

## **Minutes of 271st Farnborough Bridge Club Committee Meeting**

**16th January 2025**

### **Present:**

Chris Clegg (Chair), John Hunt (Treasurer), James Foster (Secretary). and committee members Wendy Church, Rodney Meredith.

John Hemington was present for Items 8 and 9 of the agenda.

### **1. Apologies for absence**

Apologies had been received from Joan Chandler.

### **2. Minutes of the 270<sup>th</sup> Meeting**

These had previously been circulated, and were accepted as a true record.

### **3. Matters arising**

None

### **4. Treasurer's Report**

JH provided an update on the Club's finances, which are in a healthy state. Club membership is currently over 140, and the total of member-attendances at the club stands at more than 2,200 since 1st August. There have been some expenses in buying new equipment (e.g. tables and bidding cards), and a necessary investment in a new dealing machine is still expected in the near future.

### **5. Scorers and Directors**

On Scorers: The Scorers course will be on 14th March. It was noted that 12 people have signed up for this.

On Directors: Some club members have expressed concern that there had been occasions when Directors had used movements involving unnecessary 3-board sit-outs and/or movements with fewer than 24 boards. To avoid this, Graham Clements and Hilary Powell had done a lot of work to provide Directors with lists of recommended movements for different occasions. JF undertook to email all the Directors, to make sure that they were aware of this resource.

### **6. Club Emails**

The existence of a Gmail account for the club alongside the Bridgewebs email account is causing confusion about who has read/replied to email enquiries, and about which account members should be sending their messages to. The plan is to close the Gmail account and use only the Bridgewebs account from now on.

## **7. Website**

The Ladder results to date have now been posted on the website – thanks to the work of John Hemington and John Hunt for this.

## **8. Competitions**

- i. Revised Corbett Teams : The updated team lists are on the club noticeboard.
- ii. Larsky Semi-Final: This will be on Monday 10th February. The hall has been booked.
- iii. Ladder: This has been very successful, with numbers increasing month-on-month. John Hemington clarified the rules for promotion/relegation (as detailed on the website).  
It was confirmed that there should be two trophies available: one for the winners and one for the best performing pair in relation to their own NGS rating. There would also be cups/plaques for runners-up.
- iv. Burton-Pryor: The plan is that, this year, there will be a multiple teams event as the first round. Then, four teams will go to a semi-final; and, later, two teams go on to the final. (These second and third phases to be completed at the same time as a normal club Pairs).  
In 2025-26, it is envisaged that there would be a series of eight “League” events, each team playing two 12-board matches in an evening. There would have to be flexibility to allow for absences, with substitutes permitted, and with different teams sometimes combining forces. Then, again, there would be a semi-final and a final, alongside normal bridge.

## **9. New Competition Idea**

John Hemington outlined a plan for a new X-Imps “Teams” competition, in which Pairs would “Play with the Experts”, using data from e.g. a set of boards from an international match. At the end of the evening, players would get a results sheet and would be able to score as per a teams match.

Arrangements would need to be made for hard copies of hands and for scoring sheets. A possible date for this event is 30th July, replacing the usual X-Imps evening.

## **10. AOB**

JF informed the committee that, for personal reasons, he would not be seeking re-election as Secretary, or to the committee, in August.

## **11. Date of next (272nd) meeting.**

Thursday 13th March, 1.30pm at Wendy’s house..

Members should email questions/suggestions to: [c.clegg@btinternet.com](mailto:c.clegg@btinternet.com)