

April 2019 Newsletter



UPCOMING EVENTS

26th May - AGM followed by Swiss Teams – sign up as a pair, teams will be arranged on the day. Partnerships will draw for team mates from two pools of players - the 'lions' and the 'Tigers'. The 'Lions' will be the pool of pairs with the highest NGS rankings in the field. Their 'Tigers' team mates will be from the pool of pairs with the lowest NGS ranking in the field. During each round the teams' pair from the 'Lions' pool will play against each other, and consequently the teams' pairs from the 'Tigers' pool will also play against each other.

The AGM Agenda

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Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of the SOMERSET CONTRACT BRIDGE ASSOCIATION (SCBA) will be held at Woolavington Village Hall on Sunday 26^h May 2019 commencing at 1pm.

Non EBU members are welcome to attend in a non-voting capacity and take part in the Swiss Teams event that will follow the meeting.

The provisional agenda is set out below.

It should be noted that the Secretary must receive any of the following in writing (preferably by email) by Sunday 5th May 2019:

- A. Nominations for any of the Officer positions on the Executive Committee supported by a proposer and seconder, all of whom must be current members of the SCBA**
- B. Nominations for any of the six non-Officer positions on the Executive Committee supported by a proposer and seconder, all of whom must be current members of the SCBA**
- C. Any special resolution that is to be discussed and voted on at the AGM under Item 9, duly proposed and seconded by two current members of the SCBA**

AGENDA

- 1. Silence for deceased members**
- 2. Apologises for absence**
- 3. Approval of the minutes of AGM 2018 (copy can be found on the county website)**
- 4. Matters arising from the 2018 minutes**
- 5. Chairperson's Annual Report (to be tabled)**
- 6. Treasurer's Report and adoption of Accounts (to be tabled)**
- 7. Tournament Secretary's Report (to be tabled)**
- 8. Election of Officers and other Executive Committee members for 2019/20**
- 9. Special Resolutions**
 - a) The Committee proposes a change to the constitution para.3.2 replacing the words 'four times' with 'twice' to reflect that the work of the committee is now conducted principally electronically.**
- 10. AOB**

At the end of the AGM's formal business the prizes for the County competitions in 2018/2019 will be awarded

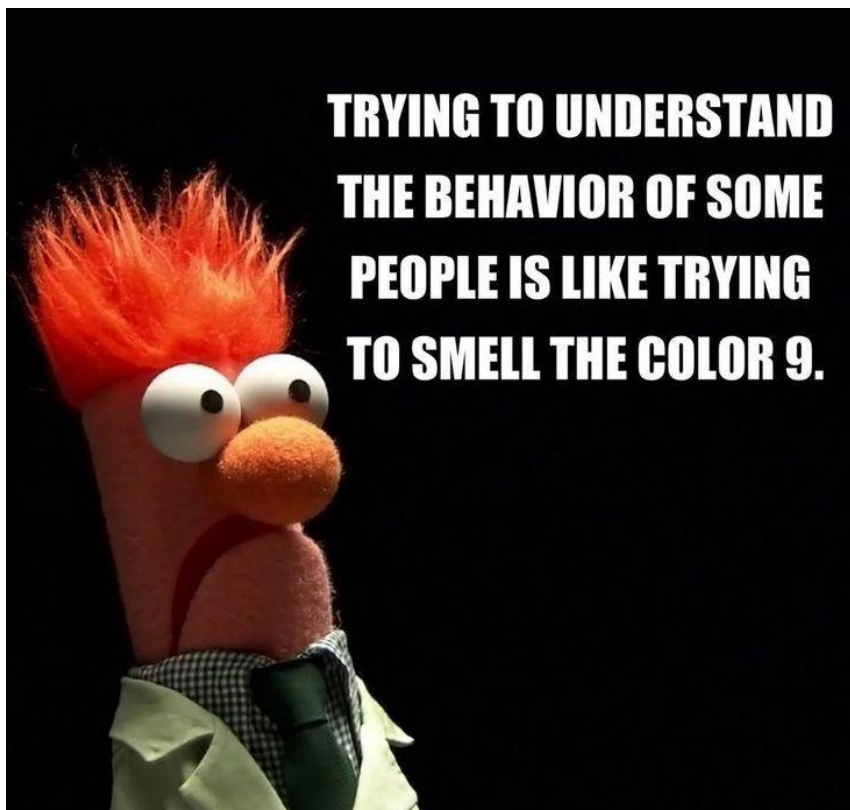
The West of England Congress

Booking available on SCBA website

SOMERSET CBA 2019
WEST OF ENGLAND CONGRESS
Incorporating two Green Pointed Events
Friday October 4th 2019 to
Sunday October 6th 2019 at
The Winter Gardens Pavilion,
Weston Super Mare
Chief Tournament Director - JOHN PYNER
For further details, to download an entry form or
to enter on line, please visit
www.bridgewebs.com/somerset
or EMAIL woe2019@icloud.com
80+ tables anticipated



All Somerset events are **BB@B**. The director may be called to deal with bad behaviour.



Recent Results

The Pairs League

Division One was won by Sheena Lanham and Andy Ridgers

Division Two was won by Caroline Macpherson and Glyn Meredith

Division Three was won by Jennifer Gostlin and Michael Wigmore

The County League

Division One was won by Taunton (RS) (2nd place yet to be decided)

Divison Two was won by Langport (LH)

Division Three was won by Street

Divison Four was won by Frome

Congratulations to the team of Roger Sweet, Michael Whittaker, Colin Simcox and Frank Coltman on winning the championship teams of four defeating Colin Flood, Eric Cummings and Alan & Jette Bailey by 20imps after 48 boards.

Andrew Robson is returning to Somerset for two seminars at Street on October 23rd. Details to follow.

Bruton Weekend

This was another great weekend at Bruton with Caroline Macpherson and her colleagues, Jean Howard and Daphne Greatorex. They do a brilliant job of keeping us learning, playing and having fun. It doesn't matter what level you are, there is always something to learn and discuss.



Between the bridge sessions there was excellent food and wine along with copious cups of coffee, tea and biscuits. We even played some table tennis in the kitchen where we met for chats at the end of the day. If you haven't been yet give it a go next year



The Terry Girdlestone Trophy

Last year the County instituted a new award which was won by Alan Atkinson. This year we want to find another recipient, so please send in nominations. The Terry Girdlestone Trophy is awarded to any Somerset member who has contributed above and beyond to bridge in Somerset. This could be in an administrative capacity such as setting up programmes and teaching bridge to encourage others to play the game and for being a role model of exemplary behaviour at bridge. Please send nominations with as much detail as possible to Sheila Coda.

email: s.coda850@btinternet.com Post to: Stags Head Bungalow, 4 Highbridge, Williton, TA4 4RN, by April 30th 2018. The award will be presented at the AGM

County Development Officer Update

Following my appointment as CDO visits to interested clubs have commenced and the first bespoke plan has been created and presented to the relevant people. 3 more clubs have subsequently joined this development programme. More visits to clubs are planned into April and May. It has been great to meet SCBA members and I look forward to meeting more of you then.

For a more global view of what is being done to help secure the future of Bridge visit:

<https://sociologyofbridge.wordpress.com/home/keep-bridge-alive/>

If you would like my help or have any great ideas please get in touch at either scbacdo@mail.com or 07368 584475.

CHAIRMAN'S BLOG #8

The other day I was thinking about the number of activities that are involved in running the SCBA. In addition to running a very wide-ranging programme of tournaments and leagues there are well



supported seminars, one with Andrew Robson and a weekend with Caroline Macpherson, a green point congress each autumn, involvement in the Western League and EBU events. Somerset also has a webpage and a Facebook page to maintain and a newsletter to produce and distribute each month. We are coming to the end of our

lottery funded pilot scheme which introduced the Fast Track to Bridge programme and have just embarked on a club membership development programme which hopes to bolster the numbers playing at EBU clubs as well as offering support to our non-affiliated members.

This amount of input requires a great deal of work from an amateur committee and I could not be more grateful for the support from our committee which makes this possible. But if we are to continue and even increase what we do for bridge in Somerset we need more help- maybe your help. Volunteering is a vital part of any amateur organisation. As well as being essential for the sustainability and longevity of the SCBA, volunteers can bring additional ideas, knowledge and enthusiasm to the table.

Any commitment does not have to be at committee level. For example, we have been looking for a facebook fan to maintain our FB page and maybe an enthusiast to take on editing the newsletter following Joan Pooley's retirement from the role. I am looking for people prepared to help at congress or to organise local events at their club supported of course by the SCBA.

Many people feel that they have to be expert bridge players to be involved at county level. A moment's thought will show that that is not the case. We are looking for enthusiasts with a little time to spare and some expertise to assist with the work of promoting and developing the game in Somerset.

I never waste any opportunity to ask people if they would like to contribute but of course I can't speak to everyone so please take this as an open invitation to get in touch if you feel that you have something to offer and would like to get involved.

This will be the last newsletter edited by Joan Pooley who has to retire from the role. The newsletter has been an excellent addition to our services to members over the past two years including not only information but also interesting articles, quizzes, club histories and amusing cartoons. Joan has taken the newsletter forward from just being a simple sheet and has enthusiastically developed it to what it is now- a production of which we can be proud. I thank Joan for her work and wish her all the best.

But now..... Is there anyone out there interested in taking on the role? If you value the newsletter and think you could help please get in touch.

A Personal Word

I am sad to retire as I have enjoyed editing the newsletter, however I am told I must do less. Many thanks for the appreciative remarks I have received during my time as editor. If anyone would like to take over I am more than happy to offer guidance if required, and pass on my stock of bridge humour.

And Finally



