

Minutes of the 84th Annual General Meeting held in the Mayfield Centre, Stirling on Tuesday, 29th May 2018

Council	Ian Hunter	President	Present
	Eddie McGeough	President Elect	Present
District Chairmen			
	D Wiseman	Chairman of Ayrshire District	Present
	D French	Chairman of Central District	Present
	E M ^c Gowan	Chairman of East District	Present
	T Wickens	Chairman of Highland District	Present
	A Coles	Chairman of North District	Present
	D Shamash	Chairman of South District	Absent
	P Hodgson	Chairman of West District	Absent
	A Sloane	Secretary	Present
	G Plant	Treasurer	Present

In attendance: M Rennie, A Wickens, F Abbott, J Mathieson, P Mathieson, A Perkins, J Forsyth, D Liggat, R Moodie, I Taylor, W Whyte, M Ash, I Hunter, L Findlay, H Smith, K Stewart, S Geddes, A Stewart, P Edmond, A Philip

1. Notice of Meeting

The Secretary read out the Notice of Meeting.

2. Apologies

Apologies were accepted from members: P Hodgson, F McQuaker, F Greenwood, A Wilson, A Kennedy, D Munro, J Cunningham, B Campbell, J Hay

3. Minutes of 82nd Annual General Meeting and Matters Arising

Adoption of the Minute of the 83rd Annual General Meeting was proposed by A Perkins, seconded by T Wickens and passed *nem. con.*

4. President's Report

The President, Ian Hunter welcomed those present and read his report. The report is detailed in full at the end of the Minute. He particularly wished to thank members of Council, past and present, for their support during his Presidency.

He also thanked Mrs Liz McGowan for her work as magazine editor.

5. Treasurer's Report – G Plant

The accounts to 31st August 2017 show a surplus of for the year of £19,087

The Treasurer told the meeting that this was very close to the budget set by Fiona Greenwood.



He said that income has risen due to events being advertised on the website and regular emails being sent to members.

Adoption of the Accounts was proposed by D Liggat, seconded by I Taylor and passed *nem. con.*

6. Annual Subscriptions

Council proposed that the annual subscriptions for Individual Membership for 2019/20 should be as follows:

(i) Affiliated Club annual subscription	= zero
(ii) Ordinary member subscription (via an affiliated club)	= £10
(iii) Direct member subscription	= £13

It was noted that currently Direct Members receive the magazine "SB News" free of charge, and that this will cease.

There followed a short discussion during which George Plant and William Whyte outlined the rationale behind the proposals.

Following the discussion, the proposal was passed *nem.con.*

7. Changes to the Constitution proposed by Council

The President explained the rationale behind the proposed changes.

After a short discussion the proposed changes were passed by a majority vote.

8. Presentation of Trophies

Trophies were presented by the President.

9. Any Other Competent Business

Dress Code at Congresses

David Liggat commented that the standard of dress appeared to be slipping. The meeting noted Mr Liggat's comments which will be passed to the Congress Convenor.

BGB Representation

Mike Ash, who is the current SBU representative on the BGB, reported that that the BGB have reduced the annual fee from £600 to £400.

10. Election of Office Bearers – 2017/18

1. President	E McGeough	Proposed by SBU Council
2. Past President –	I Hunter	Proposed by SBU Council
3. Secretary	A Sloane	Proposed by SBU Council
4. Treasurer	G Plant	Proposed by SBU Council

11. Election of Auditor

MacKenzie Kerr , Chartered Accountants

Proposed by SBU Council



12. Noting the seven Vice-Presidents, being the Chairmen of the seven Districts

These nominations were accepted by the meeting *nem.con*.

Eddie McGeough addressed the meeting and said that it was an honour to be elected President by the membership. He said that he will take his responsibilities seriously and thanked Ian Hunter for his work over the past two years which was made more stressful by health issues and moving to a new house.

The meeting closed at 8 pm



Item 8 - Presentation of Trophies

APPENDIX C: Presentation of Trophies

Team Events	
Scottish Cup – Daily Record Trophy	Derek Sanders Tim Rees Samantha Punch Stephen Peterkin
Scottish Cup Plate – W M Clow Trophy	Jim Hay Andy Philip Abigail Wilson Jake Milne
Gold Cup Plate – Marion Hill Trophy	Stuart Thomson Nicol Taylor David Richie Kevin Strathern
Edward Rayne Trophy	Mike Ash Alan Goodman Brian Short Les Steel
National Swiss Teams – Edwin Berry Bowl	Iain Sime John Matheson John Murdoch Patrick Home
Men's Teams – Benny Dexter Trophy	Martin Diamond Norman Levitt David Shenkin Alistair Gordon
Women's Teams – Glasgow Bulletin Trophy	Beryl Campbell Joan Forsyth Helen Taylor Christine Walker
Women's Teams – Beatrice Craig Trophy	Liz McGowan Fiona McQuaker Sheila Macdonald Maida Grant
National Mixed Teams – Helen Walton Trophy	Rona Moss Peter Moss George Plant Veronica Guy
Winter Fours – BBL Cup	Mike Ash Chris Chambers Paul Gipson Alex Gipson
Winter Swiss Teams – Peploe Trophy	Liam O'Brian Ronan Valentine Gints Freimanis Stewart Pinkerton
Bronze Teams -Thea Teale	Kate Stewart Alan Stewart Susan Geddes Harry Archibald



Scottish Mixed Schools – Abbott Salver	Aberdeen and Ayrshire Juniors
Schools Teams Championships – Scotsman Cup	Hutchesons’ Grammar School Team – Brute Force
Schools Minibridge Championship	Scott Hutcheson
National League – Division 1- Matheson Trophy	Brian Short Alan Goodman Samantha Punch Stephen Peterkin
National League – Division 2 – Alexander Trophy	Nigel Guthrie Jim Forsyth Jim McMenemy Paul Maiolani Tam Penman Mark Menzies
Individual Events	
Grandmaster Invitational – A L Benjamin Trophy	Jim Hay
Scottish, National, Life & Grandmaster – J Harrison Trophy	Andy Wilson
Master & Senior Master – Louis Shenkin Trophy	Peter Boni
District Master – A Fairlie Trophy	Tadeusz Janowski
Pairs Events	
National Pairs - Scotsman Trophy	Ron Moodie Robert Hunter
Men’s Pairs – Buchanan Cup	Robert Hunter Ron Moodie
Women’s Pairs – Cyril Breene Cup	Samantha Punch Abigail Wilson
Inter-District Pairs – Spence Cup	Not yet played
National Mixed Pairs – Ruby Martin Trophy	Stephen Peterkin Samantha Punch
Scottish Swiss Pairs – T N Culbertson Trophy	Not yet played
Magazine Subscriber Pairs – C B Farquharson Trophy	Alexander Duncan Robert McPaul
SBU Simultaneous Pairs – Lord Thomson Trophy	Ken Cole Gwen Cole
Simultaneous Mixed Pairs – Bobby Allan Trophy	Dougie Munro Isla Thom
Stirling Pairs	John Murdoch Iain Sime
Senior National Pairs – Diamond Trophy	Ian Taylor Robert Thomson
Junior National Pairs –Robert Frischmann Trophy	Glen Falconer Damien Murray
Easter Pairs	Andy Wilson Jean Armstrong
Autumn Pairs	Adelaide McPherson Patricia Davis
Grandmaster Pairs – Arthur Trophy	Iain Sime John Murdoch
Life & Senior Life Master Pairs – C D Bowman Trophy	Iain Taylor



	Andrew Symons
Scottish & National Master Pairs-Alan Fairlie Trophy	Alison Carmichael John Salter
Master & Senior Master Pairs – G D Jesner Trophy	Tadeusz Janowski Krzysztof Nguyen
District Master Pairs – Johnston Trophy	Glen Falconer Damien Murray
Club & Local Master Pairs – Hugh Kennedy Trophy	Carole McCartney Sheena Spence
Hugh Kelsey Trophy	Mary Foster Dotty Kennedy

Thea Teale National Bronze Pairs	Keith Clark Ishbel Clark
President's Prize	Julie Choudhury



President's Report

Good evening Ladies and Gentlemen and welcome to the 83rd Annual General Meeting of the SBU.

AGM Speech 2018 May

Good evening Ladies and Gentlemen and welcome to the 84th Annual General Meeting of the SBU.

There are some minor amendments to our constitution as advised in our agenda and I trust it will be approved. It has also been decided to stop charging fees to our member clubs, which, I am sure, will please our club treasurers. We had a problem with the men's pairs this year and a decision was made to refund the entry money.

The wrong movement was used resulting in us only playing 11 of the 24 pairs. Plus, the results were not available for checking by the players. Finally, all the results when published were allocated to the wrong pairs, which, with the help of many of the players took 3 days to finalise.

We also had problems with our ladies pairs and the competition, due to the collapse of the computer, was not properly graded for the matches in the swiss pairs.

Who says we are not an equal rights organization.

Unfortunately, we had to refund the entry money for both events and the SBU met all the overheads plus prizes were still awarded.

Richard Jarvis, one of our past Presidents and a strong supporter of our competitions, died in February and he will be sorely missed. Believe it or not the last hand he played was 7NT requiring a squeeze play.

We also lost Ian Morison who was one of our top players in the 70s and our second grand master.

In my second year as President, in connection with the European Bridge League, I have had the pleasure of visiting Belfast for three days of meetings.

Our ladies went on to represent us in China following their good result in the World Championship. In a very strong field of eight teams they were doing well but unfortunately fell away at the end due to exhaustion as they only had a team of four, however we did win the prize for the best played hand by Sam Punch.

Our ladies have once again triumphed in the Lady Milne winning by a narrow margin over England.

This has been followed up by our seniors winning the Senior Camrose comfortably with a match in hand.

The rest of our international performances were poorer.

Liz McGowan is still trying hard to reduce her workload but has continued on the temporary editorship of the magazine and is doing a great job. Still would appreciate someone else taking on the task.

Thanks are due to our TDs who are having a few problems in placing results on the web but provided there is a working wifi this will be improved. We are also going to increase our training but are waiting the results of a report we have commissioned to find the best way forward.

This year in an effort to improve our director's standards, we again had Fearghal give a training session in Edinburgh that was well attended by a number of our intending directors.

Currently investigations are under way by Alan Officer to make improvements to our web site, as currently it is not always easy to find what you are seeking. This will require funding but currently no figures are available.

Our national league continues as our most successful event. I am still appealing for more home-grown players in our congresses and we are trying out format changes as you will see in our July Congress brochure allowing you to play in the pairs on Saturday and teams on Sunday. Future weekends may also change please watch our SBU site.



Our overseas congress continues to grow in strength and as I predicted this was our largest turnout yet despite a number of our regulars not being able to make it but many new faces replaced them. All participants enjoyed this congress very well run by Duncan and Russell as our directors.

This coming year we go to Porec in Croatia, which I am sure you will enjoy. I look forward to seeing many of our members there.

I was invited to attend a dinner at St Leonards B C in Ayr celebrating being 75 years old. Very pleasant evening.

I attended the Scottish Swiss Pairs, which went very well, and the new premises were certainly spacious.

Our aims for education have been extended in the past year and a great deal of work has been put in by our education committee in designing new teaching courses. These courses are to differentiate between various categories of pupils. The education committee has also been involved in running and organizing mini bridge competitions plus other bronze events.

Another project linked to the education committee which is suitable for part of our EBL fund, is the bridge film "Double Dummy" which is designed to entertain and generate interest in learning bridge. This film will be shown on 3rd June in the MacRobert Filmhouse at Stirling University at 5.00 pm with an entry price of £5. Come along with a non-bridge-playing friend. Please.

What do the SBU do for our members?

We organise competitions and congresses (usually successfully) for all classes of players and employ the directors and scorers plus display the results on our web page.

- We train the directors and scorers from club level upwards.
- We assist clubs or players with movements when requested
- We have lessons available for club teachers to use.
- A body where any one teaching can obtain advice
- We organise our national teams' representation.

We also have public liability insurance covering any injury or damages caused by the bridge club members in any rented premises, which usually costs £75+.

Any non-affiliated club would not have the benefit of our free insurance cover. Nor can any non-member of the SBU play in any SBU or district competitions though members of affiliated bridge unions may play in some competitions. The only open competitions are the SBU congresses.

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Ian Hunter
President

