



YORK BRIDGE CLUB

Committee Meeting 2nd September 2024: Draft Minutes

Present:

Robin Loft (RL) (Chair), Andrew Merrison (AM), Ruth Mattingly-Turner (RM-T), Mike Barnard (MB), Jonathan Sanders (JS), Rose Townsend (RT), Bryan Boulter (BB) (Minutes Secretary).

Apologies:

Lynda Baker

Previous Minutes

The Minutes from the previous Committee Meeting on 5th August 2024 had already been approved and are now on the Club website.

Agenda Items

1 Health and Safety: the tractor-towed rake in the overgrown grass in the overflow parking area remains a cause for concern. **RL** will raise the matter again with the Sports Club.

2 Upcoming Calendar Events and Access to Calendar:

- **RT** agreed to take on the role of populating the Club Calendar with all Club events and activities. **AM** and **RM-T** will provide **RT** with information regarding the teaching programme.
- The Autumn Equinox event on 20th September will be announced by flyer, with details also on the Club website. It was agreed that all Club trophies will be presented by **JS** at the beginning of the event.
- The *Andrew Robson* event on 28th September is fully subscribed.
- **AM** is still unable to access the Calendar.

3 Swiss Pairs: the event on 7th September will take place after the Open Day and Judy and David Baines have agreed to be standby Pair. For the event on 12th October **RT** offered to be one member of the standby Pair.

4 Next Social Event: **RL** and **RM-T** will be organising the pre-Christmas Party on 7th December. The Spreadsheet will need to be updated periodically to confirm those people who are attending and any dietary requirements. *John Guest* will be asked if he is willing to act as host for the event.



YORK BRIDGE CLUB

5 Yorkshire League Update:

- **JS** reported that the League Selection Panel had met and the 5 Teams and their Captains have been selected.
- **RL** explained the catering arrangements for Home Matches: a keyholder will collect the refreshments from the relevant local supermarket, a committee member having previously made the order. One or two non-playing members/friends who live locally will need to assist with the catering on the day. It was agreed that a playing credit of £5.25 will be offered to the assistant(s) as an incentive and **RT** will prepare a flyer to encourage assistants to volunteer.
- There was a discussion, in relation to Away Matches, about the lack of disabled facilities at some of the local Clubs. This has already impacted one of our members. **RL** has taken this matter up with YCBA and they will be writing to all Clubs asking for information in relation to the disabled access facilities that are available. It may be that a request to a Club that cannot offer disabled facilities to either find other suitable premises or come to our Club would offer a solution. **RL** will pursue the matter with YCBA to determine the best way forward. It was agreed that it is important that none of our Club members should feel discriminated against because of lack of disabled facilities at other Clubs.

6 Open Day 7th September: **AM** will mention the need, at the beginning of play sessions, for more members to come along and assist with representing the Club. **MB** will put up and take down the new banner now being used to advertise Open Days.

7 Power Supply: **RL** said that the Club has benefited financially from using a broker to ensure the best possible contract for the coming 12 months. The Club will be investing in more solar panels.

8 Festival of Bridge Update: There are 11 ½ Pairs signed up for the Inter Club Challenge so far and spaces are still available. So, more pairs will now be invited to come forward from YBC. *James Carpenter* will act as TD and *Michael Waller* will open the event.

9 Competitions Update:

- **JS** reported that, with regard to the Internal Teams Competition, insufficient members have come forward to make the event viable at the moment. It was agreed to leave the event in abeyance. **JS** and **RL** will speak and involve a Trustee to see how the event can be taken forward.
- **JS** outlined how an Individual Championship works. Features include: 2 Board rounds followed by a change of partner and a set simple Convention Card. It was suggested that this format could be used at the Christmas social event. **JS** and **RL** will discuss and report back at the next committee meeting.



YORK BRIDGE CLUB

10 Sound Dampening in Main Hall: two estimates to install sound dampening have now been obtained and will be discussed at the next Trustees meeting.

11 New Committee Member: following the appointment of *Judy Baines* as a new Trustee, it will be desirable to appoint a new committee member to replace her. The committee expressed thanks for the work that she has done for the committee. The appointment of a new committee member is not urgent but Committee Members will consider inviting a prospective candidate to a forthcoming committee meeting.

12 Foundation Convention Card: **AM** and **MB** recently ran a free session for 17 players with 2-3 years' experience and used the Card with success. A further similar event will be run in January next year. A supply of the Cards is available in the office and can also be sent electronically. **RL** expressed thanks, on behalf of the committee, for this work.

13 Proposed Short Course: **AM** and **MB** have drafted proposals to offer a free session next year to explain the basics of Duplicate Bridge for new learners. This will include the use of Bridgemates. The proposed session will be about an hour in length and will need a scorer.

14 Integration of new Learners into Regular Club Sessions:

- It was agreed that a committee or other member should attend beginners' classes to offer to play with new learners, in a mentoring role, at a regular Club session.
- **MB** will draft a role description for a new member coordinator.

15 AOB:

- *Table Numbers:* **RL** said that table numbers have slipped over the past couple of weeks: the target is 55 with last two weeks showing 41 and 49. This is a matter that the Trustees are keen to address.
- *Christmas Opening:* it was agreed that the Club should only close on 25th and 26th December.

16 Date of Next Meeting: Monday 7th October 2024 at 5pm

The meeting closed at 6.50pm