

**SCBA Committee Meeting held 12<sup>th</sup> December 2018**  
**Woolavington Village Hall 2.00pm**

**Present:** Tony Russ, Ceri Pierce, Daphne Greatorex, Frank Coltman, **Paul** Burgess, Andy Ridgers, Sheila Coda and Richard Feetenby by remote conference facility

**Apologies:** Jean Howard, Colin Simcox, Gina Howard, Eric Cummings

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

Actions completed were:

**Tony Russ** to arrange the use of Facebook for promotion of events.

**Frank Coltman** to reassess the rules for inter-club competitions.

**Tony Russ** to clarify with the EBU the Master points awarded if non affiliated clubs are included in competitions

**Tony Russ** updated the expenses policy for Committee members

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

The Chairman thanked the Secretary for efficient preparation of the previous minutes of the long meeting

**2018 West of England Congress Report**

The profit for the event was significantly down on 2017.

This was due to reduced tables both in Swiss pairs and teams events.

One of the known reasons was the event was held in September and clashed with the Ryder Cup. Also the cost of the hire increased due to VAT being added for the first time.

There were a disappointing number of Somerset players at the event

It was decided that entry fees would be increased by 5% for 2019 and the event is to be held in October.

The scorer of the event has given notice of 1 year, and the directors notice of 3 years to end their availability.

**Action:** Tony Russ to negotiate with the Venue owners on prices for 2019.

**Tournament Secretary Report**

The inter club pairs was a great success with increased numbers. The non-affiliated clubs played in a separate section and were given reduced entry fees. It is hoped that more clubs will enter the teams' event to be held in January.

County league numbers are up from 28 to 35 teams and the competitions is now played with 4 divisions

**Action:** Frank Coltman. Decision on whether non county members should be allowed to play in major Somerset events

**Chairman's Report**

The Chairman attended the recent EBU AGM

The regional fees are to be increased which will mean a fee of 41p per player for Somerset

Regional working parties have been set up to assist counties to organise local events such as teacher training.

Tony Russ to communicate with other West Country counties interested in joining.

**Treasurers Report**

The forecast for the year is a surplus of about £850 and considerably less than previous year due mainly to the lower profit on the West of England Congress.

Income from county events is up on previous years

**Education Report**

Successful seminar with 15 tables run by Caroline Macpherson at Street

The Andrew Robson seminar was attended by 100 much lower than in 2018 but was well received as Andrew was able to devote more time to individuals. Andrew has been booked at the Webbington on 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2020 and it is hoped to run a smaller seminar (27 tables) at Street Bridge Club on 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2019.

The Paul Bowyer seminar has been cancelled

Seminar at Nailsea by Caroline Macpherson is planned for 16<sup>th</sup> February

Bruton Weekend planned for April 29<sup>th</sup> is being advertised and applications have already been received

### **Non affiliated Club Report**

The inter club pairs competition saw 4 tables from non affiliated clubs but there are still many clubs not entering players. It is hoped to encourage, by personal contact of existing entrants, who also play at non affiliated clubs

### **Fast Forward to Bridge Report**

Castle Cary and Sherborne have completed the course and beginners are playing at club level

Street lessons are almost complete and assisted play lessons are being run

Taunton is to begin the course in March.

Weston Super Mare plans to start in January

Winscombe has 16 pupils signed up for lessons but currently no tutors. Ceri Peirce is to meet with the club to assist with further lessons.

A meeting with the Fast Forward to Bridge tutors will be arranged to report on progress

### **Membership Campaign**

A campaign manager has been appointed. The contract is for 100 hours of work over a 12 month period from January 1<sup>st</sup> 2019... Half of the media costs will be met by the EBU.

### **Michael Coda Cup**

The Sims competition will run for the week commencing 4<sup>th</sup> February 2019 and proceeds will be donated to the Penny Brohn cancer Support charity

Boards will be distributed in the usual way

### **Terry Girdlestone**

Applications will be invited from January onwards. The unsuccessful applications from last year will need to be resubmitted

**Action:** Sheila Coda will co-ordinate

### **Change to Constitution**

The existing constitution states 4 committee meetings per annum. However it is felt that with the facilities of email, video conferencing etc that a minimum of 2 meeting per annum is sufficient with the proviso that the committee meets as and when it deems necessary.

The amendment was agreed by committee and will be on the agenda for the AGM

### **Selection Committee**

A report from the Selection Committee was received and is available to view on the SCBA website

### **Any Other Business**

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No other business

The meeting closed at 3.35pm. No date was set for the next meeting but planned to be held before the SCBA AGM

Minutes prepared by Daphne Greatorex 19/12/18