



SURREY COUNTY BRIDGE ASSOCIATION



2025 Annual Report Tim Warren, Chair

1. Introduction

I am pleased to present my annual report on SCBA's activities for the year 2024-25.

2. Financial Results 2024-25

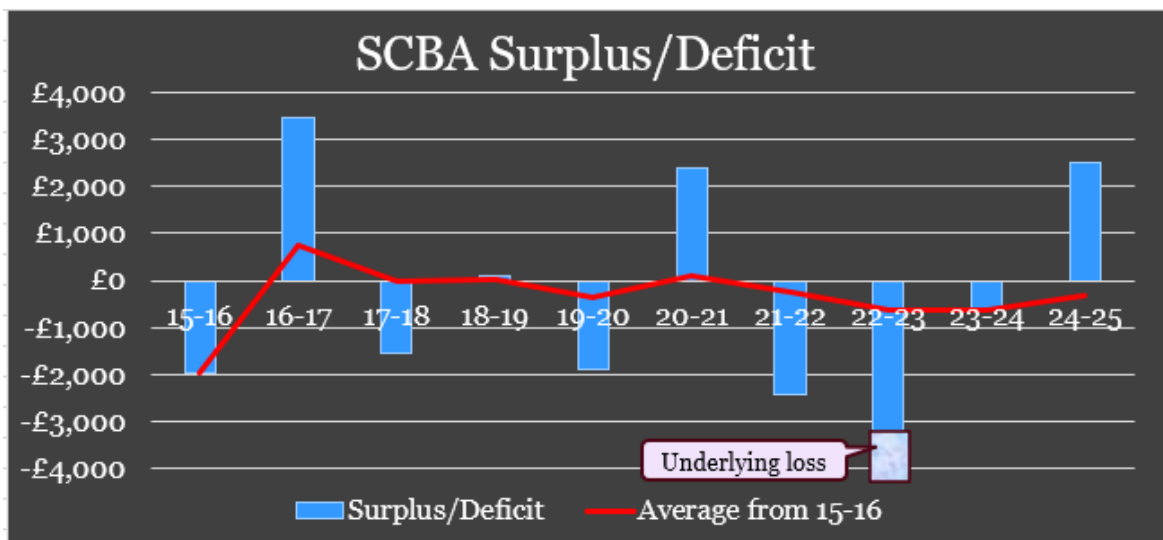
Here is a summary of SCBA's income and expenditure in the recent financial year, together with our net reserves at the end of the year. For comparison, the columns on the right give equivalent figures from FY 23-24.

24-25	£000s	Inc	Exp	Net	23-24	Inc	Exp	Net
Green Point Weekend		3.9	1.7	2.2		3.7	1.4	2.3
Other Events		3.0	2.6	0.4		2.7	2.4	0.3
P2P Levy reinstated Oct 23		3.1	0.0	3.1		1.1	0.0	1.1
Charity Events		2.9	2.9	(0.0)		2.5	2.5	(0.0)
Representative Events		0.0	1.7	(1.7)		0.4	1.4	(1.0)
Development: Junior Bridge		0.0	0.4	(0.4)		0.0	2.2	(2.2)
Other		0.0	1.6	(1.6)		0.0	1.4	(1.4)
Other		0.8	0.3	0.5		0.5	0.3	0.2
Total	£000s	13.7	11.2	2.5		10.9	11.5	(0.6)
Reserves	£000s	25.5				23.0		

The accounts have been reviewed by Paul Green, who I thank for volunteering to take on this important role.

When Covid hit, we made the decision to use our reserves to promote and support bridge in the county – called Development in the table above. 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.

Our overall aim is roughly to break even, which can be seen in this longer-term picture of our finances:



3. Review of Year

This is a high-level picture of how many people took part in our county events, with the red percentages showing changes from the previous year. For a longer-term context, I've also shown typical pre-Covid figures.

County Events (# tables)	2024-25	2023-24	Pre-C (19-20)
Green Point Weekend (Teams+Pairs)	42 +11%	38	127
Other County Events	73 +11%	66	93
Dorin Salver (Charity Sims)	235 +28%	183	343
Total	350 +22%	287	563

Leagues & Cup (# teams)	2024-25	2023-24	Pre-C (19-20)
Surrey Leagues – all divisions	33 -6%	35	34
Lady Rose Cup – qualifier & main	32 -16%	38	20

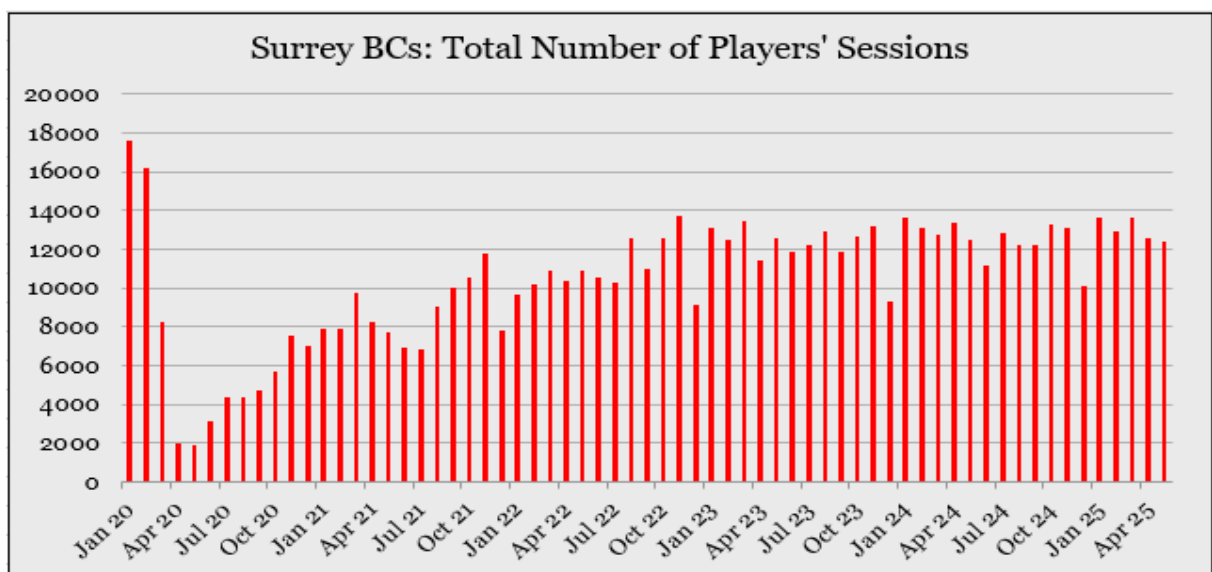
County events: The Green Point Weekend remains our flagship county event, and its operating surplus supports numerous other activities. It was great to see attendance rise by about 11%, the first increase since 2016, albeit from a much lower base. Attendance at all but one of our other county events also rose, with an excellent increase in total.

Surrey Leagues & Lady Rose Cup: These continued to be popular, though not quite at the level immediately post-Covid. As part of our encouragement of bridge outside the elite level, we once again held a pre-qualifier for the Lady Rose for those of NGS 9 or below, and it again attracted a good entry.

Junior Bridge: Our Surrey Schools Cup remains the country's largest junior event, with 138 students this year across four competitions. Epsom College kindly hosted us and dealt impressively with what turned out to be a huge attendance, far exceeding the previous record of 110. In addition, a further 20 youngsters played in a separate MiniBridge event hosted by Tormead Senior School, Guilford.

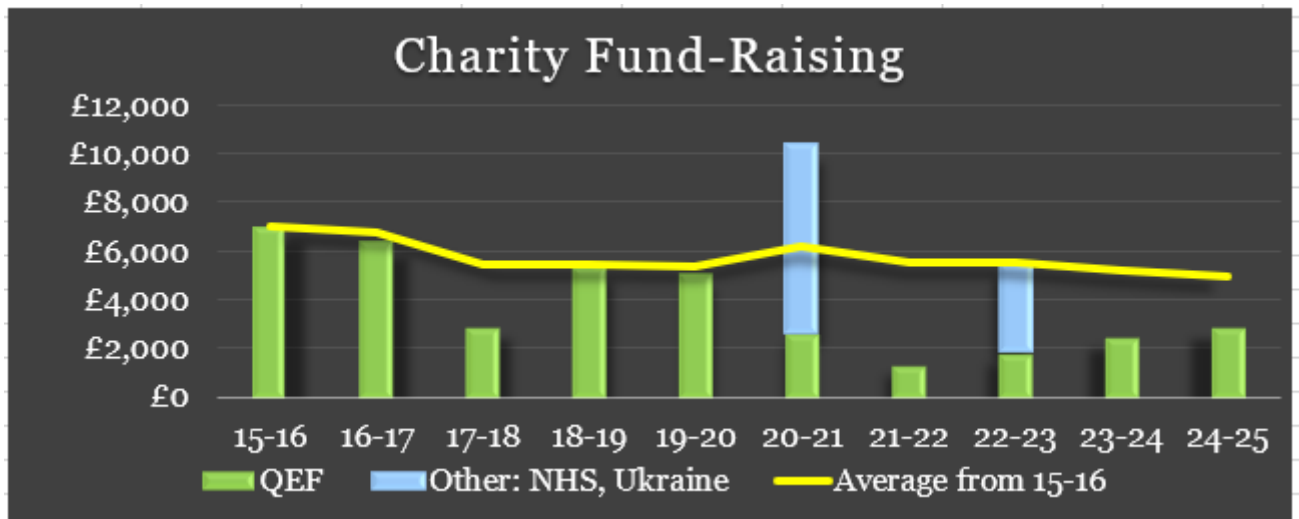
Since 2018, Kent, Sussex and Surrey have collaborated to put on the South-East Counties Junior Bridge Camp. Up to now, Surrey's input has been mainly behind the scenes and centred on the financial, but this year we ran it, with Woldingham School, near Caterham, being our hosts.

Bridge in Surrey Clubs: The following graph shows the total number of sessions (face-to-face plus online) played by Surrey members each month, starting from immediately pre-Covid. In the twelve months to May 25, sessions were pretty much the same as last year, which equates to around 30% lower than the pre-Covid run rate.



Once again, we held a pairs event for the chairs of Surrey bridge clubs. We were really pleased to welcome representatives from roughly half our clubs, and the opportunity for informal discussion was very valuable. Our mid-session presentation was a talk by Richard Croot, recently-appointed CEO of EBED, on their future plans.

4. Charity Fund-Raising



Having fallen off significantly post-Covid, our fund-raising has continued its partial recovery, with this year's donation being 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.

5. Thank You

All that SCBA does is down to the sterling efforts of volunteers. As ever, I remain very grateful to the committee: Gail Norman, Jackie Hawkins, John Lemmey, June Middleton, Shirley Pritchard, Tony Cherrett, Trevor Hobson, William Clennell

and to the many who help behind the scenes, including:

Barbara Hobson, Barry Stoker, Dave Norman, Douglas Wright, Frances Hinden, Graham Osborne, John Manches, Julia Brough, Richard Banbury and Richard Fedrick, plus all those who help with events, including the Surrey Schools Cup.

June Middleton is standing down now from her junior bridge role. Junior bridge is close to my heart and I congratulate her for carrying it out so well over the last five years. Derek Thrumble takes her place, and I welcome him to the team.

I also step down as Chair of Surrey at the end of this month. It's a privilege to have been in this role for the last five years, and I thank the very many people who have helped me and tried to prop me up when I've fallen in a heap. Thank you particularly to Trevor Hobson for his advice, especially during the earlier days when I had even less idea of what I was doing than now. I also thank those who have contacted me about Surrey bridge, whether with brickbats or bouquets or anything else – it's the interaction with our members that is the best part.

I'm delighted that Richard Banbury is standing for election to take over from me as Chair, and I wish him all the very best.

Tim Warren, Chair

June 2025