

London Business Houses Contract Bridge Association

Minutes of AGM

held online at 6.00pm on 8th September 2021

1. Introduction by the Chair

The Chair welcomed those present for the Association's AGM. Mark Hutton explained the technical details of how the online meeting would work and the Chair thanked him for organising it. She also thanked him for organising the virtual committee meetings on TEAMS as well as organising (and winning!) the friendly Summer League.

For the first time in the LBHCBA history all matches, both league and KOs, were played within the allotted time. Moreover, there had been no complaints and she congratulated all teams on this and hoped it would continue.

She said that during lockdowns the Committee had worked very hard on some overdue structural changes: a revision of the Rules and Regulations as a constitution, and an updating of the Privacy Rules. She particularly thanked Chris Chambers, Mark Hutton and Andrew Kiesel for their able and unstinting work on this.

A survey had been taken whether we should go back to play f2f or continue online and the conclusion was that the Captains are free to choose; should they disagree the default is online on BBO. Like last year, no Undos and no kibitzers if the match is played online.

During last year we had lost a couple of teams whose players then joined another team from the same house. She welcomed the one new team: Nuthurst, who brought the total to a round 30, divided equally over 5 division. The Captains would have received all relevant information before this AGM.

The Chair concluded by saying that this would be her last report as she was relinquishing the Chair. She thanked everyone for their support and hoped they would welcome and support her successor.

2. Apologies for absence

Apologies had been received from Philip Watson and on behalf of Arlette Schenken who was unwell.

3. Minutes of 2020 AGM

The minutes of the 2020 AGM were agreed as an accurate record.

4. Matters arising

There were none.

5. Adoption of Revised Constitution and Privacy Policy

Andrew Kisiel (AK) introduced this item by saying that the intention had been to align the constitution with what happened in practice. For example, that clubs not individual players formed the membership and a streamlining of the number of officers and many points of detail such as changing the year end from the end of July to the end of August. More had been included about problems which arose at the table.

Audrey Hartley commented that the Committee had tried to follow EBU recommendations, but the status of the league did not equate easily to either a club or a county.

In response to questions, it was explained that teams which were not part of a formally established club were treated as a club for the purposes of the constitution and that the by-laws relating to the conduct of matches had not yet been revised so stood as on the website.

AK said that the privacy policy had been put in place to cover data held by the Association to comply with GDPR requirements. The Committee did not wish to keep unnecessary information and saw no need to keep personal data beyond two years.

Laura Birnhak commented that the UK Regulations had been updated in 2020 and this should be referenced in the policy.

In response to questions, it was explained that in practice the personal data held was mostly emails and that results of matches from earlier seasons were not personal data. The focus of the data retained was that which was required to organise matches such as email addresses and phone numbers to which captains and vice-captains had given consent.

There were no objections to the draft constitution and privacy policy and they were approved nem. con.

6. Trophy winners and presentation of Accounts

The Treasurer, Peter Cogliatti (PC) announced that the 2020/21 one trophy winners were as follows

Division 1	Civil Service	Division 4	Formtex
Division 2	Buttons "B"	Division 5	Lords and Ladies
Division 3	Balliol Alumni	Division 6	RAC Bristol
Leslie Dodds Cup	Civil Service		
Gainsborough Plate	Lavender Blue		

Surdoc Trophy	White Rabbits
Selfridges Pairs	Stuart Leigh and Jimmy Strauss
2021 Summer Handicap	KPMG

The Summer handicap had gone well and it was hoped to run it again in 2022.

PC then presented the draft accounts. Because of the Covid 19 restrictions these had not been formally signed off, but Mike Bull the Auditor had confirmed that he was content with the headline figures which showed a small surplus. There might be some additional expenditure of \$10 per team to play on BBO but advice from BBO EBU was being sought on whether this applied.

He was encountering problems with HSBC so it might be necessary to switch the account to another bank.

7. Election of Officers and Committee members

Following the adoption of the new constitution and the resignation of the Chair, the Committee had proposed the following for election as officers and as members of the Committee. No other nominations had been received. Audrey Hartley had indicated her intention to stand down from the Committee at the AGM and the Chair thanked her for her valuable participation.

Chair:	Mark Hutton
Hon Secretary:	Peter Wagon
Hon Treasurer:	Peter Cogliatti
Committee members:	Chris Chambers, Phillip Watson, Andrew Kisiel

The Committee was elected as proposed.

8. Appointment of Auditor

PC understood that Mike Bull was willing to continue as auditor and his reappointment was confirmed.

9. Playing protocol for new season

The protocols referred to in the Chair's report would be added to the website. Teams were reminded to give priority to Cup matches but to play at least three League matches by 31st December.

10. Any Other Business

There was none