

Oxford Bridge Club

2017

- *Objectives* From the constitution
- *Values* Permanent attributes
- *Strategy* Review each year
- *Goals* New set each year

The objectives of the OBC are:

- To promote interest in the playing of bridge.
- To organise and run bridge competitions.
- To provide facilities to beneficiaries for playing bridge including duplicate pairs, teams and rubber bridge, according to demand.
- To promote opportunities for new and less experienced players to learn and to play bridge in a friendly and supportive atmosphere.
- To promote opportunities for continuous improvement.
- To aid the development of teams representing the club in external competitions.
- To maintain the viability of the club operation over the long term.
- To maintain suitable premises for these activities.

Values

We want the club to be characterised as:

- welcoming, attractive, comfortable
- encouraging to all, providing an environment to develop bridge skill at all levels
- attractive to those taking up the game of duplicate bridge for the first time
- successful both socially and competitively
- a place to meet people and make friends
- a club with a high standard of ethics
- a club which is well managed and well run
- generous to other charitable causes

Strategy

- **Members:** to provide effective communication with members; to monitor the needs of members and adjust the activities provided to meet the objectives of the club
- **Bridge:** to maintain the highest standards of fairness and conduct; to be regarded as one of the clubs in the top echelon across the country for provision of bridge to a wide spectrum of players and for competitive success
- **Management:** to maintain a management structure robust enough to manage a club of this size and complexity; to maintain facilities to meet the needs of all club activities; to monitor and make improvements to the use of club resources
- **Finance:** to employ a business model that allows investment to improve facilities to meet the changing needs of beneficiaries
- **Education:** to sustain the long term viability of the club by maintaining or reducing the average age of the membership; to provide opportunities for bridge education at all levels; to focus particularly on bringing new players to the game of duplicate bridge
- **External relations:** to maintain productive relationships with key stakeholders, partner organisations and other bridge clubs

OBC – Goals for 2017

1. Make tangible improvements to behaviour at all sessions; adopt revised Directing Guidelines and ensure consistent interpretation by Directors; increase the confidence of members to call the Director during sessions; review the operation of conduct procedures in the Articles of Association
2. Clear remaining hurdles on club refurbishment and start implementation; Implement satisfactory transition arrangements while premises are being refurbished; focus on maintaining member and attendance numbers during refurbishment
3. Review membership categories and related arrangements in the context of free EBU membership for Bridge for All students
4. Make specific arrangements to ease transitions between levels for those who are graduating from the initial learning process to full participation in club sessions
5. Review the load on directors, scorers, dealers and hosts in the context of increased numbers of sessions and temporary accommodation issues; increase investment where needed
6. Identify areas where there is a shortfall of skills or resources; recruit further members who are willing to assume responsibilities for a segment of the club's operation; put in place succession plans for officers to maximise continuity in the club's operation
7. Enhance the IT infrastructure of the club to allow reliable storage and controlled sharing of club documents; make arrangements for scoring that can work in temporary locations