

The Bognor Club Annual General Meeting

Sunday 7th Dec.2025.1.30pm.

1. Apologies – Cindy and Mark Gregory, Jenny Bartlett, Ian Mackey, Jenny Wright, Allan Luckin, Len Christmas.

Attendance -48 members attended.

2. Minutes of AGM 8th December 2024.

The minutes were agreed by the members present. There were no matters arising.

3. Chairman's report.

The Chair was not present and the report was read by Lesley Simmons.

Total Membership is now 100. 71 Bridge members and 25 snooker members. 2 members have died this year, Don McNeil and Alan Ford. The Committee voted unanimously to rename the Committee room downstairs as The Alan Ford Room.

There has been expenditure on maintenance this year, redecoration of the ladies cloakroom, (thank you to Mark) , the investigation of a mouldy patch on the ceiling , scaffolding needed, update of the honours board and repairs to the windows. Please check blinds on leaving. In Summer they should be closed and in winter they must be kept open to reduce the amount of condensation build up as this caused the wooden frames to go mouldy. It has cost us over £2000 to have them treated this year.

Many people give their time to help run the club smoothly and our thanks go to Directors Roger, Lesley, Silvia, Janet, Allan, Sue, Mark and Len together with Jennie W, Lesley, Len and Jenny B on Monday afternoons. Thank you also to our Bridgemate volunteers, Adrian, Gwenda, Janice, Ian, Mark, Paul and Silvia. Tony Lord runs the Duplimate team of Barbara and Ron, Janet Smith and Tony Lord, Ian and Robin and Mike Miller and Kate and we really appreciate the time they give. Mark has also assisted by managing the EBU Competition Deals. Silvia continues as Webmaster and our grateful thanks go to her and Allan – who despite health problems continues to keep our membership lists and subscriptions up to date.

There has also been a very generous donation given anonymously which means there is no charge now for tea or coffee.

Thanks go to the Committee members who give up so much of their time. Lesley and Mark whose commitment makes it almost a full time job and Janice who keeps our supplies well stocked. Len who now is our snooker rep. and Ian and Pam who are always there to give help and support. Indeed Ian has spent a lot of time recently changing all the cards which is a time consuming exercise – so thank you Ian.

Sue has a small beginners and improvers class and we hope that some of these learners will go on to become members. We have discontinued the Saturday Evenings due to lack of support and the Teams evening on Wednesdays has been cancelled several times – also from lack of support. A teams evening with Chichester is in the planning stage and we hope this will take place soon.

Letting the bridge room is a good source of income and the Chess Club, 60 Minutes of Classical music and the Backgammon Club continue to rent the room.

May we remind those who play Bridge that it is the responsibility of North at the Bridge table to return the boards, computers and movement cards to the Directors at the end of the session. It would be equally helpful if everyone put their cups and glasses in the dishwasher and their chocolate wrappers in the bin!

It remains for me to thank you all for supporting the club and to wish you a successful year to come.

4. Treasurer's report.

Accounts for the year 2024/5 were circulated in advance . There were no questions.

5.Honorary Membership

This year two longstanding members have been granted Honorary Membership – Roger Bill and John Austin. They have supported the club for many years. John was a committee member and Director and also gave lessons for a number of years. Roger has been our senior Director for a number of years . He has held teaching seminars and helped run major competitions. We are very grateful for their help and advice. They were both applauded by all members.

6.Presentation of Trophies.

Ina Lesley Cup – Kate Gould

Spurgeon Cup - Kate Gould and Paul Wilson

Monty Banks Trophy – Lesley Simmons

Chairman's Cup – Barbara and Ron Stevens

Trevor Cup – Roger Bill

Woodham Cup – Sue Baker

Eve Fryer Cup – Molly Hanwell and Roger Bill.

7. Matters Arising

Jennifer Wright sent a written request about getting rid of the coffee money. This was addressed in the Chairman's report and is overtaken by events. A question was asked from the floor concerning the free coffee and tea as mentioned in the Chairman's Report. A vote was taken on the free tea and coffee availability for all members of the Club and this was agreed unanimously.

Was this available to the chess /backgammon clubs? Unfortunately this is only for members of the Bridge and Snooker Club as stipulated by the anonymous doner.

8. A.O.B.

We welcome two new Committee members Kate Gould and Len Christmas; who were co-opted onto the Committee during the year.

John Austin thanked the Committee for their hard work during the last year and the floor applauded.

The meeting ended at 3.25 to be followed by the raffle.