

Minutes of the Berwick Bridge Club Committee meeting held at 5pm Monday, 9 May 2022 online on Skype

Present:	Reverend Canon Christopher Smith (CS)	President
	Peter Calder (PC)	Vice President
	Paul Gipson (PG)	Honorary Secretary
	Tony Reed-Jones (TRJ)	Honorary Treasurer
	Louis Moore (LM)	Honorary Competitions Secretary
	Jill Connor (JC)	Committee member
	Penny Davidson (PD)	Committee member
	Jean Mole (JM)	Committee member
	Chris Orchard (CO)	Committee member

Apologies: Kitty Home Robertson had connection issues

President's welcome

CS welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Minutes of last meeting and matters arising

The minutes of the last meeting were approved unanimously.

PCC update

CS has reiterated his concern about permanent ventilation to the PCC and has spoken to Gwynneth Guthrie. She has promised him an update for the AGM.

SBU affiliation update

Alan Goodman [chair, SBU Trustees] has discussed the above matter with the EBU. They have given their full support to the suggestion that Berwick BC remains in the SBU. They have even stated that they will make representations to the EBL should we have any difficulty in getting them to accept our request. PG spoke to the EBU CEO at his competition in Warwick last month who confirmed their position.

Alan believes that the EBL will agree to our request but also doesn't expect a speedy response. In the meantime the SBU are assuming that Berwick BC will remain affiliated to the SBU and the committee assumes the same.

PG suggested, and it was agreed, that we should not make any minor changes to the club constitution until this is finally resolved.

Restart subcommittee report and next steps

Christopher presented the [subcommittee's report](#) and [risk assessment](#).

A couple of minor changes were made to the risk assessment.

It was confirmed that face-to-face bridge will commence on Thursday, 23 June and online events on Thursday will then cease. Summer season will be 20 boards at the Parish Centre and Janet Beattie has offered to be the host so that individuals are always guaranteed a partner.

TRJ said the club could afford to make summer bridge at the Parish Centre FREE and this will hopefully make the sessions more attractive. The committee fully supported this idea.

PC asked if there were sufficient online directors for the summer and PG said that there were.

Committee discussions and motions for AGM

The committee will not be proposing any motions to the AGM.

CS will lead the discussion of restarting bridge and the efforts made by the committee to ensure a safe environment.

PG will lead the discussion about balancing online and face-to-face bridge from September.

AOCB

As the congress was established by George Martin and run by him for many years, CS has spoken with Val Martin about the local charities she would suggest for the congress surplus: she said the local lifeboat organisation, not the RNLI.

CS taking trophies to engraver in the next couple of days so that they should be available for the AGM.

CS thanked the committee for their work over the last year and looks forward to seeing everyone at the AGM.

Notes of a meeting of the 'Restart' subcommittee held at the Parish Centre on Friday, 6 May at 2pm.

Present: Christopher Smith, Jill Connor, Peter Calder and Louis Moore.

Apologies: None

Start of Face to Face (F2F) Bridge this summer:

It was agreed by all that a recommendation be made to the committee that due the shortage of available Directors, F2F should not commence until Thursday, 23 June.

Also, that online bridge will be available on Tuesdays after June 23rd, and that, prior to that, it continues to be offered in the interim period on both Tuesdays and Thursdays. That master points would continue to be earned on the online bridge sessions, but not on the F2F sessions.

It was also recommended that each session should consist of 20 boards.

Risk Assessment: was then carried out by the committee and is contained in a separate document. In conducting this assessment, it was noted that the Government's guidance on transmission of the virus by touch has changed quite radically, and that much of the emphasis is now placed upon individual responsibility rather than corporate provision. This is reflected in the recommendations in the Risk Assessment.

The meeting concluded at 3.10pm.

Berwick Bridge Club Restart subcommittee risk assessment and recommendations for the reintroduction of Club members' Face to Face (F2F) playing during the summer period

1. Spreading of the virus by touch.

1.1. The venue

All hard surfaces in the hall and entrance to be thoroughly cleaned prior the arrival of players. **Action: Hall cleaner.**

1.2. In addition to the sanitisers already provided by the Parochial Church Council (PCC) at the Hall entrance and the toilets, a hand sanitiser will be placed on each table for the use of players. Frequent use of sanitisers by individuals to be encouraged. **Action: Director and helpers**

1.3. Coats to be placed on designated chairs within the hall.

~~1.4. Cash Handling (summer only) Players will be asked to bring the exact amount (£2.00) with them in cash and place the money in a designated bowl. At the end of the session the host will bag up the money and place it in the Club cupboard for eventual collection by the Treasurer. **Action: Host and Treasurer. [removed during committee meeting]**~~

1.5. Catering: the restart subcommittee recommends that no refreshments are provided by the club during the summer season.

1.6. Equipment: Bidding boxes. When pairs move, they should take their own bidding box with them, ensuring that the bottom fixing is secure. **Action: Individual players**

1.7. Equipment: Bridgmates. Should remain at the North position: North should enter the scores, show to East and verify.

(Given the present rotations of made-up boards and the intervals between matches, there is a minimal risk of any contamination being passed on via the above-mentioned equipment)

2. Spreading of the virus by droplets.

- 2.1. Tables should be positioned 9 feet (centre of table to centre of table) from each other in a grid formation. The maximum number of tables will be nine. **Action: Hall Cleaner (when setting up) and Director (to check and adjust is necessary).**
- 2.2. Members will be asked to be sensitive to social distancing with each other. When seated, players will be correctly socially distanced from each other (see 2.1.) **Action: Director and all players.**
- 2.3. Masks. A box of masks will be available at the entrance to the hall for those who wish to wear them, and who have not brought their own mask with them. **Action: Director and Players.**
- 2.4. Ventilation. The main doors leading into the hall should remain open. The air extractor in the kitchen should always be switched on, the doors of the kitchen serving area leading into the hall should be opened, and one of the Hall windows should be open for as long as players are on the premises. A window lock key should be provided for the Director by the PCC. **Action: PCC and Director.**

3. Personal responsibility

- 3.1. Symptoms: **updated during committee meeting** All members should be aware that if they suspect that they are ill then they should not come to the club.

6 May 2022