

Border Association of Bridge Clubs

Minutes of 31st AGM held in Abbey Row Centre, Kelso on Thursday 26th May 2016 at 5:35PM.

Present: Dominic Alkin Kelso, Maureen Weightman Jedburgh, Brian Griffiths Berwick and Joyce Hanna Kelso.

Apologies: Judith Jackson Duns, Mike Tuson Hawick, Donald Swanston Ormiston, John Urquhart Kelso, Sheila Urquhart Kelso, Sheena McPherson Eastern District and Stuart Graham Kelso.

The meeting was chaired by Dominic Alkin Kelso.

The minutes of the 30th AGM were circulated, approved and adopted by Joyce Hanna and seconded by Brian Griffiths.

The Financial Statement of Accounts were read, circulated, approved and adopted by Joyce Hanna and seconded by Maureen Weightman.

Reports on BABC Competitions:

Kelso Bridge Club hosted both the Pairs and Teams of 4 competitions at Abbey Row centre in Kelso. The Pairs competition was played on Sunday 22nd November 2015 and there were 14 pairs. The competition was won by John Urquhart and Sam White from Hawick Bridge Club.

The Teams of 4 was played on Sunday 28th February 2016 with 8 teams taking part. The winning team from Hawick Bridge Club consisted of Mary Millar, Val Johnstone, Bob Francombe and George Graham.

On behalf of the BABC, Dominic said that he would like to pass on his grateful thanks to Reg Drysdale for directing both of these events.

Dates for next session competitions were set as follows:-

**Pairs competition to be held on Sunday 20th November 2016
Teams of 4 to be held on Sunday 26th February 2017.**

Both events would be played at the Abbey Row Centre, Kelso, 1:30PM for a 2PM start. Please note to let you club members know these dates and encourage as many members to support these two events as possible.

SBU Diamond Pairs Event heat for this year was declared nul and void as the wrong set of boards were sent down from Edinburgh. Sheena McPherson will be running the event again this year in October 2016 at Abbey Row Centre, Kelso. Details will be made available on the SBU website in due course.

A.O.B.C.

All Border clubs should try to encourage members to enter all the BABC events. A poster campaign would hopefully add some much needed encouragement. Also, a suggestion was also made that a 'No Fears' competition may be a good idea to attract less experienced players to take part as a stepping stone to playing in the 2 main BABC events in the future.

A discussion on promoting the game of bridge raised various points. Could schools play a role in encouraging young people to take up the game? Dominic said that Kelso B.C. had strong links with the bridge Clubs in Ednam and Stitchill, where their players were encouraged to come and play at Kelso especially when their respective clubs closed for the spring and summer months. Brian added that Berwick B.C. were actively promoting their Thursday evenings at present in a more relaxed way as well as giving tuition to beginners.

Dominic noted with some surprise that there were no representatives sent from Duns, Hawick and Ormiston Bridge Clubs. As there appeared to be no fixed date annually for the BABC AGM to be held, he suggested we move forward next year's AGM to say, Thursday March 30th 2017.

Thanks were given to both the chairman and Kelso Bridge Club for all their efforts over the past year.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 6:05PM.

