

Draft Minutes SCCBA Tournament Committee Meeting

11.00am 17th September 2026

Attendees: Peter Clinch, Jane Handley, Joanna Norcross, Andrea Galpin, Sally Bugden, Martin Pool and Neil Watts

Apologies received from John Hardy

Summary

Development Meeting Planning Update

Sally informed those present that the development meeting would involve analyzing metrics and discussing tournament adaptations. Sally explained that the meeting would focus on reviewing the tournament programme and development matters rather than ordinary business.

Tournament Committee Leadership Transition

The meeting focused on tournament organization and leadership transitions. Peter discussed his desire to step down as Tournament Committee chair while remaining involved in organizing some tournaments, and Sally confirmed ongoing discussions about finding a replacement. The group also addressed the need for a Tournament Organizers Sheet to clarify responsibilities

Calendar and Event Planning Updates

A mailing of the calendar to all SCCBA members would be done via Pianola noting that dates may change and members will be informed.

Club Tournaments

Eastbourne Club reported that they would not be holding a session of the Venture Pairs.

Trophy Strategy

A strategy to replace trophies with engraved keepsakes was discussed with the final decision to be made by the Management Committee based on their views and the costs.

Winter Congress

Peter announced that the Autumn Congress will be rebranded as a Winter Congress event in December due to scheduling conflicts with the Hills Trophy.

Reducing the NGS threshold for less experienced prizes at congresses and tournaments

Jane suggested lowering the Jack High eligibility threshold to NGS 9 to better reward less experienced players.

Action Points

Andrea

- Confirm and communicate the dates for the Invitation Pairs next year to Joanna within the next few days.

Jane

- Get more details from Tony Cherrett about the proposed joint beginner's event with Surrey for September next year.

Martin

- Print fewer hand copies for the Autumn Swiss events.

Sally

- Talk with Alexa about setting up Tournament Directors as "Chief Scorer " in Pianola to allow them to correct entries.
- Send out an email with directions and details for the development meeting on Tuesday at

Peter

- Create and distribute the Tournament Organiser Sheets to clarify organisers' responsibilities.
- Write and send the covering email (via Alexa) for the calendar distribution to all members, including a note that dates may change.
- Clarify with John (Treasurer) why the Teams of Eight event shows a loss.
- Check with Mervyn about using the NGS or Master Points button in BridgeWebs to identify eligible players for novice prizes.
- ***Arrange date for next meeting***

The meeting closed at 12.Noon.