

## MINUTES OF THE OBA MEETING ON 12 June 2008

### **PRESENT:**

John Slater	Chairman
Mary-Ann Sheehy	Secretary
Lynne Hayes	Treasurer
Stephen Brown	Chief Tournament Director
Geoff Nicholas	President/Chester/Wessex Secretary
Brenda Harris:	Publicity Secretary
Peter Baxter	EBU Shareholder
Maxine Henry	Membership Secretary
Alan Grunwald	Wantage/Tournament Secretary
Ian Van Maanen	Abingdon
Gordon Carroll	Abingdon
Sue Maxwell	Aylesbury Vale
Esme Alden	Oxford
John Briggs	Oxford
Sandra Nicholson	Summertown
Erica Sheppard	Summertown
Christopher Sheppard	Summertown
Norman Gascoyne	Wallingford

### **APOLOGIES:**

Nick Smith  
Alison Nicolson  
John Barlow  
Richard Sills  
Kathy Talbot  
Clive Keep  
Peggy Manuell

1. The Minutes of the previous meeting were approved.
2. Matters arising Seniors competition
  - a. It was agreed that again given that it is so well attended that for the moment the loss made was worth it.
  - b. Subscription collection  
The way the OBA collects its subscription will have to change after the EBU changes come in. How this will be done will be put on the agenda of the AGM next year

c. Premiership

This should be announced at the AGM. The reason it has not been is that there are still two events to play. However, from now on the competition will run from AGM to AGM.

3. Dates of Meetings for the coming year:

Monday 8 September

Thursday 27 November

Wednesday 25 March

Monday 15 June           AGM and OBA

The meeting on Wednesday 25 March may not take place at the OBC.

4. The Amit Badiani Cup

This has been lost for a second time. It was agreed that a cheap version should be bought to replace it for the time being, but that the OBA should aim to replace it properly within two years or so. Amit's family had donated the cup and it is right that we keep it to the same standard.

5. Wantage Club request for financial assistance in the purchase of a Bridgemate system.

The principle was discussed at length. It was agreed that very regrettably we cannot comply with Wantage's request because we it will set a precedent and the OBA would be obliged to behave equitably throughout the county. We simply do not have the funds to do so. A loan on the other hand might be negotiable.

6. September green pointed event.

It was agreed that if no organiser could be found (within two weeks) to run this event, it should be cancelled. It was also agreed that next year we should try to negotiate with the EBU that the Championship Pairs at the Congress should be Green pointed and therefore scrub the September Green pointed event.

7. Oxford Bridge Club rise in charges for room hire.

The OBC is raising the cost of room hire. The Treasurer proposed that in order to deal with this rise County events should in future charge £8.50 per player. After some discussion this was agreed.

8. AOB

Alan Grunwald raised the issue of delay in transferring Master Points to the EBU. Stephen apologise for the delay but reassured the meeting that the Master Points would be transferred soon and that in future it should be promptly done.

The lack of a ratified Constitution was raised. Some thought deferment until the new proposals are put in place would be a good idea. Others thought not. Efforts will be made to see where we are and what can be done.

John Slater proposes to set up a working group to work out: a list of priorities for spending OBA income; a formula for the payment of expenses for those representing the county.

Peter Baxter raised the fact that there are 3 EBU shareholders: P Baxter, Brenda Harris and Sandra Claridge. Since Sandra is now taking the minutes for the EBU meetings it was felt that perhaps Oxfordshire would be better served to appoint a different shareholder. John Slater promised to discuss the matter with Sandra.

Date of next Meeting. 8 September.