

OXFORDSHIRE BRIDGE ASSOCIATION

62nd ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Thursday 12 JUNE 2008

DRAFT/MINUTES

1. Present:

Evan Harris	President
Mary-Ann Sheehy	Secretary
Lynne Hayes	Treasurer
Geoff Nicholas	League Secretary
Stephen Brown	Chief Tournament Director
Brenda Harris	Publicity Secretary
Maxine Henry	Membership Secretary
Alan Grunwald	Tournament Secretary
Gordon Carroll	Abingdon
Ian Van Maanen	Abingdon
Andrew Lintott	Aylesbury
Sue Maxwell	Aylesbury Vale
Bob Hargrave	Balliol
Bryony Youngs	Balliol
Alan Wilson	Menagerie
Rob Procter	Menagerie
Esmé Alden	Oxford
Carol Benzie	Oxford
Barbara Eyton	Oxford
David Tuohy	Oxford
Helen Lawton Smith	Oxford
Winnie Ling	Oxford
Frank Harris	Oxford
John P. Briggs	Oxford
Krishan Jalie	Oxford
Cathy Rowland	Oxford
Melinda Jordan	Oxford
Peter Sherry	Oxford
Sandra Nicholson	Summertown
Erica Sheppard	Summertown
Christopher Sheppard	Summertown
Stephanie Bliss	Summertown
Ian Angus	University
Joe Clacey	University
Peter Baxter	Wallingford

Colin Jones Wallingford
Norman Gascooyne Wallingford
John Slater Wallingford

2. Apologies for absence

Sandy Constable
Clive Keep
Dave Thomas
Nick Smith
Peter Stevenson
John Barlow
Pegg Manuell
Richard Sills
Deidre Jalie
Kathy Talbot
Krys Kazmierczak

3. Stephen Brown took the chair.

4. Approval of Minutes of the last AGM

These were approved. (Proposed and seconded by Esme and Winnie)

5. Matters Arising.

There were no matters arising.

6. Officers Reports

Before the Officers reports Stephen Brown opened by thanking Evan Harris for attending the meeting and welcoming him as the new OBA President. He thanked all officers who had worked so hard during the year but singled out Lynne Hayes and Brenda Harris who had both done so much beyond their remit. The meeting which had been held on 29 May to discuss the EBU proposals had been well attended and had resulted in the vast majority being in favour of the proposals.

➤ Secretary:

Mary-Ann said that she had nothing much to report. She reiterated thanks to Lynne and Brenda and also many thanks to Esme who had returned as quickly as she could after her injury to the task of making teas for the county events. The county is very grateful to her.

➤ Treasurer

Lynne talked the meeting through the Accounts. We made a surplus of £2857.47 and at 31 March 2008 the balance carried forward was £18213.66. She pointed out that the Seniors competition on Mondays is making a loss and that the County Pairs produces no income for the county and costs £150.

➤ Membership Secretary

Maxine Henry reported that there were 775 full members plus 7 dual members last year. This year there are 620 full members, 7 juniors and 6 dual members. She raised the question as to how subscriptions would be collected after the EBU proposals were implemented.

➤ Chief Tournament Director

Special thanks to all the scorers and directors who had done so on Tuesday nights: Special thanks to Krisham Jalie for all the help has given to the smooth running of Tuesday bridge particularly while Stephen has been away. There is a new Law Book. All Clubs are entitled to a copy from the EBU.

➤ Tournament Secretary

Alan Grunwald reported that the Mixed Pairs had 24 entries; For the Congress the Championship Pairs had 24 pairs so far, Teams 36 and Sandra Landy Cup 6. All teachers were asked to encourage their pupils to play. The upper limit is 10,000 Master points. (Some thought this too high). Alan's email address is incorrect in the prospectus.

➤ Publicity Secretary

Reported on the success of the Andrew Robson event and heralded the next one which is to be held on 23 April 2009 at 7.30. Thanks to Malcolm Simpson for his Newsletter and to Sandra Nicholson for production editing, thanks to Clive Keep, Alan Wilson and Sandra Nicholson and Krys for proof reading her copy.

➤ Match Secretary

First, apologies for not being present at the AGM. At the risk of duplicating the Captain's report, he and the county players should be congratulated on another fine season. The Oxfordshire B-team retained its Porter Trophy Midland League title by a considerable margin and again goes forward to represent the Midlands in the National Finals on July 13th. The C-team was only deprived of the Markham Trophy by a large Worcestershire win in the last game. The A-team finished mid-table in the Dawes League but came within a whisker of qualifying for the final of the Tollemache - indeed we thought we had qualified, only to find there had been a single scoring error which knocked us out and put Lancs through in our place.

All of us are indebted, once again, to Esme Alden, for her extraordinary hard work in preparing teas for county matches and a

host of other county events. With a confusion over dates, she even found herself having to do so three Sundays running recently. We are fortunate indeed to have this exceptional contribution. I would also like to note the fine contribution of Malcolm Simpson in compiling a regular Newsletter to go out to all players in the county or be viewed on our website.

The county has been able to send representatives to most of the invitational events held by other counties, including the inaugural Midlands Bowl, held last weekend, in which a number of counties, each with their own individual invitation event, have clubbed together to cut down on calendar congestion. Alas, there are no specific successes to report for local players in these invitation events.

This is the first year of the Claridge Cup, awarded to the best piece of declarer play in a county match. Chris Cooper, the captain, who has again done an excellent job this season, put forward seven hands (with the identity of the declarer unspecified) and a committee then voted on which was the best effort. Ed Jones won it.

➤ League Secretary

Geoff reported that all three competitions had gone well. The winners will be announced during prize giving.

➤ Education/Youth Secretary

Alison sent the following report Although the numbers of children who are learning bridge are still small, they're doing very well and several pairs are now playing in the Monday night 'no fear' duplicate and also at the University Bridge club. In the Autumn, we plan to have a new drive to increase numbers by approaching local schools. We would appreciate any help that can be given to enable us to contact people within schools (a door opener). If anyone is able to help in this capacity please could they contact Alison on 01235 851403 at or alison.nicolson@tiscali.co.uk

➤ EBU Representatives

Peter Baxter reported that the Shareholders meeting had taken place and the EBU proposals had been adopted.

7. Before proceeding to the Election of Officers there was a vote of thanks for Stephen Brown who had chaired most of the meetings in the absence of a Chairman.
8. Election of Officers

Chairman	John Slater
Secretary	Mary-Ann Sheehy
Treasurer	Lynne Hayes
Chief tournament Director	Stephen Brown
Match Secretary	Nick Smith
Tournament Secretary	Alan Grunwald
Membership Secretary	Maxine Henry
League Secretary	Geoff Nicholas
Publicity Officer	Brenda Harris
Education/Youth Secretary	Alison Nicolson
Selection Committee	Colin Jones, Andrew Lintott, Nick Smith, Denis Talbot, Krishan Jalie, Michael Clark, Joe Clacey, Ian Angus, David Bygott.
County captain	Chris Cooper
All elected nem con	

9. Presentation of Prizes

These were as follows and the presentation was made by Evan Harris MP, President. He congratulated all prize winners and participants.

Event	Players
Ladies' Pairs	Mary-Ann Sheehy & Cathy Rowland
Men's Pairs	Nigel Wilkes & Mike Webley
Swiss Pairs	Debbie Roberts & Geoff Nicholas
Mixed Pairs	Erica & Christopher Sheppard
Fritch	Kathy and Denis Talbot
County Pairs 1 st	Dinah & Andrew Lintott
County Pairs 2 nd	Ron Quainton & Norman Gascoyne
County Pairs 3 rd	Jean Squires & Isobel Townley-Freeman

OBA Simultaneous Pairs 1 st	Erica & Christopher Sheppard
OBA Simultaneous Pairs 2 nd	Jean Ingham-Johnson & Barbara Walker
President's Cup	Mike Robinson, Rob Procter, Dave Thomas, Richard Haydon & Nathan Piper
Chester Cup	Alison Jackson, Peter Jackson, Colin Jones, Malcolm Curry, Adrian Lambe & John Clifford
Tuesday Teams Ladder	Geoff Nicholas, Dinah & Andrew Lintott
Tuesday Pairs Ladder	Alan Wilson
Tuesday Butler Pairs Ladder	Alan Wilson
Tuesday Champ	Alan Wilson & Stuart McPhee
Harwell Cup	John Clifford , Clive Keep, Nigel Wilkes & Gillian Lonsdale
Sadler Salver	Clive Keep & Mike Brown
Premiership	Alan Wilson
Wessex Div 1	Balliol A
Wessex Div 2	Thame A
Wessex Div 3	Abingdon B
Wessex Div 4	Summertown B
Wessex Div 5	Blewbury B

Trophies and Prizes for the following events had previously been presented
on the day of the tournament

Event	Players
Pro/Am	Rob Procter & Kevin Plumb
Oxford Times	Glenn Sheasby & Peter Eccles
Sandra Landy	Alan Snell & Eve Barwell

Beck Cup	Derbyshire
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10. Items raised and already notified

1. It was proposed to appointed Rob Procter as Auditor for the 2008/9 accounts. Approved.
2. Resolution "As after the Pachabo on 14th and 15th June this year, no further costs be met by the OBA in conjunction with hotel/meal expenses incurred by player- representatives of this county"

Geoff Nicholas opened the discussion. His basic argument is that it is wrong to spend so much of the OBA funds providing accommodation/travel expenses to top players to represent the county in various events, particularly: Tollemache, Corwen, and Pachabo. There was broad agreement save that it was felt the discretion should be kept in order to be able to assist the junior and non waged members who qualify to enter these competitions. The Management Committee was delegated the responsibility to work out exactly how this proposal should be implemented.

11. Krys had sent a message via Sandra Nicholson: would like to draw OBA officers' attention to the fact that Buckingham Bridge Club is affiliated to the OBA but seems not to show up on anyone's radar. It is not listed in the prospectus or on the website and seems to be left off most people's Oxon circulations. Would officers please make an effort to include Buckingham BC.

According to the EBU records, the club secretary is
Mr Michael J Ellis
Lauriston
Avenue Road
Maids Moreton
BUCKINGHAM
MK18 1QA