

The BridgeMate sub-committee has not met since the last meeting of the Committee but there have been discussions between the members – Tony, Hugh C and myself. Additionally there has been contact with BridgeMate and an email was sent to all current Seaford Bridge club directors and scorers.

1. Directors/Scorers

I've had responses to the email sent from all current directors/scorers (except at the time of writing from Martin Auger) regarding their willingness to continue in their roles should SBC decide to adopt the BM system.

With regard to Directors all have agreed to continue as Directors. Leslie Fowle has further indicated that he would prefer to simultaneously perform both roles of Director and Technician rather than have two persons running the session that he was directing. From my own experience this should not be a problem.

Responses from the current scorers indicate that all are prepared to transfer to the role of Technician with the exception of Michele Conway. Additionally two persons, not currently scorers, have volunteered to be Technicians - Chris Creamer and Carol Gillespie. Hugh Creamer and Pam Pelling also wish to be reinstated as, if BM is adopted, the issue currently preventing them from scoring (i.e incompatible lap-top) will disappear.

2. Wi-Fi Links

As you know the Leisure Centre currently has wi-fi to enable results recorded using BM to be uploaded to the SBC website as soon as a session has terminated. The Over 60s club does not have wi-fi although there is the possibility that it may be installed. However for the purposes of our planning we should not assume this. What we want to avoid is a Technician having to take the BM lap top home to upload results. BM advise that, even without w-fi availability, this is easily achievable. What is needed is a wi-fi 'hot spot'. This is an 'app' (which is available at no cost) and can be downloaded on to a personal smartphone and then linked to the BM lap top. This effectively creates wi-fi availability thus enabling results at the Over 60s to be uploaded to the web site without any need for equipment to be removed from the venue. This will always work as long as a smartphone is available. I do know that Leslie Fowle already has a wi-fi hot spot app downloaded on to his smartphone and has used it successfully to create a wi-fi zone to use when none is otherwise available.

3. Demonstration for Members

BM has offered to run an SBC duplicate session using their equipment. Their only charge would be mileage and should SBC subsequently choose to purchase BM the mileage charge would be deducted from the purchase price. They would also provide a 15 minute presentation about BM prior to the session. If we choose to accept this offer I would suggest a Tuesday afternoon. before Christmas.

4. Loan of Handsets

BM has offered to the lend SBC a set of handsets for demonstration purposes. They could not be used for a session but could be used to demonstrate to the membership how the handsets are used.

5. Vulnerability of Female Technicians

Concern was expressed by a member of the sub-committee about female technicians having to enter the Over 60s Club on their own in poor light after the completion of a Tuesday afternoon session. This entry is required to securely store equipment in the SBC cupboard in the Over 60s. With this in mind I have checked the sunset times for Seaford for the next 12 months. We usually end the session about 16.30 and there are 79 days (lets say 11 weeks) when the sun sets earlier than 16.30. There are therefore 11 occasions when this may be a problem although as Christmas

occurs within this period this reduces to 9 (losing both Christmas Week and the Tuesday before Christmas when the Leisure Centre is closed for staff training). We now have four potential female technicians - Pam Pelling, Chris Creamer, Carol Gillespie and Sheila Smith. Chris does not play on Tuesdays leaving us with three. With three male technicians (Hugh C does not play on a Tuesday) also on the rota there is a 50% possibility (i.e. 4 to 5 occasions) when a female scorer will be required to enter the Over 60s in poor light unaccompanied. I would suggest that it is likely that for these 4 to 5 occasions per year we can make sure that there is male available to accompany them if they so desire it.

John Gillespie
Seaford Bridge Club BridgeMate sub-committee