

Minutes of the 80th Annual General Meeting held in the Stirling & Union Bridge Club on Tuesday, 27th May 2014

Council	M Ash	President	Present
	M Alexander	Immediate Past President	Apology
District Chairmen			
	E McGeough	Chairman of Ayrshire District	Present
	J Hunter	Chairman of Central District	Present
	E M ^c Gowan	Chairman of East District	Present
	W P Richardson	Chairman of Highland District	Absent
	G Whyte	Chairman of North District	Present
	C Forbes	Chairman of South District	Apology
	R S Frame	Chairman of West District	Present
District Delegates			
	J Tudor	Delegate from Ayrshire District	Apology
	J Cooper	Delegate from Central District	Present
	A Perkins	Delegate from East District	Present
	F Greenwood	Delegate from East District	Apology
	W L Whyte	Delegate from East District	Present
	A Wickens	Delegate from Highland District	Present
	S Robins	Delegate from North District	Present
	C Brett	Delegate from South District	Absent
	J Lees	Delegate from West District	Present
	P Edmund	Delegate from West District	Apology
	S Male	Delegate from West District	Present
	P Hodgson	Delegate from West District	Present
	J Glen	Delegate from West District	Apology
	C Ferguson	Secretary	Present
	T Wickens	Treasurer	Present
	J Rixon	MP Secretary	Present

1. Notice of Meeting

The Secretary read out the Notice of Meeting.

2. Apologies

Apologies were accepted from individual members J Cunningham, E Anderson, P Gipson, H Gipson, K Dingwall, I Ellison, J Morrison, J Palmer, P Cairns, A Livingstone, J Murdoch, S Punch, S Peterkin, D Weir, T McKay, R Clow, F Abbott, D Piper.

3. Minutes of 79th Annual General Meeting and Matters Arising

Adoption of the Minute of the 79th Annual General Meeting was proposed by Mrs J Lees, seconded by D Liggat and passed *nem. con.*

4. President's Report

The President, Mr Michael Ash reported to the AGM as follows.

This is my final report as SBU President and I would like to start by thanking our membership for allowing me the great honour of leading my adopted country in a game that I have enjoyed for nearly 50 years. I am conscious that there remains much to do, but it has been a busy two years and I hope that members will agree that progress has been made.



The Council are very aware that the serious tournament players make up a minority of the membership and we have concentrated on providing appropriate services for the wider membership. Mempad – which is still developing – has been the highest profile initiative but the work of reviewing competitions, and in particular providing national events for improvers, has been an important addition to the programme. I am sure that this will be extended and combined with the commendable initiatives stemming from the Education Officer and those helping her. The Laws & Ethics group has put a lot of effort into promoting wider understanding of the rules and encouraging the recruitment and training of tournament directors and I know that clubs appreciate this.

Communicating with our members has always been a challenge and it remains so. However we have started to direct Councils attention to the need to improve and the new website, although still “work in progress” is much appreciated. It has been a great pleasure to see our international teams do well. The success of our junior teams augers well for the future and our Senior and Women teams have done us proud. In particular the achievement of the team that won a medal in Dublin and then did so well at Bali needs to be recognised.

I welcome my successor to the role and pass on the expectation of a fantastic Commonwealth Nations Championship. This will be the first major international ever held in Scotland and preparations are progressing exceptionally well.

May I finish by making a personal plea? Over my two years I have visited dozens of clubs and met hundreds of our members. Almost all have had constructive things to suggest but very few have been prepared to get involved – either with Council or their District. This is YOUR SBU and it will only flourish if more ordinary members are prepared to help. And those who are on Council must do their bit by being bold in managing the changes that are required by our members. I leave the Union in good hands and I am confident that these challenges will be tackled constructively.

Thank you again for giving me the opportunity to serve.

5. Treasurer’s Report – T Wickens

The Treasurer explained the differences from the previous year. The drop in income was almost entirely due to the Congress income. The increase in expenditure was due to the substantial development costs of Mempad, the hosting of the Lady Milne Trophy and the inclusion of Junior expenses. Honoraria had increased due to one off payments for additional work in Mempad.

The accounts were broadly speaking, in line with the budget with the exception of Mempad which had grown from £4k to £16k.

The congress manager acknowledged the general decline in congress attendance and was seeking feedback regarding cost and format.

Adoption of the Annual Accounts was proposed by W Whyte, seconded by H Smith and passed *nem. con.*

6. Annual Subscriptions

Council proposed that the annual subscriptions for 2015/16 should be:

- | | | |
|--------------------------|-----|--------------|
| 1. Club Levy | £12 | |
| 2. Individual Membership | £6 | [juniors £3] |
| 3. Direct Membership | £20 | |

The proposal to retain subscriptions at the current level was passed *nem.con.*

7. Motion to alter terms of the current Constitution

The President explained the background to this Motion and asked the proposer, Robert McKinnon, to go through each individual item. Mr McKinnon explained this in effect was a tidying up process to bring the Constitution into line with the current electronic age and provide the Council more flexibility in running the Union.

The wording of items 2, 7 and 8 were amended as follows.

2. The addition of a new Clause 5.4,

*“The Council may choose to appoint a President-designate who will act , **except as herein specified** as the President’s deputy until the next AGM, otherwise, the immediate Past President shall deputise for the President as required ”*

7. The deletion of the words “state the object of” in the second sentence of Clause 12.2 and the substitution therefor, the words “**propose a motion to be discussed by**”

8. The deletion of the first sentence of Clause 16.2 and the substitution therefor, the words

*“At the Council Meeting immediately following the Annual General Meeting, Council shall appoint an Executive Committee consisting of the President and **up to** six other members of Council to oversee the actions of the Union Officers.”*

The Motion was seconded by W Whyte and was passed *nem com.*



8 Motion re: Independent review of costs incurred to date.

The President explained that prior to the meeting he and R Frame had met with the proposer and seconder of this Motion. He said that the Council wished to propose an amendment to enable work in progress to be completed with a maximum spend of £5,000 .

He agreed that there should be an independent review . The independent person would report to the Executive by November before going to Council. The results of this review will be posted on the website.

Mr Lennon spoke of his concerns regarding the costs and quality of Mempad. Mr Whyte explained that phase 1 had overlapped with parts of phases 2 and 3 and that the specification had been insufficient. He advised that future costs of Mempad would be regular in order to meet the needs and expectations of the members.

Mr Lennon accepted the proposed amendment which was passed *nem con*.

9. Motion re: Minimum purchase of Master-point certificates by clubs.

The President asked that the Motion be withdrawn and the matter remitted to Council.

It was debated that there could be one transaction per annum based on a club's usage or a reduction to 50% of the current charge i.e. £110. This situation only arises among small clubs, a number of whom are still using paper certificates which are purchased in books of £22. It was noted that Mempad might have difficulty monitoring small purchases of masterpoint certificates.

H Smith, seconded by D Liggat proposed replacing "2014" with "2015". This was defeated after a vote.

Mr Robins was content that Council would deal with this matter expeditiously after the SBU agreed that they were willing to be flexible. The incoming President gave an assurance that a decision would be made by September 2014.

10. Presentation of Trophies

Trophies were presented by the President. The Lady Milne Trophy was presented to the NPC and the team members present.

11. Any Other Competent Business

D Liggat expressed his disappointment at the drop in numbers attending the individual events on the weekend prior. He asked the Tournament committee to consider changing the format to remove qualification.

12. Election of Office Bearers – 2014/15

1. President R Frame Proposed by SBU Council

Mr Frame thanked the membership for his election. He said that he saw his role to be one of "battening down the hatches" and consolidating the changes already started under the Presidency of Mr Ash.

2. Secretary Mrs C Ferguson Proposed by SBU Council

3. Treasurer T Wickens Proposed by SBU Council

4. Auditor MacKenzie Kerr Proposed by SBU Council

5. 7 Vice-Presidents Being the Chairmen of the seven Districts

6. 13 delegates As appointed by the Districts thus:

One each from Ayrshire, Central, Highland, North and South and three from East and five from West.

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

The meeting closed at 8.55pm



SBU TROPHY WINNERS – SEASON 2013/2014

Team Events

Scottish Cup – Daily Record Trophy
Scottish Cup Plate – W M Clow Trophy
Gold Cup Plate – Marion Hill Trophy
Edward Rayne Trophy
National Swiss Teams – Edwin Berry Bowl
Men's Teams – Benny Dexter Trophy
Women's Teams – Glasgow Bulletin Trophy
Women's Teams – Beatrice Craig Trophy
National Mixed Teams – Helen Walton Trophy
Winter Fours – BBL Cup
Winter Swiss Teams – Pelpoe Trophy
Schools Teams Championships – Scotsman Cup
Schools Minibridge Championship

John Matheson, Les Steel, Brian Short, David Walker
George Plant, Peter Moss, Tim McKay, Jake Corry
Harry Smith, Bob McPaul, Adrian Orłowski, Alex Adamson, Finlay Marshall
Finlay Marshall, Alex Adamson, Malcolm Cuthbertson, Douglas Piper
Iain Sime, John Matheson, Patrick Home, John Murdoch
Iain Sime, John Matheson, Brian Short, Alan Goodman
Sam Punch, Lix McGowan, Maida Grant, Sheila MacDonald
Veronica Guy, Lucia Barrett, Joan Lees, Michele Gladstone
Sam Punch, Stephen Peterkin, Liz McGowan, David Liggat
Les Steel, John Matheson, Alan Goodman, Brian Short
Robert Clow, Derrick Peden, Tim McKay, Nigel Wolfendale
Event takes place in June this year
Hutchie Alpha Team

Individual Events

Grandmaster Invitational – A L Benjamin Trophy
Scottish, National, Life & Grandmaster – J Harrison Trophy
Master & Senior Master – Louis Shenkin Trophy
District Master – A Fairlie Trophy

Douglas Piper
Sam Malkani
Maggie Payne
Nicol Taylor

Pairs Events

National Pairs
Men's Pairs – Buchanan Cup
Women's Pairs – Cyril Breene Cup
Inter-District Pairs – Spence Cup
National Mixed Pairs – Ruby Martin Trophy
Scottish Swiss Pairs – T N Culbertson Trophy
Magazine Subscriber Pairs – C B Farquharson Trophy
SBU Simultaneous Pairs – Lord Thomson Trophy
Simultaneous Mixed Pairs – Bobby Allan Trophy
Stirling Pairs
Senior National Pairs – Diamond Trophy
Junior National Pairs – Robert Frischmann Trophy
Easter Pairs
Autumn Pairs
Grandmaster Pairs – Arthur Trophy
Life & Senior Life Master Pairs – C D Bowman Trophy
Scottish & National Master Pairs – Alan Fairlie Trophy
Master & Senior Master Pairs – G D Jesner Trophy
District Master Pairs – Johnston Trophy
Club & Local Master Pairs – Hugh Kennedy Trophy
Hugh Kelsey Trophy

Peter Cairns, Jim McLaughlin
Roy Bennett, Harry Smith
Liz McGowan, Sam Punch
John Di Mambro, Hugh McCash
Liz McGowan, David Liggat
Iain Sime, John Matheson
Sam Punch, Stephen Peterkin
Eddie McGeough, Janice Thomson
Paul & Helen Gipson
David Weir, Douglas Mitchell
Harry Smith, Roy Bennett
Event takes place in June this year
Colin Melvin, Irene Bain
Nigel and Mary Lindsay
Harry Smith, Roy Bennett
Anne Perkins, Julia Palmer
Kevin Strathern, Stewart MacDonald
Andy Wilson, Jean Armstrong
Flo Sutherland, Elaine Slinn
Alexander Sutherland, Anne Young
Joan Urquhart, Margaret Thomson

Gourmet Pairs - Courtesy of Jim McMahon

Henry Lees, Ricky Serafini



SCOTTISH BRIDGE UNION

INCOME and EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT – YEAR to 31st MARCH 2014

<u>2013</u>	<u>INCOME</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>EXPENDITURE</u>	<u>2014</u>
41,214	Subscriptions	41,344	6,722	Brochures & newsletters	8,892
4,011	Interest & Sundry inc.	2,738	14,392	Officials & Council Exp.	16,735
12,958	Master Points	13,172	18,220	Honoraria	20,500
11,374	Competitions	12,584	8,307	WBF/ EBL fees	9,003
14,074	Congresses	7,504	479	Membership & Edu. Exps	285
			4,407	Camroses	4,384
			1,500	Lady Milne	7,113
			2,505	Junior Camrose	3,140
			-	Junior European costs	5,442
			3,666	Schools & juniors	2,804
			2,085	Insurance	2,067
			896	Equipment	942
			-	Website & Mepad	16,835
-----		-----	-----		-----
83,631		77,342	63,179		98,142
			10,440	European Reserve	
	- Deficit for the year	20,800	10,012	Surplus for the year	
-----		-----	-----		-----
83,631		98,142	83,631		98,142
=====		=====	=====		=====

EUROPEAN RESERVE MOVEMENT – YEAR to 31st MARCH 2014

12,324	Opening Balance	-	19,851	Europeans :	
10,218	British Sim Pairs	10,000	-	WBF	12,100
2,899	Celtic Sim Pairs	3,053	2,899	Transfer to Bali Fund	
-		-	13,130	Olympiad	
10,440	From General funds			Closing Balance	953
-----		-----	-----		-----
35,880		13,053	35,880		13,053
=====		=====	=====		=====

BALANCE SHEET as at 31st March 2014

<u>Liabilities</u>		<u>Assets</u>	
26,181	Sundry Creditors	28,314	1,000 Stocks- various
5,294	VAT	4,734	10,299 Sundry debtors
-	European Reserve	953	1,600 Floats
3,104	Junior Reserve	3,115	77,781 Bank balances
158,465	Capital account (158465-20800)	137,665	102,364 Deposits
-----		-----	-----
193,044		174,781	193,044
=====		=====	=====

The above Balance Sheet and Income and Expenditure Account are in agreement with the books and records of the Scottish Bridge Union at 31st March 2014 and show a true and fair view.

T Wickens – Treasurer

MacKenzie Kerr – Chartered Accountants

