

## **Berwick Bridge Club**

### **Minutes of AGM held 15<sup>th</sup> May 2014**

#### **Present**

President Gerald Sandwith & 37 members

Apologies received from: Tony Houghton, Jane Davey, Louis & Dorothy Moore, Colin Edney, Paul Gipson, Jo Rowell, Peter & Cathy Ross, Janet Beattie, George Martin, Marjorie Mc Donald, Gary Ellis  
Ian Mc Creath.

The minutes from the last AGM were read and approved

#### **Presidents Report.**

Thanks to all who had assisted with running of club.

#### **Treasurers Report**

Membership stood at 81 this year with one associate member. The club had a surplus of £750 this year having purchased a new computer. The treasurer proposed that subscriptions and table money should remain unchanged.

#### **Competition Secretary's Report**

All went well with exception of Lindsay. This can be easily run if entries restricted to 28 but over 40 had signed up to participate this year, making it more difficult to run.

Pro Am. 2 winners as aggregate competition, Some uncertainty as to how popular it is – several pairs did not keep to 'Pro Am' format.

We play in 5 different SIm events – Is this too many?

Match Points are now automated for weekly results . Bonus points for winning competitions Sims and congress points still have to be done manually at present. .

#### **Team Captain Reports**

Reg Drysdale for the A team

Christine Mc Creath for the Bears.

Both teams have been demoted .

Thanks were extended to the team captains.

#### **Office Bearers for forthcoming season**

President Jean Mole

Past President Gerald Sandwith

**Hon Secretary** Trish Frew

**Hon Treasurer** Jane Smithson

**Competition Secretary** Louis Moore

**Committee Members** Marilyn Hodgeson & Perry Vassie

#### **Appointment of Auditors**

GWA unanimously reappointed.

#### **Handicap System Operation**

Handicap secretary Morven Stone gave an explanation of how the handicap system operates. This involves recording the position of each player after every handicapped session on a Thursday on a spread sheet and working out their average for the season and adjusting handicap accordingly. She explained that one of the difficulties was knowing what handicap to give to new members joining the club. She proposed that a sub committee be formed to meet half way through the season and check that these had been allocated reasonably accurately. This was carried. With members of sub committee being Handicap Secretary, Terry Harris (formulator of system) plus Competition Secretary.

#### **Online Partner Finding Facility**

John Smithson explained that the main advantage of this would be relieving the partnership secretary. Disadvantages were that those looking for partners would have to accept to play with whoever offers to play with them.

#### **AOCB**

Terry Harris and Marilyn Hodgeson raised the scoring of the Royal Bank Competition which has been percentage based since 2008. This was changed originally as the scores did not reflect the number of tables playing in each session. He proposed a points system whereby the winners would get points according to the number of pairs playing. This was seconded by Brian Thomas. A show of hands carried the proposal.

Terry Harris also proposed that the limited benefit/penalty score of a doubled contract should be dropped. It was agreed that this should be retained on a Thursday so that less experienced partnerships were not excessively penalised.

Nicola Corbyn requested that an explanation should be given to beginners regarding the different scoring systems. She would also appreciate an explanation of bridge rules and etiquette.

Christopher Smith proposed that broader etiquette and table manners could be improved within the club.

The meeting closed with a special vote of thanks to Reg and Diana Drysdale who are moving after having been involved with the club for 20 years, during which time they have done a tremendous amount of work on the clubs behalf.

## Berwick Bridge Club AGM 15th May 2014

Thank you everyone for allowing me to be your President over the past two years.

Jean our long term Treasurer and Vice President will be taking over as President.

May I also thank Trish Frew who took over as Secretary last year and hopefully will continue for a number years in the post as well as Jane Smithson as Treasurer. It is important to keep a steady ship.

I have a number of specific people to thank for their unseen duties  
Margurite for dealing with the Newspaper Reports every week.  
Diana Drysdale for keeping the Directors in order, organising the various Competitions, making sure that the Bridge Mates are kept in order and dealing with Computer matters.

We had some success nationally with Colin Edney and Alan French being third in the Scottish Sim Pairs and George Martin and Brian Thomas reaching the National Pairs Final.

Unfortunately, our Teams did not have a successful year.

I would like to thank all the Committee for their work behind the scenes.

Thank you all for allowing me to be your President over the past two years.

Now is the time for the Presentation of Trophies etc and the incoming President would like to say a few words.

## Competition Secretary Report 2104

All went OK, except Lindsay - OK with exactly 28 players, but entry now circa 40. V difficult to run.

Pro – am – two winners as aggregate. Not sure how popular it is – several pairs did not keep to format, pro/pro or am/am. One of last years winners both ams. Need to decide if to be continued.

Played in 5 different Sims – perhaps too many?

MPs – now automated for weekly results as those who have registered for MEMPAD will know. Bonus points for comps, Sims, and congress points still printed slips, though these will eventually also be automated. So, look in blue box.

Thanks

To John, who has been collating all the competition results and keeping them updated on the website. He has now taken over the job of webmaster.

Also to Christopher, who has collected all the trophies and arranged for them to be engraved.

Also to Louis, who has helped with the comp secy job, and is taking over that role, plus the MP secy job.

Also to Terry, for making up the boards.

Also to all new club directors, who are now fully competent after each running a comp for a year, and to all the budding BM operators.

## 'A' Report Team 2013/14

I have a number of points I would like to make.....Without this (my paperwork) I would be sure to miss some of them, hence the written report which I shall read to you and then give to Trish for her club records..

The A team have had a disappointing season finishing 9<sup>th</sup> in the 1<sup>st</sup> Division of 10 teams.

AS an introduction to this report I would like to point out that it is probably true to say the A team has been in decline for a number of years. There are a number of reasons for this ....

1 We miss a number of strong players who played in the team for many years....we have lost Robin Pearson and David & Mary Calder. Eileen Carmichael and Pam Mackie have moved away from Berwick and Alan, Colin and Terry have reached a stage after about 30 years of travelling to and from Haddington, of just enough league bridge. This has obviously depleted our pool of good players.

Their replacements from a successful B team who almost reached D2 have coped well but have had difficulty getting to their standard.

Unfortunately we have not had Bear's team players moving to the A team over the past 10 years....this needs to be rectified.

2. Most players in the team do not like my management style.

As you know I took over the captaincy for 1 year after 2 years with Helen and I at least kept the team from going out of existence..... after about 30 years in the Eastern District leagues . My policy of trying to play the "strongest" team for all matches has not been successful and has left players, such as Gary & Sandy rightly disillusioned....looking back I think it would have been better to give everyone an equal number of games.

This year, we have not gelled as a team which is so important if we are going to be successful....most players have spent too much time "looking over their shoulders" to satisfy themselves they are doing better than their team mates....in any team not all players are of equal ability and it is important the stronger pairs score well to help the other pairs who may not be able to play as well. The play of the opponents also has an effect on this.

3. ED Leagues

Div.1 is made up of 10 teams, 6 of whom are not going to be demoted and one out of 3 of these 6 is going to win the league. The remaining 4, which included Berwick, are trying to avoid the bottom 2 places and relegation.

I suggested reorganisation of the leagues while on the ED committee some years ago so that we had a Premier Division of 6 teams and 5 other divisions of 9 teams....this would eliminate meaningless matches and increase the competitiveness of each league and generally improve the standard of team bridge in the eastern District. Nothing was done and it needs more than ever to be addressed.

We turned down the chance of being an "open" team and competing with these 6.

4. Now, on the bright side.

The change to Dunbar as our main home venue on Monday evenings has been very successful.

My thanks go to everyone who played and especially to George & Ros who have played for many years and are now stepping down but kind enough to help out next year if required.

It is important to the Berwick club to have 2 teams in the ED leagues.

This feels like a new start.... We have a new captain, Jean, who with Brian's help has gathered together a more committed team and I look forward to playing with them. I wish them well for next season.

Reg Drysdale 16/5/14

**Berwick upon Tweed Bridge Club**  
**Congress Accounts for Year ended 20<sup>th</sup> May 2014**

<u>Income</u>		
2013		2014
£		£
2,332	Entry plus Meals	<del>2,317</del> 2,302
77	Soup	0
<u>2,409</u>		
<b>2,409</b>		<b>2,302.00</b>
<u>Expenditure</u>		
320	Room Hire	320.00
1,125	Cost of Meals incl. Soup	990.00
100	Director's fee	110.00
350	Prize Money	350.00
65	Gratuities	70.00
55	Licence & Master Points	50.40
78	Printing, Post, Stationery	73.47
15	Engraving	10.00
	B mate hire	54.00
<b>2,108</b>		<b>2,027.87</b>
<b>301</b>	Surplus	<b>274.13</b>
544	Opening Balance	545.00
-300	Charity Donation	
<b>545</b>	<b>Closing Balance</b>	<b>819.13</b>

**BERWICK UPON TWEED BRIDGE CLUB**

**INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 15 APRIL, 2014**

<u>2013</u>	<u>Income</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>Expenditure</u>	<u>2014</u>
528	Subscriptions	570	2,245	Room Hire	2,634
5,680	Table Money	5,559	611	Prizes and Engraving	603
12	Bank Interest	31	825	Master Points and Affiliation Fees	1,237
50	Sundries	191	3,373	Equipment Purchases	458
-	Party Money	-	369	Postage and Stationery	231
6,188	Transfer from Yorkshire Building Society	-	306	Party Expenses and refreshments	142
			1,054	Sundries	395
<u>12,458</u>	<b><u>Balance B/Fwd - Royal Bank of Scotland</u></b>	<u>6,351</u>	<u>8,783</u>		<u>5,700</u>
<u>3,758</u>		<u>7,433</u>	<u>7,433</u>	<b><u>Balance C/Fwd - Royal Bank of Scotland</u></b>	<u>8,084</u>
<u>16,216</u>		<u>13,784</u>	<u>16,216</u>		<u>13,784</u>

**RESERVE ACCOUNT - YORKSHIRE BUILDING SOCIETY**

6,086	<b><u>Balance Brought Forward</u></b>	-	<b><u>Balance Carried Forward</u></b>
102	Interest	-	Transfer to RBS Account
		6,188	
<u>6,188</u>		<u>6,188</u>	

We have prepared the financial statements dated 15 April, 2014 from your books, accounts, vouchers and information and explanations given to us and the above is in accordance therewith.

25 APRIL 2014

GREAVES WEST & AYRE  
 CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS  
 BERWICK UPON TWEED