

SCBA
MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE MEETING
Held online on Friday 28th April 2023

PRESENT:

Tim Warren (Chair); Trevor Hobson; Jackie Hawkins;
 Shirley Pritchard; Gail Norman; William Clennell (part) Tony Cherrett.

APOLOGIES:

	ACTION
<p>1. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING These were agreed.</p>	
<p>2. MATTERS ARISING Jackie has not yet visited the branch of Skipton to update the signatories on the regular savings account. When she does so she will remove Trevor's name and add Tim's. Following the additional meeting held with Tony, Tim and Trevor, one of the actions was that Tony would contact Church Hill B.C. to assist them with improving their numbers. It appears that Church Hill are interested in improving their numbers, but are wary of allowing players of too high a standard to join. Tony also offered to help them with duplimating boards but they weren't interested. A detailed note from that meeting is attached as an appendix to these minutes. * Shirley said she had responded to Haslemere's request for a loan of Surrey's Bridgemates, and they thanked the County for their help and said they were now sourcing Bridgemates from another club which had closed. Since June was not at the meeting, responses to the questions about the costs of the Autumn Junior bridge camp have had to be deferred to the next meeting.</p>	<p>Jackie</p>
<p>3. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT Tim was pleased to announce that Graham Osborne has agreed to remain as Matches Secretary. He had spoken to several people about the possibility of working with us to help clubs with teaching and recruitment. One person in particular might be able to help later in the year, perhaps from the autumn.</p>	
<p>4. COMPETITIONS Shirley reported that the County pairs had attracted 15 tables compared with 25 when it was last held F2F. Entry this year was free. There were a couple of issues, one of which was the non-use of carry forward scores from the qualifier to the Cup. Following a conversation with the EBU, it was agreed that this requirement would be dropped in future. It was also agreed to clarify the rules so that the definition of Surrey primary membership was clear. Shirley will contact John to get the rules changed on the website. Tim said that he had discussed with William having a relook at all the rules and regulations for events. William agreed to do this during the summer. William reported that the Lady Rose final would be played in July, and the Lady Rose Plate in May. Because only 3 of the 8 players in the Lady Rose final are happy to play online, Surrey are unable to enter a team for the</p>	<p>Shirley</p> <p>William</p>

Pachabo Cup this year.

It was agreed that all Surrey events will move to F2F next season with the exception of the Mixed Pairs which will remain on BBO.

A discussion then followed on whether or not Surrey should hold a F2F Green Point Swiss Pairs this year. Numbers achieved so far by other counties have ranged from 10-24 tables. Surrey would need to have 30 tables to break even if the event was held at Richmond. Tony suggested running it at Caterham where hire costs are cheaper.

The F2F Swiss Teams last year only attracted 12 teams.

Shirley asked why we should hold a Green Point event. In the past it was so that the County could use the surplus gained to boost its finances, but in 2019 the event made a loss, and questions would have had to be asked about its viability then had the pandemic not intervened.

Tim and William are keen that the County should run a Green Point event regardless of the numbers which are achieved.

It was therefore agreed to defer the decision until the next meeting to see what sort of numbers other counties have achieved in the meantime.

5. TREASURER'S REPORT

Jackie presented the accounts. It had taken Jackie some time to sort out comparable figures with the previous year. The deficit was £3k compared with a deficit of £2.4k last year. Tim said that in the past few years the committee had agreed to "ride out the storm" created by Covid, but now it was felt that some action needs to be taken.

Tim suggested he, Shirley and Jackie look at the causes of the shortfall and agree an action. Shirley suggested reinstating the 2p UMS County rate which was removed in order to help clubs during the pandemic.

The committee approved the accounts, but expressed concern at the deficit of £3K.

Jackie will proceed with getting them audited.

Jackie, Shirley,
Tim

Jackie

6. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Following some unauthorised amendments to the membership database on Bridgewebs, Trevor said that he had arranged with Bridgewebs to get an email whenever the Membership data on the website is amended.

NEXT MEETINGS – AGM online 2nd July 2 p.m.; Weds 5th July 3.p.m.

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MINUTES OF DEVELOPMENT MEETING HELD ON 3rd MARCH

Tim, Tony and Trevor met to discuss the attached presentation prepared by Tony for the committee meeting of 24th February, and to agree some next steps in the Development of Bridge in Surrey.

Key points:

Selsdon have been ringing round their members to encourage them to come back after the pandemic with some success. It was suggested that we might be able to identify those Surrey members that are no longer playing so as to do something similar at any other club that might be interested.

However, we cannot get from the EBU data about sessions played by any individual, we can only get sessions by club. A proxy for the information on individuals might be obtained by looking at their NGS movement. But even this is less than perfect. As at 1 March 2023 there were:

- 17 Surrey members that had a mature NGS on that day who had a zero movement in their NGS over the previous 12 months.
- 2,063 Surrey members that had no NGS available to us.
- 1,230 Surrey members with an evolving NGS. Some of these may be new members and some maybe people that started to play but who subsequently dropped out. Using their EBU number might be a useful way to identify the former. **Action:** Tony will prepare a table of EBU number ranges matched to date ranges and send it to Trevor to do the analysis.

A range of other options were discussed included in the attached presentation, but the general view was that what is needed is some additional resource to pull the ideas together and develop a sequenced plan of action. **Action:** Tim to talk with Julia Davies and Douglas Wright.

Pre-pandemic Camberley ran a very popular transition programme to enable social Bridge players feel comfortable playing in a club environment, and Yateley & Hawley ran an Improver group that was a 'next step', in this process. Yateley is now re-starting the improver sessions for both clubs. The transition programme has not yet re-started, but their material and expertise maybe available for other clubs to use.

Church Hill have contacted Tony seeking help with their numbers.

Action: Tony will contact them to see what specifically they have in mind.

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