

Scottish Bridge Union – EAST District
Minutes of the Online Committee Meeting of 16th February 2021 at 7.00pm

Present: Ms. A Perkins, Mrs. J Choudhury, Ms. F Greenwood, Dr. J Palmer, Mrs. F Davies, Mrs. M Evans, Mrs. S Gunn, Mrs. J Carnegie

Apologies: Mrs. D King, Mrs S McPherson, Mr. A Officer,

Minutes:

The minutes of 20th October 2020 were proposed by Mrs Gunn and seconded by Mrs Carnegie.

as being a true record of that meeting.

The following points were noted:

- Dr Palmer pulling together a seminar to share information on setting up courses – this had not been progressed at this stage.
- Under National Tournaments it should have read the SBU aims to run on-line events on Tuesday and Saturday evenings until face-to-face bridge returns.

Matters arising:

- There had been a problem with the Committee receiving emails. Mrs Dempsie to liaise with Mr Officer on this.
- Ms. Greenwood is looking into the option of BBO prizes – ongoing discussions. – Two separate accounts have been set up one for the SBU and one for East District. Ms Greenwood pays the prizes from the appropriate account. Ms Greenwood and Mrs Choudhury liaise on the statements.

Chairman's report:

Ms Perkins has not been playing much as has been involved in junior training and preparation for the Junior Camrose and Peggy Bayer and trials for the Lady Milne and Senior Camrose.

Secretary's report:

Mrs Dempsie reminded the Committee that there is a SBU EGM on the 7th March 2021 and that all SBU members will have received notification.

Sub-committee reports:

Finance:

- Mrs Choudhury reported that the on-line tournaments are not making as much as the face-2-face, however the East District does have a healthy bank balance.

League:

- The 19/20 League Season – it is still the plan to run the critical league matches when face-2-face bridge is allowed.
- Currently planning leagues for the 21/22 session is difficult as it is not known how many teams will be available to play when face -2- face bridge returns. It is envisaged that there may be a smaller number of divisions and possibility of hosting teams of 8/4 on-line rather than face-2-face.

Education: Nothing to report

- List of all teachers within the districts is progressing however the response from people is very slow.
- Dr Palmer reported that some of her lessons were being video'd and then used as a means of teaching. It is noted that online teaching is not very interactive for new players.

Bronze Events: Nothing to Report

National Tournaments:

East District successes in recently held events :

Edwin Berry Swiss Teams - winners Derek Sanders, Stewart Pinkerton, Gints Freimanis, Alex Adamson
Runners up Ying Piper and Peter Moss (with Nigel Guthrie and Steve Male)

Thea Teale Bronze Pairs - Runners up Iain McLaren and Alan Ainslie

Stirling Pairs – Winners Andrew Symons and Iain Taylor

Winter Weekend Bronze Pairs winners Judith Smeaton and Mike Hammet
Swiss Pairs – winners Harry Smith and Roy Bennett
Swiss Teams – winners Brian Short, Alan Goodman, Sam Punch and Stephen Peterkin

Mixed Swiss Teams - winners Alan Goodman, Sheila Adamson, Derek Sanders, Fiona Greenwood

Forthcoming National events :

27th February Women's and Men's Pairs
28th February Women's and Men's Teams
7th March Thea Teale Bronze Teams
13/14 March Winter 4s weekend 1
20/21 March Winter 4s weekend 2
24th April Ranked Pairs
8th May Ranked Individuas
9th May National Pairs Final
16th May Scottish Swiss Pairs

South District are also holding their congress on Friday 5th and Saturday 6th March.

East District Tournaments:

29th November - ED Swiss Pairs - 30 tables – winners Derrick Peden and Jim Hay

Monthly Friday night tournaments have been held on 13th November, 11th December and 1st January with 6, 7, and 11 tables respectively.

5th February - ED Open Bronze Challenge Pairs. There were problems at the start of this event due to 2 players not having registered their BBO IDs on Mempad. It was agreed that players registering for events should be reminded that this is necessary 48 hours prior to the event. If players still had not registered their BBO ID on mempad when the event start then they will not be permitted to play. The winners of this event were Hazel Rutherford and David Wilbraham from Ayrshire.

13th February – Allan Fritch. Run as 2 howells to try and obtain a single winner (BBO does not cater for arrow switches for Mitchell movements). However, 2 pairs had exactly the same score so the trophy will be shared. Winners Gill and David Simmons and Jane and Andrew Carnegie. It was noted that if post-tournament zoom sessions are organised to discuss the hands, someone needs to know how to display the hands to the attendees.

Preparation for forthcoming ED online events

Now that there are more clubs holding tournaments online it is not clear that the ED monthly tournaments need to continue. One further tournament will be run on 5th March but subsequent dates will be cancelled.

5 th March	ED monthly tournament (Ximps)
25 th April	Berwick Congress
10 th April	ED National Pairs District Qualifier
22 nd May	ED Bronze Teams
23 rd May	Hunter Cup

Pre-registration will be required for the Hunter Cup so that it can be established whether it will be run as a Swiss or a multiple teams event.

MiniBridge:

- Mrs Evans had been speaking with Martin Stevens regarding a bridge club at Merchiston Castle school. He is happy to put some money into setting up the club but does not wish to teach. Miss Greenwood suggested speaking to Sam Punch (SBU Education Convenor) and Alisdair McLeod (SBU Juniors Convenor) who may be able to assist.
- Mrs Davies suggested that it may be worth considering paying a teacher to run classes in schools etc.

Website News: Nothing to Report

Report from Council:

- Overseas Congress – This has been postponed to May 2022, GBOS has asked for expressions of interest in a Congress in Crete in October. Bridge fees would be the only payment required in advance.
- There are new Congress Convenors – Robert Clow and Frances McKeown
- The December 2021 Congress will be held in March 2022 in Peebles.
- A notice has been issued requesting volunteers for the Disciplinary Panel. Each District has been asked to put forward someone. Sandy Duncan has contact Mike Ash directly to volunteer.
- A payment structure has been put in place for the SBU events which also includes payment for TD's , Scorers and others involved in the organisation of SBU events.
- The EGM is being held to agree a reduction in the SBU subs to £8.00 for the 21/22 session.
- There would be no diaries for the 21/22 session. The majority of the Committee said that people did not use them and that many were left over each year.

AOCB:

- The East District Committee would like their thanks to be passed to the SBU Council for all the work that has been done developing online tournaments and putting in place the finance procedures required. A lot of this work has been done in the background and many people are not aware of how much is involved. It was also noted that several people had remarked on how well the council work together and seem to have a friendly relaxed atmosphere within it.
- Mrs Choudhury informed the Committee that a gift would be purchased for Sandy Kirkwood as a thank you for all his work as the Finance Convenor for the East District.

Meeting closed with thanks to all for attending.

Date of next meeting – Tuesday 11th May 2021 at 7.00pm.