

Minutes of the SCBA Committee Meeting held on the 4th September 2015

at Woolavington Village Hall

Present: Gina Howard (Chairperson), Joe Patrick, Ken and Ann Bawdon, Sheila Coda, Eric Cummings, Tony Russ, Caroline Macpherson

Apologies: Michael Whittaker

Minutes of last meeting were held to be a true record.

Matters arising

- EC to produce an appropriate club questionnaire as a precursor for a 5 year plan
- A report was submitted prior to the meeting by MW on the sponsorship deal with First for bridge. This agreement will be reviewed by First after one year.

West of England Congress

The entries have now reached the break-even point. There are not very many entries for the Men's Pairs (8 pairs) and entries for the Swiss Pairs only stands at 67 to date. Despite the change of ownership of the Winter Gardens, all is well with arrangements at the venue.

Treasurer's report

As at the 17th August income was £13,600 which included £10,000 from the congress entries with outgoings of £5,500. The Andrew Robson seminars are currently showing a £2,000 profit.

Selection & Education reports

The Selection and Education reports were circulated prior to the meeting, with it being noted that refreshments would not be provided for western league matches other than coffee/tea.

The first event to be directly sponsored by FFB will be the café event at the Brewhouse in Taunton.

Tournament Secretary's report

There had been a complaint about the last match being dropped during the Paul Jones, which led on to a discussion of responsibilities during County events. It was confirmed that the T Sec will liaise with the TD before the event, to agree the arrangements, but once the event starts the TD will be in charge.

Sundays were preferred during July/August for events. Action by CM/MW

It was agreed that, in order to attempt to speed up play, an EBU type computer clock which counts down the time left in a particular round will be investigated by Tony Russ.

Chairman's report

- Tony Manickam has resigned as website administrator. The committee expressed their thanks for all of his work over many years with the web site. Eric Cummings will now operate the new Bridgewebs website.
- There will be 30 teams in the County League for 2015/16, with 10 per division.
- EBU have taken over Geoff Smith's bridge scoring programs, with no charge for its use, but charges will be made for support.
- The EBU would like its logo incorporated on both County and Affiliated club web sites and stationary.
- A suggestion by MW re changing the format of the championship pairs to make it a one session event will be discussed at the next meeting.
- Bob Warrender has suggested blue points be awarded to Division 1 in the County league. This was rejected on the basis it would be unfair as it was a club representative event.
- EC will examine the Victor Ludorum structure and report back with recommendations.

AOB

There is a problem with a missing trophy, which brought up the question of insurance. MW will be consulted to see what cover exists.

Historical data on competition winners and West of England Congress competition winners will be put on the new web site. Action TR and EC.

Date of Next Meeting

8th January 2016 at Woolavington Village Hall at 6.45pm