



YORKSHIRE CONTRACT BRIDGE ASSOCIATION

President: Philip Mason
Vice President: Graham Jepson
www.ycba.co.uk



This is my first 'newsletter' as chairman, having jumped into some very large shoes vacated by Philip Mason at the recent AGM. It is very difficult to put into words the service and dedication that Philip has put into bridge in Yorkshire, the YCBA and also the EBU over the past 25 years but we wish him well in his retirement and hope he continues doing the Yorkshire league fixtures! It is very fitting that he now becomes the president of the county.

This September marks the 80th anniversary of the formation of the YCBA and to celebrate this occasion we plan to organise an event on similar lines to the one that was held for the 75th celebration, so please watch the website and various other forms of communication for details. Graham Jepson, with the help of many others, will be compiling a history of bridge in Yorkshire to celebrate the occasion and would particularly like any nuggets of history from any of the 34 affiliated clubs that we have in the county. Graham's contact details can be found on the YCBA website as indeed can all the board members, should you wish to communicate directly with us.

This year's AGM also generated some significant changes to the constitution. The YCBA council, which had designated members from clubs depending on their size was prone to very low attendances and so this has now been replaced with what we are calling members' meetings. These will be open to all eligible YCBA members where they can come and make representations to the board and hopefully provide a forum for discussion and exchanges of ideas. The plan is to have two a year one of which will be at the AGM and I encourage you to attend to make your views known. The other major change involved duplication of boards in divisions 3 to 10 of the Yorkshire league. Clubs with the facilities will now be entitled to use duplicated boards with opposing teams having the right, should they so wish, to be present at the duplication by making prior arrangements with the club involved.

The starting time of Yorkshire league matches will also remain at 2pm but clubs wanting to start earlier are encouraged to seek alternatives with their opposition well beforehand.

My thanks go out to everyone at club and county level who have contributed to the organisation, administration and teaching of bridge throughout Yorkshire, both now and in the future. Your efforts are greatly appreciated.

Please enjoy your bridge wherever you play over the summer and I look forward to crossing swords with you in the near future.

Nick Woolven
(YCBA Chairman).

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