

Avon Contract Bridge Association

Minutes of Annual General Meeting held on

Sunday 9th June 2013, 5pm at Bristol Bridge Club

1. Those Present

Andrew Urbanski, Robert Glass, Nelson Stephens, Sue O'Hara, Larry Bennett, Stuart King, Mike Short, Suzy Lawson, Mike Elliott and players participating in the Handicapped Pairs event.

2. Minutes of previous AGM

These were agreed as accurate and complete.

3. Chairman's Report (Andrew Urbanski)

The introduction of a new competition for 'Non-Expert Pairs' was announced. This will take place on Monday 14th October 2013 at Bristol BC for the Belmont Cup. Anyone ranked below Regional Master (fewer than 25 green points) can participate in this event.

4. Treasurer's Report (Mike Short)

The County made a profit of £1700 this year. Revenue and costs were slightly down on 2012 due to Avon not going as far in competitions. The engraving costs from 2011-2012 were billed in 2012-2013.

5. Tournament Secretary's Report (Robert Glass)

Our combined Wilts & Avon green-point event held at Bath University in March was well attended, and we were virtually packed to maximum capacity. ACBA events held on club evenings have also proved popular, such as the Mens' and Ladies' Pairs and Mixed Pairs. We are considering moving more of our events to weekday evenings based on this trend as we are keen to get more club players involved in our competitions.

The trial of selected Wednesdays for County league nights was almost exclusively supported by teams in League III and the No Fear League. Teams in the higher leagues did not support these nights, mainly due to the fact that Wednesdays proved difficult for them to arrange matches.

Going forward, in the League for 2013-14 we will be implementing "default dates" for matches, where we will try to choose days of the week that teams like to play their matches (and avoid choosing dates where other key competitions are being held, such as the Premier Pairs).

6. Western League Report (Nelson Stephens)

Avon won the 'A' Division. Following a very tight end to the season, Avon finished 5th in the 'B' Division, only 10 VPs behind the winners. Valuable experience was gained by all those who played for Avon in the 'C' Division, with some good results along the way, but unfortunately not enough to be competing for the title.

7. Youth Officer's Report (Stuart King)

The University Bridge Club is still going, with new members joining. Unfortunately, the tournament that was to be held had to be cancelled due to lack of attendance. Workshops for the next academic year are currently being discussed.

8. Election of Committee

The current Committee were again re-elected, with everyone remaining in their current roles. Jan Duncan was also elected to the Committee with a non-specific role.

9. AOB

Mike Letts proposed that the Avon players playing in the EBU Tollemache Cup should play in some kind of tougher competition (possibly among themselves) in preparation for this event. Andrew Urbanski said that the Committee would discuss it at their next meeting and if anyone had any suggestions then they should put them forward to the Tournament Secretary (Robert Glass).

Mike Elliott offered to run sessions and help out at the University.

10. Presentation of Trophies

The winners of ACBA competitions for 2012-13 were presented with their trophies (where present) by the ACBA Chairman.