

Cambs. and Hunts. Contract Bridge Association

Management Committee Meeting

Date:- Thursday November 12th 2020

Time:- 7.30pm

Venue:- virtual meeting on Zoom for 45 mins

1. Officers and Delegates present

Adam Bowden (Chair), Peter Last (Treasurer), Penny Riley (Secretary),
Jenny Jacobsberg (ECL Captain), Graham Hazel (Competitions Organiser),
Brian Hope (Peterborough BC), Fred Jacobsberg (Blinco BC),
Colin Sills (Website manager)

2. Apologies

Peter Grice (Tournament Director and Cambridge BC), (Penny read out his report)
David Man (Competitions Organiser and Thursday BC), (Penny read out his report)
Joanne Caldwell (ECL Captain and Thursday BC),

3. Previous Minutes

(see County website www.cambsbridge.org 15.06.2020)

Approved. Proposed by: Peter Last Seconded by: Brian Hope
(To be signed later by Adam)

4. Matters Arising

- a) **Peter G.** to set up a virtual bridge club with EBU and BBO to start on July 1st2020. **Done**
- b) **Penny R.** to inform all C&H members about this virtual County club. **Done**
- c) **Colin Sills** to upload photos of County Trophies to the County website. **(He will do it before the next AGM in 2021)**
- d) **Jenny J.** to send the County League Trophy to Peterborough when possible. **(She will drop it off on route to Scotland sometime)**

5. Reports from Officers

i) **Chair:** Adam Bowden

Adam said that Covid 19 restrictions had affected Bridge Clubs and would continue to do so for some time.

He reported that the EBU had conducted a survey to find out if clubs thought there was a better alternative to P2P for UM, e.g. paying per board. The result was 80% in favour of maintaining the price per session, so no change will happen for 21/22

He announced that Penny would be leaving at Xmas and thanked her for her work as Secretary. Jenny mentioned that Roger Courtney might be interested in taking on the role.

ii) **Secretary and Membership:** Penny Riley

1. Currently bridge clubs cannot meet due to the pandemic. Several vaccines may be available by spring 2021, so clubs may be able to reopen early next year.

2. During Lockdown many CAH clubs have organised bridge games on-line, from friendly fours to duplicate sessions. Either free short ones up to 14 boards, or longer ones of 18+ boards using Bridge Base On-line (BBO), which cost \$3.00 per session. Players from all clubs in the County can also play in the **CAH Virtual Club** on BBO on Wednesday evenings. This was set up to provide a session for those players whose club had not been able to arrange their own club sessions. Peter Grice has been directing.

3. She has drawn up a list of bridge teachers in CAH which can be found on the website under 'Play bridge'

4. She reported that there are 842 members registered with CAH. She sends information to club secretaries and directly to members. Those not wishing to receive County messages can opt out themselves or by contacting her.

5. A Charity Pairs Event on-line in memory of David Carmichael who died in August was organised by Terry Otterman and Vic Morris from CBC. This raised £1275 for the Arthur Rank Hospice. David was a keen bridge player and played both in the USA and UK. He was always happy to help others and held the office of Treasurer for CBC, and later Secretary for the County, in the early 2000s.

6. So far, nobody has volunteered to take over the role of Secretary but Penny will ask Roger Courtney.

iii) **Treasurer:** Peter Last

Peter reported that CAH currently has £3,620 and that costs have been minimal during the Covid pandemic. (See copy attached)

iv) **Competitions Organisers:** David Man and Graham Hazel

David reported that the CAH Teams League has been established with the EBU on-line and all teams apart from Uni 2 have played several matches.

Graham reported that 13 teams have entered the County KO and he will set it up on the EBU site soon. Teams who wish to use his RealBridge program should contact him.

v) **Tournament Director:** Peter Grice

The virtual county games started in July with 5-8 tables, and higher for Sims events. We host players from around the county and get enquiries from beyond that. Most games result in some income though the Sims tend to just break-even. Peter has been involved in starting a couple of clubs running online games through simple consultation or

training. He believes online bridge will continue for some time yet and that CAH should not plan face-to-face bridge events until 2021 at the earliest. Our County games provide a way for members of smaller clubs to try out the online game before a larger commitment is made. The use of alternative (to BBO) platforms should be given serious consideration. Comments about particular events to be discussed later.

vi) **ECL Captains:** Jenny Jacobsberg and Joanne Caldwell

No matches have been held since March, due to Covid 19, and the league has been cancelled for the current season.

vii) **Website Officer:** Colin Sills

He promised to update the 'competitions results' with help from others and to add photos of trophies to the website before AGM 2021.

6. Topics for Discussion

i) **County Competitions** e.g. Swiss Pairs, County Pairs, Individual, Teams' League, Teams' KO, ECL matches and Garden Cities Qualifier.

Peter G's report included the following: Plans to run larger scale events – e.g. green point **Swiss Pairs** – would be possible but we do not have the resources to promote the events extensively enough to ensure their success. Peter L. said that the event was normally blue-pointed for about 24 pairs. It was agreed to run this as planned in April. Peter L. and Penny will organise it on a date when a director is available.

County Individual could be run as direct entry – but clubs may not be willing or able to run heats. Graham said there was no movement currently available for Individual events on-line so it will not go ahead.

County Teams should give us an entrant for Pachabo 2021. Graham is currently organising the Teams KO.

County Pairs could be run in two sessions. A qualifier and then a final for the Corwen was suggested by Graham and agreed.

Team of 8 for Garden Cities may be more problematic. Peter G. suggested that teams-of-8 could be done on Real Bridge and it would be an option to keep the planned date for this and run our Garden Cities Qualifier on Real Bridge. Neither Peter G. nor Graham knew what the EBU plans were for the 2021 version of this competition. Peter L. agreed to cancel the booking at Girton Pavillion for this event.

ii) **CAH Virtual Club** reported by Peter G. in 5 para v. will continue.

iii) **AGM 2021** If we can meet face-to-face next May or June, Gordon Scott, the Chair of Lines in Saffron Walden, has agreed to allow us to hold the AGM at their club.

7. A.O.B

None. The meeting concluded at 8.10pm.

8. **Date for next Meeting** Friday April 16th 2021 by Zoom at 7.30pm

Penny Riley 17.11.2020