

Worcester Bridge Club

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting

Held at 7.10pm on Wednesday 29th February 2012 at Claines

1. Apologies:

The following members offered their apologies: Mike Vetch, Sue Lane, Ray Foulds, Trish Mann and Judith Little. As the Chairman could not attend the AGM, the committee had asked Rufus Ulyet to chair it.

2. Minutes of the AGM held on Feb 23rd 2011:

There were no corrections to the previous minutes and it was proposed, by Joyce Skelton, that they be accepted. This was seconded by Tony Gervis and the minutes were accepted unanimously by the members present.

3. Chairman's Report:

In his absence, a written report, detailed below, was circulated to all the members present.

a) **My sincere apologies** for my absence – I don't have enough power and influence to get School to fit Parents' Evenings round WBC AGM dates!

b) **Thanks:** As ever, many thank-you's are due to many people!:

- To **Linda and Tony** for their unstinting work in setting up the room and collecting table money every week
- To **Sue Lane** for her work on the calendar, on competition entries, and as chief TD
- To all the other TDs: **Paul H, Jimmy, Paul T, Helen, and Alan**; also to others who have stepped in on occasion to help out
- To **Andy O'H, Paul H and Paul T** for their work on scoring
- To **Rufus and Mike Theelke** for their work on the revival of the Try-Duplicate
- To all committee members, Jane for her highly efficient work as Secretary, Lorna for continued for excellent Treasury work, and Andy C for keeping us in stationery and communications
- To all who have done their bit as hosts this year

c) **Congratulations:** Worcester BC's representative pairs and teams had an excellent year:

- Two teams competed in the Garden Cities Qualifier in April; Worcester "Legionnaires" finished in 3rd place, and Worcester "Sauce" won the event, thereby capturing the **Ron Allen Trophy**, and earning qualification for the Regional Heat Of the Garden Cities Trophy; the winning team were: **Jimmy Ledger + David Thomas; John Sansom + Richard Jephcott; Mel Downing + Ross Garratt; Nick Forward + Steve Allerston**. This team went on to take a very good 2nd place in the Regional Final of the GC, thus qualifying for the National Final; for the Final, **Paul Hammond and Stewart Fishburne** came into the team, which finished in 5th place. Well done to all, and good luck to our 2012 teams!
- In the Club Championship Pairs recently, we had three pairs representing Worcester: **Sue Lane and Ray Foulds** won the trophy, whilst Neil Humphries and Maureen Hannah were 5th, and Derrick McClelland and Ray Miller were 10th. Well done to all of them.
- We had two entries from WBC in the National Inter-Club Knock-out in 2011; Worcester A (**Sansom, Jephcott, Forward + Allerston**) had a great run in the main competition, reaching the last 16. Well done to all of them! Worcester B (**Ledger, Thomas,**

Downing, Garratt + Lane) had a tough 1st round match, but then went on to reach the last 16 of the NICKO plate.

- Congratulations also to all the winners of the Club's internal trophies.

d) Departures: Since the last AGM, we have sadly seen the passing of four long-standing friends of the Club: **John Williams**, on 15th March, **Felix Kurrein**, on 24th March, **Arthur Williams**, on 17th May, **Josie Huntingdon**, on 28th August.

They are all much missed, and will be remembered fondly by partners and opponents alike.

e) New Initiatives:

The **Bridgemates** were bought just before the last AGM, but are now fully in use, and are proving to be successful.

Try-Duplicate is not new, but thanks to the efforts of Mike Theelke and subsequently Rufus Ulyet, we now have a fairly regular 3 or 4 tables. Paul Hammond is also now supplying us with a stream of "graduate-beginners", and one or two of the Tri-Dup regulars have ventured into the main movement.

TD Training: The Club has funded TD training for Dick Rutter and Andy O'Hare, who are part-way through their courses, and should be in action later in the year.

Seminar: Again, this more of a revival than an innovation, but the huge demand for the Seminar on March 10th with Mike Theelke suggests that we can look to provide more of the same.

4. Treasurer's Report:

The treasurer thanked Linda Gervis, saying the job would be much more difficult without her help during each club night throughout the year. She also thanked the committee and Dennis Loynes, who again audited the accounts, for their support.

Membership was 94 compared to 102 in 2010. Income was very similar this year compared to 2010. The main item of extra expenditure was the cost of buying the Bridgemates, and the deficit in 2011 is mainly due to that purchase. More is also being spent on duplimated boards so that hand records are available each evening, but EBU pay to play is still 35p per head.

The Standard Life bond has been discontinued since Standard Life became part of Barclays and there are no higher rate accounts now available to clubs with less than £10,000. Interest received is now around 1.1%.

David Thomas questioned whether the cost of the Bridgemates should have been spread over several years, but the treasurer replied that this had been discussed with the auditor who said that either approach was acceptable with other fixed assets also not being capitalised.

Dick Rutter said that with the Bridge mates lasting maybe 5 years, and so a depreciation charge of about £500 per year, and other extra costs (e.g. P2P from the EBU) unless things changed the club would be running at a loss in this financial year. He asked if the committee had a budget for the year. Lorna said that we did have some reserves that could be dipped into if required. Rufus, as chairman of the meeting, said that he did not think we should plan to lose money and that the committee would review the situation after six months.

The accounts were accepted with no further comment.

6. Appointment of the Auditor:

The Chairman thanked Dennis Loynes for auditing the accounts of 2010 and suggested that he be appointed the auditor for the coming year. This was formally proposed by Dick Rutter, seconded by Neil Humphries and unanimously agreed by the members present.

8. Election of Officers and Committee Members

The members who have volunteered to stand for 2012 are:

Chairman	Mike Vetch
Treasurer	Lorna Fellows
Secretary	Jane Rutter
Committee Member	Andy O'Hare
Committee Member	Andy Cullen
Committee Member	Rufus Ulyet
Committee member	Tim Keates

The committee was elected on bloc.

9. Presentation of the trophies

Rufus presented the trophies to all the winners who were present:-

- Championship pairs (Skelton Trophy) – John Sansom & Richard Jephcott
- Championship pairs playoff (Tom Mackie Cup) – John Sansom & Richard Jephcott
- Individual Championship (Ruskin Shield) – Derrick McClelland
- Individual Championship improver – Paul Hammond
- Championship Teams – Andrew Cullen, Sue Evans, Rufus Ulyet & Marian Wilcox
- Ladies pairs – Pam Pearce & Susan Sharp · Men's pairs – Clive Elliott & Paul Greaves
- Mixed pairs (Hubert Nunn cup) – Pam Pearce & Nick Forward
- Try Duplicate Cup – Angela & Andrew Meredith

10. Any Other Business

There was no other business and the Acting Chairman declared the meeting closed at 7.24.