

savings account can be arranged.
It was agreed that the County UMS rate will remain at zero.

5. JUNIOR BRIDGE

June submitted a written report to the meeting.
The Surrey Schools Cup is going to be at Richard Challoner School in New Malden on 3rd February. This is a State school that has just started bridge. The junior teach in was cancelled due to illness. It is hoped to give it another go after the Surrey Schools cup probably sometime in March. Joan Bennett has the school's on-line league up and running. The Autumn Junior Bridge Camp at Bowles Rock had been a qualified success. There were 63 sign ups but the numbers from the South East were disappointing. Publicity is the biggest challenge facing this event, and it would seem a pity not to repeat it next year. However, attendance is dependent on a relatively narrow base of established players.

6. LADY ROSE PROPOSALS

In William's absence Trevor informed the committee about the new scheme which William had devised for those teams who often get thrashed in the first round of the Lady Rose, and then get disheartened and disappear from the event.

- This season, only one team was comprised entirely of 'nine-high' players - therefore, the aim is to get at least eight such teams playing, if not more, next year to bring the total entry to around 40 teams.
- 'Nine-high' teams would start the competition in a qualifying tournament starting in July. As agreed with the EBU, this would be fully green-pointed.
- The winners of the 'nine-high' qualifier would earn qualification to the main event. The main KO would be largely unaffected.
- Losers in any part of the qualifier, or in Rounds 1 and 2 of the main draw (as at present), enter into the Plate competition.

The committee agreed with this concept, but there was some discussion about whether the NGS level should be 10 or even Jack. It was agreed that publicity would be very important, and would include teams that had previously stopped playing in this event.

7. MATCHES REPORT

Graham Osborne sent a written report detailing Surrey's unfortunate elimination from the Tollemache heats in the final match. The team had included 3 players who were playing in this event for the first time.

8. COMPETITIONS

Shirley mentioned the disappointing number of entries for next weekend's Mixed Pairs event. She will send out another email shortly. She will also be writing to clubs about Teams of 8 in January. Tony suggested that in order to encourage players to return to F2F bridge, entry to the County Pairs and Plate in March should be free to Surrey members. This was agreed.

9. STATISTICAL INFORMATION

Trevor had produced a number of reports showing details of clubs and players within the county. These included players whose NGS had remained static since last year. Shirley asked if a list of those players could be made available by club, in order that clubs can check the names of their members that appear on their EBU account.

John Lemmey had asked if he could have a list of the members whose emails had bounced or had unsubscribed.

Tim asked if we could see which members had opened the newsletter.

Jackie had volunteered to produce a historical record of the number of players at each Surrey event.

Jackie

10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Julia Brough had asked the committee if pressure could be put on the EBU to change their decision published in the Blue Book to the effect that all EBU run online events on Realbridge would have self-alerting.

She said she preferred players being able to alert their partner's bids as in F2F.

Tim said that changes to the Blue Book were not a matter for the committee. Julia could either write directly to the EBU CTD Robin Barker, or raise the issue at the County AGM next July to see if others agreed with her.

NEXT MEETING –

TBC

--	--