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 career of work in IT development moved in its last decade to programme planning and change management, primarily on the technology front. Understanding the customer, clear communications and compelling logic have been my key tools to enable my stakeholders to engage positively with a changing environment.

3 Employment Status

Retired

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

For four decades I have served on bridge club and County Association committees, and have been heavily involved in the planning and directing of their bridge games. I have been Chief TD for the Gloucestershire County Association for too many years and do coaching both to bridge players and to (active and potential) Tournament Directors.

During the past three years I have been a seconded member of the EBU Board and been an active contributor on a number of Working Groups. I am currently also a member of the EBU Selection Committee.

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?

Heaviest involvement has been in the Competitions Working Group (for which I am the scribe), and the Education Working Group and the Selection Committee.

6 Number of Board meetings attended in the previous year

All 5

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

Development of a clear path which balances and integrates face-to-face bridge with online bridge, and preserves a positive status for both of these forms of the game.

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 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	Y/N or Blank
	Bridge Great Britain & NBO	Y
	The Bridge Warehouse	N
	Business Strategy and Planning	
	Club & County Development	Y
	Commercial – Development, Partnerships, Sponsorship, Fundraising	N
	Competitions & Tournaments	Y
	Communications	Y
	Disciplinary Procedures	
	Education	Y
	Finance	
	Governance & Organisational Development	
	Laws & Ethics	Y
	Masterpoints, licensing and other governance regulations	Y
	National Grading Scheme	Y
	Selection & International	Y
	TD Development & Training	Y
	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	<i>Patrick Shields</i>	Date	2-Nov-2022
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APPLICATION FORM FOR ELECTION TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE ENGLISH BRIDGE UNION LTD



Please complete the following:

1 Full Name

(Elizabeth) Gayle Webb

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 had a varied working career, with roles mainly in Sales, Marketing, Administration and Event organisation. Many of the skills I used have proven invaluable in the various areas of bridge administration that I have been involved in.

I have always had a "can do" approach to anything I have been asked to do and try to remain positive and cheerful at all times.

3 Employment Status

Retired

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

CLUB

30 years ago I was a Founder member of Warminster Bridge Club and was the first Secretary of the club. I have been on the committee most of this time and five years ago took on the Secretary's role again.

I have also been involved in organising several teaching courses for absolute beginners and in setting up and running "supervised play" sessions for the improvers.

COUNTY

Approximately 20 years ago I became a committee member of Wiltshire County Bridge Association and my main role was to find a new venue for our Green Point Event. I then ran this event for 12 years and almost every year we reached our capacity of 60 tables several weeks ahead.

CLUB AND COUNTY MEMBER

During the pandemic I was instrumental in getting both Warminster Club and Wiltshire County set up to run online using both BBO and Realbridge and as a consequence both Club and County are now emerging from the pandemic with more members than they had previously and a healthy bank balance.

NATIONAL

In November 2020 I was approached by several people who were aware that there was a proposal to co-opt a new Board Member to represent the clubs and club players and I was persuaded to stand for nomination. I was very grateful to those clubs who must have supported me as I was duly elected and this has led to a busy but fulfilling couple of years.

- 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?

Committees I have been involved in during the last two years are:

Marketing group
Competitions group
Teaching group

Working parties I have been involved in are:

Masterpoint promotion
Restart planning group

3 months ago I was co-opted onto the Laws and Ethics committee. I am very much the "junior" member of this committee in the sense that although I consider myself a very experienced player, this is more in a "time served" capacity and I am definitely not an "elite" player. However I have been reassured by the Chairman of the L&E and others, that it is important for there to be representation on the committee from someone who can look at things from the aspect of an average club player.

Projects I have participated in are the introducing of the "Notes from Aylesbury" monthly newsletter, several "focus groups" to gain views from a random sample of players on a number of topics, the production, printing and distribution of new marketing materials and fresh marketing of the Eastbourne summer congress and the production of "goody bags".

As the Board member with particular responsibility for clubs, I have been approached by several clubs with individual queries and have always done my best to either assist them personally or pass them on to an appropriate member of staff at Aylesbury.

- 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 would like to continue with the work I have been doing and see further improvements with regard to grass roots players, club committees, county officials and the EBU, working together successfully to promote the game of bridge and increase its popularity.

Although most clubs are now emerging from closure, there are also many clubs who are struggling with reduced numbers and many who have had to close completely. I believe it will be another couple of years before we know what the "new normal" will be but it is obvious to all that online bridge is now part of this picture. Training of teachers, and new methods of teaching including online courses is essential and urgent. Also finding ways of getting new players from the classroom into the clubs needs to be sought.GA

Everyone is aware of the decline in members playing in nationally organised congresses and the pandemic has only accelerated this decline. Ways to make these events more attractive to all, is essential.

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	National Grading Scheme	Y
	Selection & International	N
	TD Development & Training	N
	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	Gayle Webb	Date	1 st November 2022
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