



MINUTES OF THE SURREY COUNTY BRIDGE ASSOCIATION AGM



held online on Sunday, 2nd July 2023

ATTENDANCE

Tim Warren (Chair); Trevor Hobson; Tony Cherrett; Douglas Wright; Jackie Hawkins; Shirley Pritchard; Richard Fedrick; Ian Lewis; John Gallagher.

APOLOGIES

94 members sent apologies.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS YEAR

The minutes of the 2022 AGM were accepted.

MATTERS ARISING

Tim said that he had mentioned that he would propose an amendment to the constitution to abolish the role of President at this year's AGM. However, in common with the previous 3 years the AGM this year is not quorate, so he proposed to take this offline. He suggested calling an EGM, but Shirley suggested that a better way might be to declare that after 4 non quorate AGMs, next year's meeting will make decisions regardless of the numbers attending.

CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS

Tim presented the financial figures, and said that during the past year the committee had deliberately managed a deficit, by giving free entry to events and donations to Junior Bridge.

This year the County rate of P2P would be reinstated at 2p as it was pre pandemic. He said the deficit would have been greater, but for a donation of £1000 from *Chobham BC* which was given when they closed.

He said that the numbers entering the Surrey Leagues had reduced, and entries to county events were well down, but that entries to the Lady Rose were steady.

Tim congratulated Trevor Hobson on the award of the *Dimmie Fleming* award which had been presented at the EBU AGM.

He asked how the committee could help clubs to prosper.

ACCOUNTS FOR YEAR ENDING 31st MARCH 2023

Ian Lewis proposed acceptance and this was seconded by Richard Fedrick.

Tim announced that Sue Preston was not going to continue as the *Independent Reviewer*, and there would be no election of a replacement at this meeting.

ELECTION OF COMMITTEE

The committee was elected unopposed.

Chairman: Tim Warren

Secretary: Gail Norman

Treasurer: Jackie Hawkins

Match Secretary: Graham Osborne

Competitions Secretary: Shirley Pritchard

Communications Officer: William Clennell

Development Officer: Tony Cherrett

Junior Officer: June Middleton

Web Manager: John Lemmey

Leagues/Lady Rose Organiser: William Clennell

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Jackie asked how the committee would know if clubs were struggling.

Richard asked what part the County could play in helping these clubs.

Ian Lewis suggested a link to the Surrey webpage to enable clubs to market events more effectively.

Douglas mentioned that *Taster* sessions could be promoted via a club link coordinated across the county.

People being taught are not going into bridge clubs as the gap is too large.

Tony Cherrett said that according to the EBU only 20% of players completing the *Beginning Bridge* course ever played at a club. He said that we need to encourage teachers to steer players to play at bridge clubs after the first year of tuition.

He mentioned that *Selsdon* had achieved success in boosting their numbers to more than pre-pandemic levels by getting members to play regularly as well as encouraging the better Caterham players to join them.

John Gallagher said there was a lack of knowledge in some clubs about the use of *Bridgemates* and pre dealt hands.

Ian Lewis mentioned a successful summer party at *Camberley* where new members and students had met regular players.

The meeting closed at 2:40 PM