



MINUTES OF THE AGM of SURREY COUNTY BRIDGE ASSOCIATION



Held at Richmond Bridge Club on Sunday, 6th July 2025

IN ATTENDANCE: There were 54 people present.

APOLOGIES: were received from Peter Cook, Simon Lane, Shaku Desai, Indra Desai, June Middleton, Ian Lewis, Joan Young, Kate Castree, Bob Steadman, Sue Jorgensen, Sue Osborne, David Rotherham, Elizabeth Copeman, Richard Fedrick, Linda Cooper-Jones, Karen Murphy, Gill Leese, Lindy Wheeler, Richard Norman and Shirley Pritchard.

CHAIR'S REPORT:

Tim Warren welcomed everyone. He explained there were no Minutes of last year's meeting as it was held by email. However, the EBU have said that we cannot have an AGM on email again so we are pleased to hold it face to face once more.

He then went through his Annual Report which had been circulated. When Covid hit he said a decision was made to use our reserves to promote and support bridge in the county. By March 2023 those reserves had shrunk by about a quarter from the pre pandemic level of just above £30k, so to be able to continue to invest we reinstated our pay-to-play (P2P) levy on Surrey clubs in October 2023. In both 2022-23 and 2023-24, we spent significant sums on sponsoring junior players to attend World and European Youth Bridge Team Championships, but as it happened 2024-25 was a fallow one for international events and no such need arose this time. With increased income and decreased expenditure on development, our reserves have risen again.

Having fallen off significantly post-Covid, our fund-raising has continued its partial recovery, with this year's donation being £2,922, 17% higher than in 23-24 and nearly double 21-22. The Queen Elizabeth Foundation (QEF) – who originally provided the Dorin Salver as a trophy for the annual event – remains a cause we aim to support. Separately, the year saw a national fund-raising effort for Cancer Research UK, with many Surrey clubs taking part and helping the national body to raise over £130,000, including Gift Aid.

He thanked the members of the Committee for their support and all the work they had done. June Middleton is standing down now from her junior bridge role. Junior bridge was close to his heart and he congratulated her for carrying it out so well over the last five years. Derek Thrumble takes her place, and he welcomed him to the team. He was also stepping down as Chair of Surrey at the end of this month. It had been a privilege to have been in this role for the last five years, and he thanked the very many people who had helped him and who had tried to prop him up when he'd fallen in a heap. He particularly thanked Trevor Hobson for his advice, especially during the earlier days when he had even less idea of what he was doing than now. He also thanked those who had contacted him about Surrey bridge, whether with brickbats or bouquets or anything else – it's the interaction with our members that is the best part. He was delighted that Richard Banbury is standing for election to take over from him as Chair, and he wished him all the very best.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Chair	Richard Banbury
Secretary	Gail Norman
Membership Secretary	Trevor Hobson
Treasurer	Jackie Hawkins
Competitions Secretary	Shirley Pritchard
Development Officer	Tony Cherrett
Matches	Graham Osborne
Youth Bridge	Derek Thrumble
Leagues & Lady Rose Officer	William Clennell
Web Manager	John Lemmey
Auditor	Paul Green

ELECTION OF COMMITTEE

There were no other nominations for the Committee.
Proposed by Titch Glenday and seconded by Sue Millard.

REVISED CONSTITUTION

Tim went through the amendments of which there were only cosmetic changes and this had been circulated.

Proposed by Julia Brough
Seconded by Sue Millard

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Graham Cunningham asked whether the final date for the Leagues to be played should be enforced. He had been waiting to play their opponents for six weeks past the final date. Richard said he would look into this.

Julia Brough thanked Tim and the Committee for all their work.