

NOTES OF OBA COMPETITIONS SUBCOMMITTEE – Tuesday 14th May 2024 (3.30pm – 5.00pm)

Present: KT PL PH SN SB Email addresses for circulation

Kathy Talbot <kathy_talbot@hotmail.co.uk>,
 Peter Litchfield <peterlitch@gmail.com>,
 Patricia Hones <patricia@hones.org.uk>,
 Malcolm Currie <mjc@star.rl.ac.uk>,
 Sandra Claridge <sclaridge31@gmail.com>,
 Peter Finbow <pwfinbow@yahoo.co.uk>,
 Sandra Nicholson <sjnich@gmail.com>,
 OBA Competitions <obacomp@gmail.com>,

Agenda

1. **Apologies** Malcolm Currie
2. **Minutes of previous meeting**, Matters arising
 - a. Ken Langdon has been running a social type teams event twice a year

ACTION: KT to liaise with Ken and have it around the same time.

3. Competitions for 2023-2024

Presidents Cup

The President' Cup is almost completed, the final match is planned only just over a week before the Pachabo, but Kathy has reserved a place for the winning teams to play and the names will be passed on late. The Plate has just started. Sandra Claridge has set play-by dates to attempt to complete by the AGM. Playing on 28. May.

ACTION: Patricia to enter the team for President's for the Pachabo and send copy to SB

Swiss Pairs: Sun 5th May 2024 11 tables entered. Not such a good entry as 2023 (20 tables)

Swiss Pairs	5-May-24	Entry Fee	Square Fee	1.4% + 25p	TOTAL
Via Square	23	£18.00	0.5		£402.50
Refund Fees	2	-£0.50			-£1.00
ENTRIES	24				£401.50
PRIZES					-£84.00
REALBRIDGE					
FEE	48	-£0.84			-£40.32 ✓
EBU MP FEE	96	-£0.77			-£73.92 ✓
TD FEE					
SURPLUS					£203.26

OBA to donate P2P & Realbridge fees to juniors so amount ring-fenced for Juniors is £317.50

Alerting Regulations in online events

- i. Thursday pairs league / teams, county Pairs semi & Final – self alerting, no screens
- ii. Blue Pointed Swiss Pairs online – self alerting, no screens
- iii. Wessex League, Div 1 Self alerting & screens. Divn 2 self alerting, no screens.
- iv. Handicap Pairs, Chester Cup and Mixed Pairs - alerting as at table

County Pairs:

The final was run with 10 tables and green points were awarded to all pairs, with 6.25 for the winning pair. The top 4 pairs are representing Oxfordshire in the Corwen. The County Pairs events (semifinal & final) made a surplus of £424.50

SN: Remove profit and change to surplus on all spreadsheet and in minutes. We are running them for the benefit of the players, not to make a 'profit' for the County. We decided to subsidise a F2F 9-High event. We need to impress of the stronger players that they need to be welcoming.

ACTION: date for NGS event to be decided and added to calendar

County Pairs Semis	1-Feb-24	4-Feb-24	19-Feb-24	1.4% + 25p
	Entries	Entry Fee	Square Fee	TOTAL
Via Square	71	£8.00	0.36	£542.44
Free entry (TD)	4	-£4.00		-£16.00
				£526.44
COLLECTING ENTRIES	1	-£20.00		-£20.00
REALBRIDGE FEE	142	-£0.48		-£68.16
EBU MP FEE	142	-£0.44		-£62.48
SURPLUS subtotal				£375.80
County Pairs Final	17-Mar-24			1.4% + 25p
	Entries	Entry Fee	Square Fee	TOTAL
Via Square	19	£18.00	0.5	£332.50
direct to account	1	£9.00		£9.00
RECEIPTS from final				£341.50
SURPLUS from semifinals				£375.80
CORWEN ENTRIES	8	-£28.00		-£224.00
REALBRIDGE FEE	40	-£0.84		-£33.60
EBU MP FEE	80	-£0.44		-£35.20
SURPLUS				£424.50

Monthly Pairs League

Has moved to RealBridge. This reduces costs and should increase surplus to roughly £45 per month.

Pairs League	18-Apr-24			
	Entries	Entry Fee	Square Fee	TOTAL
Via Square	23	£7.00	0.35	£152.95
RealBridge Fee	46	-£0.48		-£22.08
EBU MP FEE	46	-£0.45		-20.7
TD / ADMIN FEE		-£61.10		-£61.10
SURPLUS				£49.07

When Stephen was away in April, Paul the TD from Kent who directed, submitted each individual division separately for MPs and the overall cross imps for NGS. This seems better than what we have been doing (submitting each division separately for NGS when there are only 3-4 scores per board).

Q. Do we agree that we should do this from now on? No

Action: Get April changed

Still work for three divisions but e.g. combine two divisions when needed.

ACTION: Have more publicity, invite notice to go out and pass to Patricia & Kathy to encourage. Ask Clubs to encourage OBA events to their players. Add the following when emailing clubs

“One of the main purposes of the OBA is to run events for its members. We encourage you to take part. If there something else you would like us to run, please let us know. “

There are still people out there that feel that the OBA is not there for me.

F2F Events

Oxford BC is running a Blue Pointed F2F Swiss Pairs on Sunday 7th July, entries being taken through the OBA Website and Square. The entries for this are open on the OBA website.

Wallingford have offered to have a F2F Swiss Pairs on 29th September.

Formally Agreed that this is fine.

Abingdon is considering having one. Although normally February. The empty months are March & April.

There has recently been an adjustment to the final scores for the 2023-24 Wessex League Division 1, because OBC A fielded an ineligible player (someone who wasn't a paid-up member of the club) in two of their matches. Kathy and I felt able to deal with this between us, because it was quite clear under paras 4 and 22 of the regulations what the infringement was and what the adjustment should be (2 VPs for each instance to be deducted from the offending team, and added to the score of their opponents).

Unfortunately, it's now come to light that another similarly ineligible player also played for OBC A in three of their matches. Following the same principle, this means that at the very least, OBC A will lose a further 6 VPS and 2 VPs will be added to the score of their opponents in those matches. If you look at the current table for Division 1, you'll see that this means they will now be overtaken by Menagerie A as the winners of Division 1, and therefore the team entitled to enter the Garden Cities. The relative positions of other teams are unaltered by the adjustments.

I've written to Menagerie A to ask if they can put together an eligible team at this very short notice. If not, the regulations of the Garden Cities competition do allow us to enter the runners-up of the qualifying county competition, and OBC A would still be willing to enter a team on this basis - so we will at least have an entry to the Garden Cities, whatever happens.

For next season, I expect to take the opportunity to make the existing criteria for eligibility to play in the League more detailed, so that they match those used by the EBU for eligibility to enter the Garden Cities; and also, to remind captains at the beginning of the season that they must check eligibility both for their initial squads, and for any additional players drafted in at a later stage.

Q. to be decided: Para 22 of the regulations says " The Competitions Sub-Committee shall have the right to impose additional penalties for repeat offences or to declare a match invalid". I've been assured that the offences were inadvertent, in the sense that neither the team captain nor the individuals realised at the time that their previous membership of the club had lapsed; but it does seem that, somewhere along the way, there was a failure to carry out a proper check, and there have certainly been repeat offences. On the other hand, you may feel that losing the overall Wessex League championship is a sufficient penalty in itself.

It was agreed that there should be no further VP adjustment

Menagerie charge no membership fee, except for Wessex League players. So we should remove the word paid up from the regulations. There was one player who has this fee waived when he played in the Wessex League. The club also asked why the 2 VPs were transferred to the other team. The committee decided not to penalise Menagerie. We agreed to finalise the results provide Nick Doe can assure us that it was decided that no payment was needed in advance of the person playing.

ACTION: KT and SN will review the regulations over the summer as usual, and incorporate any necessary changes

Abingdon Café Bridge – 21st May 2024

Entries have been slower than the Henley event, but has reached 36 pairs (including Kathy). Peter Litchfield to report further. Joining instructions have been sent out. We have a system for a line of fewer than 5 pairs. All venues are happy. The scoring system allows this to be easily implemented. Does anyone know of a possible standby pair? All venues are accessible to all, all venues are on the ground floor. All to try to drum up entries. Peter is expecting invoices for £20.00 per head for each café and these to be passed to treasurer.

New Version of Chester Cup

Ref starting/restarting a teams of 4 league played F2F – Sandra Nicholson says> "I think that it makes sense to treat it as a restart of the Chester Cup rather than an offshoot of the Wessex League, but of course it was Sandra C who always used to run the Chester Cup, wasn't it? so it would be courteous to involve her in the decision. If she doesn't want to do it, I'm happy to run it alongside the WL, but I do think it should be a separate competition. Apart from anything else, I feel it will be easier for people to put teams together, and thereby generate enough entries to run it, if they don't have to be all from the same club (although I know you were talking about it as an inter-club competition)."

Take decision by email, and then find out whether Sandra would run it.

Remaining online dates for 2024 already agreed

Sunday 16th June: Mixed Pairs

Sunday 5th October: Harwell Cup

Sun 10 November: Handicap Pairs

Sun 1 December: Swiss Pairs Championship

Suggested dates for 2025 – all confirmed

County Pairs Semifinal on RealBridge on: Sun 2 Feb, Thu 6 Feb, Mon 17 Feb 2025

Equivalent dates for club heats: Weeks commencing Monday 18th November, 2nd December, 6th January

Add Thu Teams dates back to calendar. Encourage more to play.

County Pairs Final on RealBridge on: Sun 16 March 2025

Blue Point Swiss Pairs in 27 April 2025 - a week earlier than the bank holiday

Mixed Pairs on RealBridge Sunday 15 June 2025

ACTION: SB to ask the EBU when is Corwen 2025. If this is going to be moved again in 2025 then move the Mixed Pairs

Congress : 17/18 August 2024

Bookings are now live and the first emails inviting entries have gone out.

Tea/coffee? Still to make decision. Then brochure can be sent to SB for posting on the website.

Is there going to be someone running the refreshments? They would sell snacks and take the profit.

ACTION: KT + SN to meet this week and confirm

4. Next competitions sub-committee meetings dates

Dates are: 8th Oct 2024. SB Requests **3pm** on Zoom