

SEAFORD BRIDGE CLUB

Minutes of the Committee Meeting of Seaford Bridge Club held on Monday August 9th,
2021 at 14.00 at 21 Churchill Road, Seaford

Present: Martin Auger, Christine Creamer (co-Chair), Leslie Fowle (co-Chair),
John Gillespie, Pam Pelling, John Hughes, Ruth Skinner and Carol
Gillespie (ex-officio)

1. Apologies for Absence

Received: from Francoise Basden-Smith.

2. Minutes of Previous Meetings

The minutes of the committee meeting of 23 July 2021 were agreed and signed.

3. The Return of Face to Face Bridge - When and Where

Noted: The survey of the membership had indicated that a significant number of members would consider returning to play Face to Face (F2F) bridge if the conditions were favourable. In view of this the Committee should respect that viewpoint and try to offer a F2F option

Reported: (i) The 60+ Club had reopened and would welcome the return of the bridge club. The advantages of this option were good parking (although there could be difficulties); bridge tables were provided; and storage was good. Disadvantages were the building itself which some committee members felt was not conducive to playing bridge safely in the current climate.

(ii) The St Thomas More Catholic Church Hall was available offering a light and airy venue. The storage was limited and the tables were not as good as at the 60+ Club. There was limited parking.

Agreed: Seaford Bridge Club was committed to providing bridge for its members in both F2F and online formats.

Following further discussion about the respective merits of the proposed venues Co-Chair Christine Creamer called for a show of hands in regard to whether the 60+ Club should be used in the trial of Wednesday evening F2F bridge.

Noted: By a margin of 5 votes to 3 the Committee agreed to use the 60+ Club for the September Wednesday evening F2F bridge trial.

Agreed: (i) The trial of F2F bridge would start on 1.9.21. This would take the form of a session at the 60+ Club on Wednesday evenings and a session at St Thomas More on Monday afternoons (if it could be booked). Online bridge would continue on Friday evenings

as now. Table money would be £2 although the first session at each F2F venue would be free to members.

(ii) The trial of F2F bridge will be reviewed at a Committee meeting to be held on October 1st.

(iii) To email the membership immediately to advise of the return to F2F bridge and remind them of their bridgemate number.

(iv) Announce the return of F2F bridge in the Club newsletter with full details of times and venues and reminding members of the increase of table money to £2.

(vi) Examine the possibility of introducing playing vouchers, paid for in advance, entitling members to play without the need for money to be exchanged.

4. F2F Risk Assessment Document

Received: A revised draft Guidelines document prepared by Christine Creamer.

Agreed: (i) To amend the document as follows:

Face masks to be worn when ‘moving around the hall’

Remove references to a table at which table money would be paid.

Remove the reference to using ‘hand sanitiser’ after paying table money.

Amend reference to ‘hand sanitiser’ so that it is now available on

‘every table’.

Remove references to ‘bridgemates’ and ‘face covering’ for E/W pairings.

Remove reference to E/W pairs taking their hand sanitiser to the next table.

Remove reference to ‘antiseptic wipes’ being available in the toilets.

(ii) Publicise the revised guidelines in the next Newsletter.

4. Hybrid Bridge

There was a discussion on the pros and cons of playing a hybrid form of bridge where online and F2F players play the same hands simultaneously. This followed a Webinar on the subject attended by three members of the committee.

Agreed: That at this point in time the Club would not pursue this option as it could cause organisational difficulties should players switch at the last minute from playing F2F to playing online.

5. Any Other Business

Noted: That an amendment to the constitution would need to be put to the next AGM to make more clear the rights of co-opted members on the Club committee.

6. Date/Venue of Next Meeting

Friday October 1st (2.00pm) 41 Valley Drive, Seaford.