

SCCBA MC Meeting 19 June 2026

Final Draft Minutes

Present

Sally Bugden Chair, John Hardy Hon. Treasurer and other elected members Alexa Baxter, Peter Clinch Katie Duncanson, Andrea Galpin, David Galpin, Jane Handley, Mervyn Wotton, Martin Pool

Apologies

Helen Kent, Joy Mayall, Joanna Norcross Hon Sec., Malcolm Wright

Minutes of the MC Meeting of 20th March 2026 were approved.

Sally thanked both Peter Clinch and Dick Wheeler for their commitment and hard work for the county as Chairman and Hon Secretary respectively.

Key Outcomes

Pianola membership system went live for the county; key administrative roles and shareholder appointments were approved. Tournament committee identified gaps in directors and organizers, with interim reshuffling underway.

Decisions Made

- **Pianola** launched live for SCCBA county use; Sally and Alexa designated as administrators, Jane added for teacher/student list creation.
- **Free trial** secured for one year; cost of £400/annum thereafter.
- **Shareholders** confirmed as Peter, Sally, Jane, and Joanna;
- **Bridgemate upgrade** (to Bridgemate 3) deferred to later in the year.

- East Sussex Bridge Club and KIB Bridge Club to be approached to see if they are still active before updating their status on the website; Sally to contact East Sussex BC, Peter to contact Katie Kennedy re: KIB.
 - **Dimmie Fleming Award** nominations to be submitted to Sally from MC by email.
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Completed

- Youth Festival 21st June 2026. Katie made huge efforts to make the event successful and was assisted by Mervyn with promotional material uploaded to website; clubs emailed about Youth Festival; and social media activity completed. A short interview on BBC Radio Sussex has been undertaken by Katie and entry information for the event on our website stayed posted until Sunday 21 June 2026.
- First tournament committee meeting held; Gerry Stanford's events redistributed — Sally, Inter Club Teams of 8; Jane Mixed Pairs; Peter, Charity Sims. Year's calendar of events to be sent to all members in September. For full details see TC draft minutes of meeting 16th June 2026.
- Jane provided an update on education activities, including a successful teachers' cluster meeting with Richard Croot from EBED held 7 June at Horsham; new training materials reviewed and well-received. She also reported that as Education Officer she would be responsible for Club Director Training co-ordination for affiliated clubs in the county.
- **Gladys Hakki Award** presented by Peter to Thea Sydenham at the Chichester Club;

Updates

- **Director shortage:** County relies heavily on Stephen Kennedy; plan ahead and may have to book tournament directors from outside the county.
 - **Pachabo team:** Unable to field a team this year, Peter Clinch made great efforts in canvassing not only the finalists but the beaten semi-finalists in the Championship Teams in order to raise a team but was unsuccessful within the time frame allowed.
 - **BridgeWebs:** Developer sadly deceased and currently no successor identified.
 - **Eastbourne Bridge Club:** Undergoing decoration so Welcome Pairs cancelled along with its own blue point club event.
 - **Newhaven and Peacehaven Bridge Club:** New club, tried some sessions, pausing activities until September in a new venue. Has financial support from Peacehaven Town Council
 - **Selection:** Next meeting to determine Metropolitan Cup and Tollemache teams
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Pending Confirmation

- Tournament review/analysis meeting (separate from September committee meeting) to be scheduled. New date of TC meeting to be scheduled to accommodate new members.
 - Discussions on the future of the management of tournaments to be determined post tournament review meeting.
 - Joanna to be onboarded to Pianola for club secretary/contact list management.
 - Trophy audit: John to conduct with Malcolm.
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Open Questions

- Future of BridgeWebs platform; await news.
 - Organisation of another youth bridge event in Autumn determined by feedback from our first event at Patcham on 21st June. Longer lead in time and consideration of any possible clashes on the date will be considered.
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Action Items

- **Sally:** Contact East Sussex Bridge Club (Barbara Herold) to confirm status before any SCCBA website changes
 - **Peter:** Contact KIB Bridge Club via Katie Kennedy to confirm status before any SCCBA website changes
 - **Sally:** Send Mervyn updated appointments/organizers list immediately post meeting.
 - **Sally:** Schedule tournament analysis/brainstorm meeting (separate from TC meeting)
 - **Peter:** Re-arrange TC meeting date to accommodate new members
 - **Peter:** Create and circulate tournament organiser checklist; use Sally and Jane as guinea pigs
 - **Mervyn:** Update website entries once East Sussex and KIB Bridge club status confirmed
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Next Meeting

- **Management Committee:** 25 September (*corrected from erroneous 29 September on agenda*)
- **Final meeting of calendar year:** 11 December