

Minutes of the Berwick Bridge Club Committee meeting held at 5pm Monday, 6 June 2023 online on Google Meet

Status: Approved ▾

Present:	Peter Calder (PC)	President
	Paul Gipson (PG)	Honorary Secretary
	Tony Reed-Jones (TRJ)	Honorary Treasurer
	Peter Bistram (PB)	Committee member
	Nigel Marlow (NM)	Committee member
	Perry Vassie (PV)	Committee member

Apologies: Louis Moore, Chris Orchard, Kitty Home Robertson, Linda Warcup

President's welcome

PC welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Minutes of last meeting and matters arising

The minutes of the last meeting were approved unanimously.

BABC tournaments

The BABC Border Teams was run very smoothly by Louis and won by the Kelso team. Although it was disappointing that only six teams entered, PC commented that the event went well and was enjoyed by all; it was a good venue at the golf club; and that the tea was excellent.

Matters arising from the AGM

Monday afternoon bridge

There was a long discussion on how Monday afternoon bridge should be run. PV liked the term "chatty bridge" to describe the informality that we should aspire to in the afternoon sessions.

The Monday afternoon session should be seen as the winter successor to Thursday summer bridge. PG confirmed that 2:30pm was the earliest that the Parish Centre was available. The format will be left to the individual directors but, at least initially, it will use pre-dealt boards and the afternoons will be scored: one reason for this is that cashless table money depends on the results being loaded onto Pianola.

However the committee is keen that Monday afternoons are a relaxed environment and we'll set up a host system similar to summer Thursdays.

2023-24 calendar

The debate about the calendar for next season revolved around the possibility of changing the evenings of two events. Attendance for the Grindon Trophy at the Parish Centre had been disappointing and would it help if it were moved online?

The committee decided that the arguments to move the event were insufficiently convincing to go against the general will of the AGM that the status quo is preserved.

NM asked about possible hybrid events. PG explained that it was not a technology problem and we had run an event last year (10 November 2022, the Children in Need pairs). But generally the worry was that we would not have sufficient tables online and face-to-face to make both viable. For example, you would not want just two tables at the Parish Centre, where each pair plays seven boards against every other pair, when two-board rounds were the norm online. You would also like balanced fields at each venue.

The idea of a match between an online team and a face-to-face team floundered on finding a suitable venue.

PG will draft the new calendar when the SBU calendar (with the Sim Pairs dates) is made available and distribute it to the committee for comment.

AOCB

PB asked about teaching in the future and offered to help with speaking to the U3A about any future projects. PG will put teaching on the agenda for the next meeting.

The meeting closed at 5.45pm.

The next meeting will be on Wednesday, 26 July 2023 at 5pm on Google Meet.