

BWS Organisers' Meeting 7 September 21, 9.30am.

Present: David Tilley, Jim Steele, Linda Banks, Mike Dennis

Apologies: Helen Wright, Norman Cope

1. David welcomed everyone to the meeting. Josh and Adam are currently running most of the sessions because of David's other commitments. David didn't have much to report except to say that there are still problems with the results for Friday 13 August which will be deleted and reloaded in due course.

2. The last of the weekly on-line Gentle Duplicate sessions ran on 2 September, in readiness for face-to-face teaching sessions re-starting at Warrington on 9th September.

Jim has done an email survey of members who had played on Thursday mornings, with the result that there is mixed interest in running a similar event on another day, some preferring Tuesday mornings, some Friday mornings. The proposal is to wait at least until October, then gauge whether it is worthwhile reinstating, though perhaps not every week. He will pass the responses of the Brierfield members to Linda for her to consider appropriate action.

3. Wednesday afternoon sessions will be discontinued - the last one will be Wednesday 8 September. David will ask Josh to announce it this Wednesday, and will put a note on Stretford's website. Jim will put a notice on the Warrington website, and Linda will ask Peter to do the same for Brierfield.

4. Following the recent survey of members who had played 5 times or more on Monday evening BWS on-line sessions, moving it to a Tuesday was seen as non-viable for now: there was insufficient evidence from the 3 clubs to suggest that Tuesday evening would be well attended. David (Stretford) was very keen that the Monday evening on-line session should continue, at least for a while, despite the clash with Brierfield and Warrington F2F sessions. Both Warrington and Brierfield committees have expressed the view that clashes between BWS on-line sessions and F2F Club sessions should be avoided. However, Jim and Mike (Warrington) recognised that people who don't want to play F2F will find on-line bridge anyway, and there are quite a few members who, for whatever reason (mostly distance, some health concerns), would never turn up for F2F at Warrington - they have got used to playing in BWS and we should try to retain them. Therefore they were prepared to go along with this, say until Christmas, and not opt out of the BWS on-line Monday evening session. Linda (Brierfield) also acquiesced with this arrangement. We will review at our next BWS meeting in a month's time.

BWS on-line Monday afternoon sessions will also stay but we will monitor both Monday on-line sessions over the course of the next few months and, if either session appears to be failing, ie falling below 4 tables, we will take the decision to discontinue.

5. David will reply to Ecats to say that each club will run their own Children in Need events, but that there will be an additional BWS online event on Tuesday evening, 9 November.

6. The next meeting will be Friday 8 October, 9.30am on Zoom