

**SCBA Committee Meeting held 7<sup>th</sup> January 2018**  
**Woolavington Village Hall 12.30pm**

**Present:** Tony Russ, Sheila Coda, Jean Howard, Gina Howard, Ceri Pierce, Daphne Greatorex, Frank Coltman, Joan Pooley and Eric Cummings

**Apologies:** Colin Simcox, Richard Feetenby

**Minutes of Previous Meeting and matters arising.**

There were no matters arising and minutes were accepted as a true record

**Chairman's Report**

The Chairman restated the strategic objectives set out in previous meeting.

Progress reports were received from the Selection committee, the Tournament organiser and the Education and Fast Track organisers

Chairman has visited 12 of the 15 non affiliated bridge clubs in Somerset

The results of the survey sent out to all email registered SCBA member was being consolidated.

As a result of the Bridge in Somerset Initiative meeting held in November 2017 it was suggested that clubs might form 'cluster' groups to facilitate inter clubs competitions and events in their area

It was confirmed that the Lottery Grant application had been successful

The Chairman congratulated the Committee on their achievements over the various completed and ongoing projects

**Financial Report**

The Treasurers report indicates a continued sound financial position thanks mainly from the income from the West of England Congress, Lottery grant, Andrew Robson and Bruton events. Competition income also increased.

There was a charge of £800 VAT on the West of England Congress Event, and the Chairman will investigate the possibility of registering the SCBA as a charity to avoid future charges.

**Committee Members Planning for Spring 2018**

**SCBA Fast Track Bridge (FTB)**

Application for a £10K lottery grant has been successful and will be used to fund to 4 clubs to work within the SCBA.

Fast track tudors are identified as

Caroline Macpherson

Ceri Pierce

Eric Cummings

Jean Howard

Joan Pooley

Tony Russ

Frank Coltman

Applications were received from 8 clubs in the County and 4 of these will be selected in due course. The selected clubs will be supported by a Fast Track Tudor, who attended a training with Paul Bowyer in December.

The Course material purchased from Paul Bowyer for the 1 year course, will be available for unlimited use within the County, enabling other clubs to run similar courses in the future. **SCBA area only.**

The Fast Track Tudors are to meet to co-ordinate next step and involve clubs. It was agreed that the syllabus of Paul Bowyer program of lessons would be followed in all of the 4 clubs selected, for consistency of cross club support.

Selected clubs would be asked for a commitment to follow the syllabus and introduce the new recruits to their clubs

**Michael Coda Cup**

The charity for 2018 is to be Somerset & Dorset Air Ambulance and the Bay Club (Burnham on Sea)

One new club has joined the event and boards will be issued to the clubs within the next few weeks

### **Education Secretary Report**

Forthcoming events:

Directors Course 28<sup>th</sup> January

Paul Bowyer Seminar 18<sup>th</sup> February

Bruton Next Step 13<sup>th</sup> April

Entries were encouraging. It was decided to email all SCBA members using the Bridgewebs site which has 600+ entries, to advertise all future events. If paying by direct debit for events, applicants would be requested to ensure that their name was included in the bank reference, and a confirmation email also sent to the Education Secretary.

### **Terry Girdlestone Cup**

Clubs were asked to nominate a member who had made an outstanding contribution to their club. Sheila Coda is in process of advising all club secretaries and receiving nominations.

### **Tournament Secretary's Report**

Results of member survey issued by Chairman were discussed. It was decided that tea and coffee would be made available, on arrival, for Competitions. There would be no charge to members.

Members had also expressed interested in morning and/or afternoon competitions.

Bad behaviour at the table was also a major issue.

Entries to competitions were still disappointing.

A new handicap competition is to be introduced into the calendar in October to encourage more entries from 'lower ranked' members.

A copy of the Best Behaviour rules will be sent to all club secretaries and members will be reminded at the start of each event. Offenders may be penalised by the Director.

For stratified events the winners at each level would be acknowledged and possibly be awarded a prize at the end of the event, and photos taken.

A program for the next year's competitions will be published by the end of March.

**Barbarian teams.** Bob Warrender is to be asked to established rules for such teams to enter the County league.

### **AOB**

A donation from SCBA funds is to be sent to the EBU to support the Youth Team

The meeting closed at 1.30pm

Next Committee meeting scheduled for March 10th 2018 at 12.15pm

Minutes prepared by Daphne Greatorex 17/1/18