

# Oxfordshire Bridge Association

## 63<sup>rd</sup> Annual General Meeting Monday 15 June 2009 at the Oxford Bridge Club

### MINUTES

1. Present:

Evan Harris	President
John Slater	Chairman
Mary-Ann Sheehy	Secretary
Lynne Hayes	Treasurer
Stephen Brown	Chief Tournament Director
Brenda Harris	Publicity Officer/EBU Representative
Nick Smith	Match Secretary
Alan Grunwald	Tournament Secretary
Colin Jones	Wallingford
Peter Finbow	Wallingford
Andrew Speyer	Abingdon
Sue Maxwell	Aylesbury Vale
Ian Van Maanen	Abingdon
Geoff Nicholas	Aylesbury
Stuart Scott	
John Barlow	Frilford
Richard Sills	Oxford
Andrew Lintott	Aylesbury
Chris Kerr	Oxford
Chris Daw	Oxford
John Briggs	Oxford
Frank Harris	Oxford
Ian Angus	University
Wendy Claye	Oxford
Melinda Jordan	Oxford
Ed Jones	University
Joe Clacey	University
Sandra Nicholson	Summertown
Krishan Jalie	Oxford
Lorna Swadling	Oxford
Alistair Gidman	Oxford
Kathy Talbot	Oxford

Alan Wilson Menagerie  
N. Percival Price Menagerie  
Apologies for Absence

Erica Sheppard	Summertown
Krys Kazmierczak	Summertown
Maxine Henry	Membership Secretary
Esme Alden	Oxford
Cathy Rowland	Oxford
Peggy Manuell	Oxford
John Cecil	Oxford
Alison Nicolson	Wantage
Winnie Ling	Oxford
Moira Pavelin	Oxford
Sandy Constable	Oxford
Denis Talbot	Oxford
Gordon Carroll	Abingdon
Dinah Lintott	Aylesbury

2. Approval of Minutes of 62nd AGM  
The minutes were approved.
3. Matters arising  
No matters arising
4. Officers' Reports

❖ Chairman (attached)

John Slater thanked all management committee members for their hard work during the year, and particularly those who were demitting their posts: Lynne, Mary-Ann and Alison Nicolson (whose work on the September one day event helped by Geoff Nicholas and Norman Gascoyne was wonderful). He had earlier set out his report in writing: He commented on: the success of the congress in June 2008, the 1 day event in September.

Whilst some county events were successful, others had had some difficulty attracting people to enter. Following proposals and consultation the following changes will be implemented in the forthcoming year:

1. The Chester cup rules will be changed so that if there be more than one division then at least two teams from each division will be involved in further matches to decide the overall winner (precise details to be agreed at the next management committee)
2. In 2009/10 Men's and Ladies Pairs will be run with a non playing

Director and will have fees that reflect both the cost of the director and the small entry numbers, costs being based on 12 and 10 tables respectively. IF the events do not attract these numbers then they will be discontinued in subsequent years.

3. There will be county night heats of the County Pairs and the National Pairs competitions. These will be the default heats for the members of clubs that do not have a club night. In general each club should have a default heat. This could be at the club or at a neighbouring club where there are agreed arrangements. Players will need a good reason not to play at their default heat. For example it would be unacceptable to play in one's default heat as a non-competing pair and also play elsewhere as a competing pair.
4. We have looked at the events for those with small numbers of Master Points (The Oxford Times Cup and the Sandra Landy Trophy) and will be experimenting with different venues/schemes.
5. We are looking at introducing events where clubs are "represented" in the event (perhaps by the winners of appropriate ladders). We may try one during 2009/10.
6. The monthly seniors' even is close to breaking even but some work will be required to stop it drifting into the red in the future.

At last a draft Constitution has been produced for approval at the AGM.

The biggest change in the next year will be the introduction of [P2P](#). This will have some consequences for OBA. Specifically:

- a. We will say farewell to some of our clubs who will be disaffiliating
- b. We can expect to be increasingly disintermediated in our relationships with our clubs as the EBU continues to set up more direct methods of communication with clubs and deploys people to support them.
- c. Our membership income will be collected through P2P fee. This will inherit the EBU practice of being capped at a certain number of P2Ps each year so that those who play very often will not see large increases in payments.

These changes are not necessarily for the bad – they should lead to a streamlining of some of our procedures as clubs get more direct links with the EBU and as we all use more electronic communication. A lot of work on membership chasing will cease. For the moment we do not intend to change OBA structures but that may follow after the scheme has bedded in. There is still some detail to be defined.

The precise fee to be charged is in the Treasurer's report but, to safeguard against the possibility of a large drop in OBA income without an average increase over the previous year, it is likely to be 5p or 6p per play. This corresponds to a break-even in revenue at an average number of plays per

person per year of about 50. This sum is added to the EBU charge of 29p and collected by the EBU directly from clubs. We pay the EBU P2P fees for county events as if we are a club so we register with the EBU as do clubs.

❖ Secretary

Mary-Ann thanked all those she had worked with through the years and expressed great regret that John Slater was departing.

❖ Treasurer

Lynne presented her report which showed a surplus for the year of £2857.47. She presented her report and this was accepted nem con. She thanked Krishan for all his work as Assistant Treasurer throughout the year.

❖ Membership Secretary

Maxine Henry in absentia: The membership figures for the year end were 762 full members including BFA and Clubs. Plus 61 dual members.

❖ Tournament Secretary

Alan Grunwald reported that the year had gone well: The forthcoming congress promised to be well attended with 50 pairs already booked in and 34 teams.

❖ League Secretary:

Geoff Nicholas reported that all competitions under his control had been completed successfully and master points had been credited.

❖ Publicity Officer

Brenda reported that it had been a good year and that the Andrew Robson seminar had once again been a resounding success. Thanked Malcolm Simpson for his Newsletter, Sandra Nicholson for the lay out. Alan Wilson Sandra Nicholson, Krys Kazmierczak and Steve Noble for proof reading.

❖ EBU Shareholders

Brenda urged members to read the minutes which are on the website. A new National rating system is going to be introduced which will reflect current level of playing ability, for all competitions even novices. Alerting of doubles to be reviewed by a subcommittee. There had been complaints about the website not being up to scratch by midnight. National newcomers have been cancelled again because it was not financially viable.

❖ Match Secretary

It had been a good year. Dawes league Oxon came 3<sup>rd</sup>. B team came 2<sup>nd</sup> in Markham, and C team won their league. B team were the inter regional champions. Sent 4 pairs to the Corwen. Debbie Roberts and Geoff Nicholas came 29<sup>th</sup> while Alastair Gidman and Lorna Swadling came 39<sup>th</sup>. Pachabo – Nick Smith's Team. Finished 9/33. There is a need for people to volunteer to attend invitation events. Andrew Lintott asked whether a list could be produced so that people could plan.

❖ Chief Tournament Director

Stephen Brown thanked Clive Keep for commentaries for sim pairs booklet and all assistant directors and directors who had stepped in in Stephen's absence. Master points have been awarded. Fifth draft of prospectus is in circulation.

5. Election of Officers

The President led the election of officers as follows:

- Chairman       nobody
- Secretary       nobody
- Treasurer       John Briggs
- Tournament Director   Stephen Brown
- Tournament Secretary   Alan Grunwald
- League Secretary       Geoff Nicholas
- Match Secretary       Nick Smith
- Membership Secretary   Maxine Henry
- Publicity Officer       Brenda Harris
- Selection Committee

Joe Clacey : University  
Colin Jones: Wallingford  
Nick Smith: Menagerie  
Andrew Lintott: Aylesbury  
David Bygott : Oxford

All elected nem con.

6. Presentation of Prizes

The prizes presented by the President were given as follows:

<b>Event</b>	<b>Winners</b>
Ladies' Pairs	Judy Brown & Wendy Claye
Men's Pairs	Roger Van Noorden & John Deech
Swiss Pairs	Ian Angus & Phil Stevens
Mixed Pairs	Lynne Hayes & Stephen Brown
Fritch	Linda & Phil Dickson
County Pairs 1 <sup>st</sup>	Lorna Swadling & Alastair Gidman
County Pairs 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Christine Harlow & Roger Kerkin
County Pairs 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Kathy and Denis Talbot
OBA Simultaneous Pairs 1 <sup>st</sup>	Mel & Richard Czapski
OBA Simultaneous Pairs 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Moira Pavelin & John Cecil
President's Cup	Nick Smith, Alan Wilson, Richard Lonsdale & Stuart McPhee
Chester Cup	Chris Cooper, Bryony Youngs, Michael Clark, Luke Porter, Ian Angus & Ed Jones

Tuesday Teams Ladder	Alan Wilson & Nick Smith
Tuesday Pairs Ladder	Alan Wilson
Tuesday Butler Pairs Ladder	Alan Wilson
Tuesday Champ	John Williams & Chris Wilson
Harwell Cup	David Watkins, Tony Faint, David Flower & David Stead
Sadler Salver	Geoff Nicholas & Krishan Jalie
Premiership	Alan Wilson
Wessex Div 1	Menagerie A
Wessex Div 2	Aylesbury A
Wessex Div 3	Frilford A
Wessex Div 4	Wallingford C
Wessex Div 5	Aylesbury Vale A
Previously presented Prizes and Trophies:	
Pro/Am	Alan Wilson & Zhi Ban Lim
Oxford Times	Alison Withers Green & Melinda Jordan
Sandra Landy Trophy	Max Booker & John Briggs
Beck Cup	Hertfordshire
Oxford Congress	
Championship Pairs	Peter Russell & Ron Quainton
Oxford Congress Swiss Teams	Chris Burley, Ed Scerri, Phil Thornton & Kevin Elstow
September Green Point Event	Alastair Gidman, Jackie Davies, Chris Kerr & Beryl Kerr

7. Items raised and already notified:

- a. Appointment of Rob Procter as Auditor for the 2009/10 Accounts Appointed
- b. From OBC: OBC Licence : OBA members when playing at OBC are deemed to be Associate Members during the period of their time in the building: This is to enable them to buy drinks.  
Honours boards: apologies for delays. Accepted
- c. Resolution: "that the new constitution as attached is approved". The constitution was presented for approval. Following changes were made:
  - 6.2. Publicity "secretary" changed to 'Officer'
  - 6.9 insert "present' after "Each member" at beginning of second sentence.
  - No. 6. in Schedule. "Management Committee' rather than 'Executive Committee'
 Subject to these changes the Constitution was formally adopted.