

BOSTON BRIDGE CLUB

Annual General Meeting

Held at Boston Tennis Club on Thursday 4th January 2024 at 6pm

PRESENT:

24 members – Sue Gray, Richard Tupper, Linda Lovell, Lyn Brocklehurst, Lisa Dichmont, Isabella Masters, Steve Bradley, Claire Rylott, Alec Connell, Pam Townsend, Val Robbs, Ian Duck, Joan Young, Phil Boyd, Angela Cannon, Kath Yates, Ruth Street, Janet Sharman, Pete Sharman, Pat Clifton, Richard Rylott, Judy Nicholson, David Marshall, Lorna Ward. (Some members arrived after the start of the meeting).

APOLOGIES:

Received from 14 members – Sally Hippisley, John Loomes, Tracy Simpson, Jane & Brian Marriott, Pam Rawlings, Jane Sutton, Bob & Pat Don-Duncan, Pam Smith, Sheila Manning, Gill Reynolds, Chris Elliott, Lesley Parker.

The chair, Sue Gray, opened the meeting and welcomed everyone.

Minutes from last Annual General Meeting held on 5th January 2023

MATTERS ARISING

As there was nothing to report, the minutes were accepted by Ruth Street and seconded by Isabella Masters.

CHAIRS REPORT – Sue Gray

It's been a very good year for the club in many ways, increased membership, new faces and a really good turn out for all the sessions.

We started the year with the improvers lessons which were very well attended. Despite our best efforts though, very few of these attended club sessions. The demographics of the students was of work age hence many could not attend on a Tuesday afternoon plus many were happy with 'kitchen table' bridge. Not to be deterred we put on another beginners group and this too attracted 19 new people. Again, a younger crowd who were very enthusiastic and wanting to progress. This is now something the club will need to take on board if we are to provide the stepping stone into club bridge. It is my intention to run an improvers course shortly in order to further encourage new members.

The club has been entering county-based competitions with great success.

Results:

Garden City pairs; team Richard Tupper, Pete Sharman, Sally Hippisley, Louise Mitcham, Sue Gray, Claire Rylott, Lisa Dichmont and Linda Lovell - 6th

Random Seeded Pairs; Sally and Louise - 3rd

Ghost Pairs; E/W Sally and Louise winners. They receive the John Brown Bowl.

In the winter league the club entered one pair into each division.

Div 1 Lazy Bones. Pete Sharman, Janet Sharman, Richard Tupper and Lesly Parker were 4th

Div 2 Girls on Tour. Sue Gray, Claire Rylott, Lisa Dichmont, Linda Lovell, Steve Bradley were 1st

Lincoln Gold Plate the Bootleg Beagles. Sally, Louise, Claire and Sue were 1st

The County Sims events played in March and November:

March top 20 out of 57: Sally and Louise 6th; Richard and Peter 8th; Claire and Sue 12th; Steve Bradley and Alison Casswell 17th; Phil Boyd and David Marshall 18th.

November County Sims 73 pairs: Pam Smith and Sheila Manning 7th; Sally and Sue 12th; Richard and Peter 14th; Gill Reynolds and Judy Nicholson 16th

This is very encouraging and hopefully the county will see that the club is supportive of their efforts.

The most satisfying element however has been the consistently high number of tables each session and the dramatic up take for Tuesday afternoon bridge. A big thanks to members who run these sessions.

We decided to have Christmas lunch this year on a Tuesday and this was well supported with 32 enjoying a lovely lunch and an afternoon playing with a random partner. It's good to have a change once in a while!

It was with great sadness that we heard of the death of one time member Michael Grant. He had been very active in the club and was Chair for quite some time. David and Lisa represented the club at his funeral.

Many thanks to the committee and members for their support throughout the year, it is greatly appreciated.

Sue went on: "I would like to thank everyone who helped as without their support it would not be successful."

TREASURERS REPORT - Richard Tupper

Richard said 2023 had been a good year financially. Subscriptions were up on previous year; lessons were up on last year as was table money.

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER 2023

Income		Expenditure	
Subscriptions	6566.00	Rent/Room Hire	3500.00
Lessons	1520.00	Venue Hire	272.00
Charity	286.00	EBU Pay to Play	1502.88
Bridge days	0.00	Licence and Insurance	335.70
	0.00	Equipment	837.64
Table Money	1353.00	Bank	66.40
Refreshments	25.10	Charity	286.00
		Refreshments	4.45
Total income	9750.10	Total expenditure	6805.07

Excess income over expenditure	2945.03
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BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31ST DECEMBER 2023

Balance as per Bank Statement 01.01.23	5260.10
Petty cash balance as at 01.01.23	50.00
Total as at 01.01.23	5310.10
Excess income over expenditure	2945.03
Total funds	8255.13
Balance as per Bank Statement 31.12.23	8161.73
Petty cash balance 31.12.23	93.40
	8255.13

Claire Rylott thanked Richard for his accounts and asked him if it would be better to hold the AGM a couple of weeks later than we do already in order to help Richard get accounts to hand. Richard thanked Claire and said it wasn't an issue. Claire asked if we could go ahead with purchasing new bidding cards to which Sue said it was up to the new committee.

Isabella Masters asked if the club was in a position to give to a charity now. Sue said that the funds that had been raised went towards the club, i.e. purchase of dealing machine. She said of course to ask the new committee on raising funds for charity. Pat Clifton said it had been the right decision to support the club first.

The treasurer's report was accepted by Claire Rylott; seconded by Steve Bradley.

COMPETITIONS SECRETARY REPORT - Steve Bradley

ALL COMERS EVENINGS

Designed to encourage bridge players who would not ordinarily attend Monday and Thursday evenings. Especially those who have attended Beginners/Improvers Lessons with Sue.

9th January 2023 - supported by 16 pairs:

1st Richard Tupper and Ann Tasker.

2nd Steve Bradley and Sarah Hopper.

6th March 2023 - 12 pairs in attendance:

1st Lyn Brocklehurst and Claire Rylott.

2nd Gill Reynolds and Dorothy French.

CLUB COMPETITION

Nora Carter Cup - 25th May 2023:

Winners - Sally Hippisley and Phil Boyd; 2nd - Lisa Dichmont and Linda Lovell

EBU SIMS PAIRS 2023.

SPRING 13TH April - Results not shown.

SUMMER 24th July - 488 pairs nationally:

21st - Lisa Dichmont and Mary Jo Mangion; 41st - Sally Hippisley and Louise Mitcham; 57th - David Marshall and Phil Boyd.

AUTUMN - 9th October 294 pairs nationally:

3rd - Lesley Parker and Linda Lovell; 43rd - Sue Gray and Claire Rylott; 63rd - Richard Tupper and Peter Sharman.

CHILDREN IN NEED - 9th November

Club raised in excess of £80. £1,277,280.68 raised nationally.

1,486 pairs nationally:

38th - John Loomes and Alan Taylor; 107th - Richard Tupper and Peter Sharman; 197th - Pam Smith and David Morris.

EBU MASTERPOINT PROMOTIONS 2023

January - Gill Reynolds - Area Master

February - Claire Rylott - County Master

Linda Lovell - Master

Pam Townsend - Club Master

March - Richard Tupper - 5 Star Master

Janet Sharman - 1 Star Master

Alec Connell - Local Master

Alan Taylor - Local Master

April - Sheila Manning - Club Master

May - Alec Connell - Club Master

June - Lisa Dichmont - Advanced Master

October - Sally Hippisley - 1 Star Master

John Loomes - Area Master

Sue Gray - 1 Star Master

ELECTION OF OFFICERS:

At their last committee meeting, Sue asked the current committee if they were happy to stand another year, to which they all agreed. 2024 officers:

Chair:	Sue Gray	Proposed: R Street	Seconded: R Tupper
Vice Chair:	Claire Rylott	Proposed: R Street	Seconded: L Dichmont
Treasurer:	Richard Tupper	Proposed: C Rylott	Seconded: S Bradley
Secretary:	Linda Lovell	Proposed: R Street	Seconded: P Townsend
Competitions Sec.:	Steve Bradley	Proposed: L Lovell	Seconded: A Cannon
Webmaster:	John Loomes	Proposed: S Gray	Seconded: L Lovell
Committee Members:	Angela Cannon	Proposed: K Yates	Seconded: J Sharman
	Ruth Street	Proposed: K Yates	Seconded: J Sharman

All officers were elected unanimously.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There had been an issue with the storeroom door and Richard said the tennis club were sorting the door locks and new keys would be issued.

Subscriptions – It was proposed to keep them the same and to not increase. Subscriptions are due by the end of January 2024 and our club’s bank details for paying these are on our website. Proposed by Pam Townsend and seconded Linda Lovell.

NEXT AGM 2025

The date of the club’s next AGM would be Thursday 9 January 2025.

The meeting closed at 6.30pm.

Minutes agreed:

Signed Date
Sue Gray, Chair