

**A G E N D A**

**Annual General Meeting**

**To be held on Wednesday 11th June 2025 at 7:00pm**

**at Bramhall & Cheadle Hulme Bridge Centre & Online via Zoom (hybrid meeting)**

1. **Apologies**
2. **Minutes of Last AGM held 30th May 2023**

Paper attached: previous year’s AGM minutes

1. **Accuracy and Matters Arising**
   1. Accuracy
   2. Matters Arising

1. **Reports from Officers** (Paper 1 attached: Reports of Officers)
   1. Chair Alec Smalley (vice chair)
   2. Secretary Alan Mould
   3. Treasurer Joy Blakey
   4. Membership Secretary Gordon Bickley
   5. League Secretary Royce Alexander
   6. Higson Cup Secretary Paul Beckwith
   7. Goldstone Trophy Secretary Roger Hopton
   8. Green Point Secretary Rhona Goldenfield
   9. Tournament Secretary Ann Thornton
   10. Congress Secretary Barbara Lewis
   11. Chair of Selectors Royce Aleander (secretary)
   12. Match Secretary Royce Alexander
   13. EBU Shareholders Alec Smalley, Jeff Morris, Alan Mould
   14. Publicity Officer Espen Gisvold
   15. Schools, Youth & Teachers Liaison Raymond Semp
   16. Webmasters Rodney Lighton, Espen Gisvold
2. **Player of the Year and League Division Winners**
3. **Election of President** (Paper attached: MCBA AGM 2024 paper 2)
4. **Election of Executive (**Paper attached: MCBA AGM 2024 paper 2)
   1. Chair
   2. Vice-chair
   3. Secretary
   4. Treasurer
   5. Membership Secretary
   6. League Secretary
   7. Green Point Secretary
   8. Tournament Secretary
   9. Congress Secretary
   10. Higson Cup and Plate Secretary
   11. Goldstone Trophy Secretary
   12. Publicity Secretary
5. **Election of Other Officers (**Paper attached: MCBA AGM 2024 paper 2)
   1. EBU Shareholders
   2. Schools, Youth and Teachers Liaison Officer
   3. Webmasters
   4. Accountant
   5. Handbook Editor
   6. Selection Committee
   7. Conduct Committee
   8. Disciplinary Committee
   9. Tournament Committee
6. **Motions tabled Before the AGM**

Motion 1

That as soon as the EBU can action it, UMS to MCBA be reduced from 7p per person per session to 4p per person per session.

Proposed: Joy Blakey Seconded: Alan Mould

Rationale

Before Covid the MCBA UMS had been 7p for some years. During Covid, in order to help affiliated clubs and since MCBA had no outgoings, it was reduced to 0. This was maintained after Covid until last year. However, MCBA incurred 2 years of losses (2022-23 and 2023-24) so it was felt prudent to restart the UMS. In 2024-25 a healthy surplus was made, so it now seems reasonable to help affiliated clubs by reducing the UMS.

Note that this motion is endorsed by the MCBA Executive who urge members to vote in favour.

Motion 2

That:

* the existing League should become a fundamentally F2F League with  
  all matches expected to be played F2F (unless all players agree otherwise for a match)
* a new Online League will be created which will be a fundamentally  
  Online League with all matches expected to be played on BBO (unless all  
  players agree otherwise for a match)
* teams, pairs or individuals who are happy to play either F2F or  
  Online may enter both of these Leagues if they so choose at no extra cost.
* The Online League could consist of 20 or 24 board matches, and this could vary by division. As entries come in, teams will be asked to express their preference for the number of boards.

Proposed: Royce Alexander Seconded: Alan Mould

Rationale

The main League entry dropped from 36 teams in 2023 to 30 teams in 2024 and would have been lower but for F2F-preferring teams in Divisions 3 & 4 agreeing not to enforce F2F matches on Online-preferring teams. During the season 4 teams have withdrawn. The Executive believes that the main League will continue to lose numbers in its current format as it includes a group of experienced players who moved to Online bridge during the pandemic and cannot or will not for various reasons move back to F2F bridge. Changing back to Default Online would lose those who favour F2F. The Executive therefore believes that the only long-term solution is to make the main League predominantly F2F and to create a new separate Online League. We hope to retain almost all of the current teams, recover some lost teams, and in time build up both leagues.

Note that this motion is endorsed by the Executive who urge members to vote in favour of the motion.

1. **MCBA Events in 2024-25 (Face to face or Online Default)**
   1. League
      1. F2F or online default
      2. Summer League
   2. Higson Cup and Plate
      1. F2F or online default
      2. Future of the Event, including the handicap
   3. Goldstone Trophy
   4. Ben Franks Trophy
   5. Green Point Events
   6. Congress
   7. Intermediate events including the Cantor Cup
   8. Gazette Trophy
   9. Lancashire matches
   10. Other events
2. **Any Other Business**
3. **Date and venue of next AGM**