

Somerset Contract Bridge Association
Minutes of the Annual General Meeting
Sunday 27th May 2018 at Woolavington Village Hall

1. A period of silence took place to remember the SCBA deceased members:
2. Apologies for Absence.

David Porter, Michael Whittaker, Christine Harding, Patricia Farr, Jean Lowe, Caroline Macpherson, Rachael Brown, Audrey Pike and Nigel Maggs

3. 2017 AGM Minutes

The minutes of the 2017 AGM were approved proposed by Katrina Foote and seconded by Sheena Lanham).

4. Matters Arising from the 2017 minutes

There were no matters arising.

5. Chairperson's Annual Report:

The Chairperson's report was posted on the SCBA website prior to the AGM and was tabled on the day.

A copy is attached. The report was approved nem.con.

Additional comments from the Chairperson stated that subsequent to the successful application of the National Lottery Grant, the Fast to Play Bridge program was under way with the first of the courses to be held over the coming weeks.

As a result of the Chairperson's visit to many of the County non-affiliated clubs it was proposed to elect a representative of those clubs to join the Committee.

Clubs are to be encouraged to form clusters to encourage competitions etc within local clubs with the aim to increase membership. The Chairperson thanked Graham Daniel for his work at Kingston Seymour in setting up a cluster in the north of the County

6. Treasurer's Report:

The Treasurers report was posted on the SCBA website prior to the AGM and was tabled on the day. A copy is attached

The surplus for the year was £1000 above the previous year with the West of England Congress continuing to be a success and the main event of the County. The Treasurer thanked Tony Russ for his contribution to the success of the event. Table numbers have increased. Due to a reorganisation of the Property Management the event will attract VAT in future.

The other main events, Next Step Bruton weekend and Andrew Robson Seminar are successful and will continue.

County events continued to improve over the previous year

The expenditure of the Fast to Play Bridge will be itemised separately in the annual Accounts
Accounts were accepted, proposed and approved by Sheena Lanham and Alan Atkinson.

6. Tournament Secretary's Report:

Overall a successful year with numbers up in most events

Proposed changes are to add an open section to the Inter Club pairs and teams events and run each as a two section event. The restricted section will be stratified.

The % Individual Final will change to an Individual event.

In the County Knock Out teams a plate event will be introduced.

The Championship Pairs has been moved to a later in the calendar, with heats held locally around the county, with the final event at Woolavington. This would reduce the number of boards at the final and the event will attract Green points.

A new Ranked Masters event has been added.

The Tournament Secretary thanked Bob Warrender for his hard work on the County League, which remains one of the most popular events, and Tony Russ for organising the Pairs League which now has 4 divisions. Alan Atkinson was also thanked for dealing of boards for **all** of the county events.

All Club Directors are to be encouraged to shadow Tournament Directors at County events.

Next season all afternoon events will start at 1pm. Evening events will remain a 7pm start.

Acceptance of the Tournament Report was proposed and seconded by Michael Martin and Ann Skinner

7. Election of Officers and other Executive Committee Members

The following were proposed by Sheena Lanham and seconded by Alan Atkinson:

Tony Russ – Chairperson

Gina Howard – Vice-Chairperson

Richard Feetenby - Treasurer

Sheila Coda – Membership Secretary

Frank Coltman - Tournament Organiser

Daphne Greatorrex – General Secretary

Jean Howard – Committee

Ceri Pierce – Committee

Colin Simcock - Committee

Joan Pooley – Committee

Paul Burgess - - Representing Non- affiliated clubs

The above were all duly elected 'en bloc' for a further term

8. Special Resolution:

Delete clause 6.3 of the Constitution and renumber accordingly.

Reason: the Committee has decided to discontinue the production of a yearly handbook on the grounds that all the information enclosed therein is available in a more up-to-date form on the SCBA website

Proposed and Seconded by Roger Sweet and Michael Martin

9. Any Other Business. None

The meeting was closed at 13.30pm and was followed by the presentation of prizes, details of which are on the SCBA website

A Swiss Teams event then took place; the winners were a team consisting of Wendy Miller, Sheila Coda, Margaret Adams and Naomi Moltan