



# Scottish Bridge Union

## Report from President Sep 2013

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Report back from Council – September 2013

Following the summer break the Council had a big agenda for its latest meeting. The Executive Committee, including the chairs of our 5 committees, has discussed each committee's work plans for this year and beyond. These will now be agreed by Council so as to form a clear agenda for the future. We will publish these on the website and, as always, welcome comments.

Amongst the most important initiatives is one to get the many people who having been learning bridge involved in the Union. Initially we will trial this in one or two districts so if you are working with bridge students, please look out for details.

The full roll out of the new Mempad system is underway and the system is getting very good reviews. If you haven't yet logged on, can I strongly recommend that you do that and suggest that your club opens its link as soon as possible. We are also getting encouraging feedback about the new website and we are continuing to try to improve it. Please remember that you can enter events on-line.

Council was delighted to confirm the appointment of Joan Lees as our new Congress convener, taking over from Peter & Helena Cohen in January. It is a hard act to follow but we are all sure that she will do an excellent job. By the way, there are still places at the October Peebles Congress – if you haven't already done so, get your entry in now!

The new format National League started in early September and, with an entry of 16 teams, it was an undoubted success (not least because of the splendid hospitality of the Perth club). There are two more weekends before we know the winners. However, with 60 plus players involved, it shows that this kind of intensive high level bridge has an appeal to more than just the elite.

The Tournament Committee has set itself the daunting task of reviewing all of national events that we run and recommend which events might be changed or replaced. I know that the committee would welcome any suggestions. Either contact Ian Hunter or me.

Finally, but by no means least, the Council endorsed the initiative by the Laws & Ethics committee to promote Best Behaviour at Bridge. The committee is producing a series of posters and programme of monthly memo which will contain simple points that clubs can draw to the attention of players.

As the new season gets underway can I wish every member the best of luck in all events – as Gary Player said "The more I practice the luckier I get!". True in Bridge as well as Golf.