

Crawley Bridge Club

Annual General Meeting 2024

1st May 2024

Apologies for Absence

Kate Massie, David Maysey, Linda Maynard-Springall, Frank Sansom, Sam Randall, Judith Wells and Sylvia Webb.

Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes were approved a correct record.

Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

Chairman's Report

Despite the calendar having clicked round another year with a succession of milestone birthdays, the membership list from last year's diary is still current. With the mature age profile of our members this is no mean feat and long may it continue.

It has been a successful year for CBC with strong attendance figures and a full calendar of some very enjoyable events.

However, the main purpose of this report is to thank those who have made a particular contribution over the past year. We are fortunate indeed to have an active membership including many who are prepared to go the extra distance and help out to make things run smoothly. This review provides the opportunity to highlight the range of activities the club is involved in some of which may not be visible to you otherwise.

Teaching. Helen will be starting a new Beginning Bridge course in September. Tim Lane has agreed to assist Helen with this and they attended an EBU Teacher Training course in Horsham last weekend in anticipation. Helen starting teaching twelve years ago, which marked the turning point in the club's fortunes from a very low ebb indeed where we had got down to as few as two and a half tables on occasion. The club owes her a huge debt of gratitude. A perennial issue is how to mature players from the Beginning Bridge lessons through to playing at the club. This year we have run three terms of Novice sessions involving the previous year's Beginners with that objective. The sessions have been hugely popular but it is still difficult to get people to make the jump to competitive face to face play. The Improvers series which is done online over the winter months also has a loyal following. Each session starts with the presentation of the topic on Zoom followed by hosted play of example hands on BBO Video. We are indebted to HK, GB, NB, SR, WK and CB for hosting tables.

Relaxed Duplicate. In common with many clubs, we are now running online duplicate sessions as well as face to face play. RD which takes place on Monday evenings, includes many players who have come through from Beginning Bridge lessons. Without the chance to

play online they might have been lost to us. As you will see later, RD makes a significant contribution financially. Its success is entirely thanks to Gordon who developed the format, has nurtured the players and directs the sessions.

Mervyn Wotton. Mervyn makes it look easy routinely directing Wednesday evenings and taking events such as the recent Handicap Pairs comfortably in his stride. He is the webmaster for CBC and also for SCCBA.

Sylvia Smith does a stellar job organising the Xmas Party and generally oiling the social wheels.

Kate Massie has taken on the role of events management and showed her mettle to great effect organising the spring Compensated Teams. We wish her well and hope she will be back playing soon.

Phil Nash organises the duplimation rota and it is most impressive how many people are prepared to lend a hand with this vital chore.

Last but not least Sylvia thanked Richard on behalf of the whole club for all that he has done and continues to do in his new role as Chairman.

And finally.....

to all of you the members who create the atmosphere we all enjoy, help out with the furniture and put a smile on the club's face.

Thank you.

Treasurer's Report

Gordon Briggs presented the financial statement for 23/24 as per page following. The club generated a surplus of £627.26 and finished the year with a net worth of £6,460.45. This comfortably exceeds the £5k reserves target set to allow us to cope with any unforeseen contingencies.

The statement was approved by a show of hands.

Constitution

The committee proposed a number of changes to the constitution.

Section: ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Clarification that all Officers and Committee members are elected or re-elected annually.

The current constitution refers to a term of office without specifying its duration.

Section: SUBSCRIPTIONS

Change of the Club subscription year to align with that of GIBC. This allows CBC and GIBC social membership payments to be collected together.

Section: FINANCE

New clause allowing the Committee to use club funds to match members charity donations at Club events. This has been the case for some years, but is not permitted by the current constitution.

Elimination of the role of Auditor. We haven't had an Auditor for several years, the accounts are reviewed by the committee and presented to the members at the AGM for approval. Elimination of the role of Membership Secretary. We have never had a Membership Secretary, the role is undertaken by the Secretary.

After some discussion the changes were approved by a show of hands. A copy of the revised constitution is attached.

Competition Report

Compensated Teams June 23 - Debbie, Susie, Sylvia S. and Dave F.

Compensated Teams October 23 – Steve, Doreen, Richard and Betty

September 23 – Men – again!

CIN Sims – Sam and Richard N/S George and Leon E/W

EGBB – Winners overall – Lin and Barbara. Leading non expert and 2nd overall – Peter and Pam

Christmas Party – Richard and Susie

Individual - 1st Helen 2nd Sue

2024

Valentine Pairs – Gordon and Claire

Charity Pairs – Winners at Crawley and 3rd in the County – Gill and Ron

Compensated Teams – Claire and Patricia with Cecile and David

Handicap Pairs – Yuriko and Sumi.

County events: Winners Sussex League Div 4. Team; Alastair, Betty, Gordon, Helen, Nigel, Richard and Sam.

Helen drew attention to two county competitions which are suitable for less experienced players. These are the Venture Pairs held in the summer and the David Pavey Pairs for players of NGS 7 and under, held in January.

Events Calendar 2024/5

A copy of the proposed calendar for 24/25 had been circulated.

In addition to those events it was announced that we will hold a Summer Barbeque on Saturday 27th July hosted by Susie Swaddling at Standen.

Gordon raised the issue of whether the club should support the event financially as it falls outside a strict interpretation of an activity of the club. After some discussion it was agreed by a show of hands that we should allow this expense.

Election of Committee and Officers

With Sam Randall standing down as Chairman and Carol Randall also leaving it the committee suggested a new committee structure as follows.

Chairman. Richard Jameson

Treasurer. Gordon Briggs

Secretary. Patricia Kollinsky

Helen Kent. Teaching
Kate Massie. Events Management
Sylvia Smith. Social
Phil Nash. Duplimation

This was agreed by a show of hands.

Mark Randall volunteered to join the committee and was proposed by Sylvia Smith, seconded by Gordon and elected by a show of hands.

The meeting closed.