

Hampshire and Isle of Wight Contract Bridge Association
CIO

TENTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
19th November 2024 at 18.00
at the Winchester Racquets and Fitness Club

MINUTES

Present: Mike Kinsey, Tim Smith, Tim Anderson, Clare Fearon, Ian Fearon, Dorothy Rivers, Glen Ponto, Melinda Ponto, Helen Gault, Simon Broadley, Henry Labrum, Valerie Bridger, Richard Hawkes, Gareth Birdsall, Arun Swarup, Peter Haughton, David Tombes, Rosmarie Boag, Carolyn Endicott, Ann White

1. Apologies for Absence

Margaret Gale, Guy Lawrenson, Sue Oliver, John Fairhurst, Bob McRobert, Jenny McRobert, Michael Yeo

2. Adoption of Minutes of 9th AGM

The minutes of the 9th AGM held on 11.6.2023 at Lymington BC were approved.

3. Chairman's Report

Mike Kinsey presented his report for the 2023/24 season.

A disappointing year for weekend events, but a good year for Leagues and KOs.

Agreement had been reached in principle to loan Basingstoke BC £75,000 to part fund their improved facilities.

(See Appendix)

4. Treasurer's Report;

In Guy's absence Mike summarised the accounts to 31st December 2023.

There was a slight operating loss, more than covered by interest received.

HIWCBA has substantial reserves, and would welcome suggestions as to how that money could be used to promote bridge.

5. Election of Chairman.

Mike Kinsey was re-elected as Chairman.

6. Election of Officers / Trustees

Tim Anderson, Clare Fearon, Guy Lawrenson (Treasurer & Trustee), Sue Oliver, and Tim Smith (Trustee) were re-elected as committee members.

Mike Kinsey thanked Margaret Gale (who is currently in hospital) for her long service as Secretary.

There are currently Committee vacancies for Secretary and Club Liaison. It is expected that Basingstoke BC will provide a committee member but more volunteers would be welcome.

7. Appointment of Auditor

Andrew Ferguson has indicated his willingness to be re-appointed.

8. Charity of the Year

Hampshire & Isle of Wight Air Ambulance was retained as nominated charity.

9. Loan for Development of Basingstoke Bridge Club

As covered in the Chairman's Report, HIWCBA is making a loan to Basingstoke BC. It is expected the improved facilities will be open by 2025.

10. Change to EBU Constitution

Mike reported that the EBU were proposing a change to their constitution, to be voted on at the EBU AGM on 27/11/25. He asked members to let him know of any comments, or views on how HIWCBA should cast its votes.

11. Resolutions submitted by Members.

None

12. AOB

None

The Meeting closed at 18:30

Chairman's Report 2023

The 2023/24 season has been the been relatively quiet.

As previously we have offered some F2F weekend events, but take up has been limited.

We have also continued with some on-line events, but the EBU has limited the number of such events we can offer.

The annual Hampshire Congress was entirely F2F this year (the EBU are only issuing F2F green point licences to Counties.) Swiss Pairs on Saturday, with 12 tables. The Sunday teams had only 7 entrants.

There is a better story for the County Leagues. 26 teams over three leagues. Mainly these have been played on-line: and we will continue with this format for next year.

Our two charity simultaneous events raised a total over £1000 for the local air ambulance.

Probably the most significant matter this last year has been the prospective enhancement of the Basingstoke Bridge Club. As most of you will know HIWCBA was gifted a substantial sum of money when Southampton Sutherland Bridge Club closed. The original hope was that a new County/Club bridge centre would be established. This proved challenging even before covid. However the County is now expecting to help Basingstoke Bridge Club improve their facilities which goes some way to meeting the aims of the gift.

As ever I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone on the committee for their efforts throughout the year. In particular I would like to thank Margaret Gale who has been Hon Secretary for many many years and is now standing down.

As you can see from the Agenda most of the Committee are prepared to continue, but we are looking for new faces.

Mike Kinsey
Chairman HIWCBA