

## **Mid Leinster Bridge Region AGM 6<sup>th</sup> June 2009 held in Dew Drop Inn, Kill**

**Attendance:** Jim Egan (Cnucha), Barbara Burke (Westmanstown), Ann Burns (Maynooth), Bert McKay (Leixlip), John O'Connor (Maynooth), Nicholette McMahon (Castleknock), George Kearns (Castleknock), Marie Collins (Kill Village), Brid Dermody (Johnstown/Kill), Una Sullivan (Johnstown/Kill), Betty Coffey (Naas Monday), Una Breathnach (Johnstown/Kill), Denis O'Shaughnessy (Millennium), Noel Mekitarian (Johnstown/Kill), Mary Murphy (St.David's), Maura Coyle (Naas Devoy)

**Apologies:** Neil Burke (St.Brigid's), Maire O'Keeffe (Kill Village), Melita Gorman (St.Mary's Lucan)

**President's Address:** The President, Jim Egan, welcomed everyone to the meeting. He explained that the new Mid Leinster Region was set up to better service the clubs in this section of the country. He outlined the main events run during the year and pointed out that a lot of progress was made and that we will build on this work next year.

**Secretary's Report:** The Secretary had prepared a written report, copies of which were available to the meeting. The report covered the initial setting up of the New Region over the Summer of 2008. 27 clubs affiliated. Looking back over the first year, she declared that it was a very successful year. All of this success was due to the very experienced members who had come from the Dublin North Region, namely Jim, Neil, Barbara and Bert. She proceeded to give details of the **Pairs and Teams Qualifiers** which were held in Maynooth on 27<sup>th</sup> Nov.2008 and 7<sup>th</sup> March 2009 respectively. She congratulated Briege McShane and Angela Doran O'Reilly from Celbridge who won the Laird Cup i.e. the National A Pairs Final. While we had Masters and A players representing the Region in all competitions, no B players were available to play in the Finals.

She thanked Neil Burke and Bert McKay for all the work they did in organising the **Inter Club Leagues**. 26 teams participated. The Master Section was won by Westmanstown, the A's by St.Brigid's and the B's by St.Brigid's. **A One Day Team Event** was held in Westmanstown on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> May 2009. 15 teams participated. The Cup was won by Johnstown/Kill. The event was followed by a Cheese and Wine, at which the prizes were presented. The prizes for the winners of the leagues were also presented. The big success of the year was the organisation of the 'Master Classes', which were given by two of Ireland's top bridge players Tom Hanlon and Rory Boland. Over 70 people attended. The classes were also held in Westmanstown. They were run over one day and consisted of three sessions of classes, card play and analysis.

Ann thanked all those who had helped her over the year, in particular the Development Officers Barbara and Bert. She also thanked Neil for acting as Tournament Director for all the competitions and for all the concessions he obtained from the CBAI, Jim for all his support, the Westmanstown Centre for accommodating us for free, the Coughlans in the Maynooth Bridge Centre and of course Paul Porteous of the CBAI who was always helpful and friendly.

**Treasurer's Report:** John O'Connor distributed copies of the Statement of Accounts for the year 2008/2009. There is currently 3,100 euro in the bank. We received 500 euro from the CBAI as a start up grant at the beginning of the year and a further 2000 euro in March 2009. A question was raised as to why we only got 2000euro if we have 1200 members in the Region. We are to query this with the CBAI. The adoption of the Statement was proposed by Denis O'Shaughnessy and seconded by Nicholette McMahon.

**Development Officers Reports:** At our first meeting in 2008, the committee divided the clubs of the Region into two sections, roughly North and South. Our Development Officers Barbara Burke taking on the north side clubs and Bert McKay those in the southern half. Each presented a report to the meeting. Their aim was the improvement of bridge for all grades. The great success of the league was due to their efforts in encouraging clubs to participate, by personally contacting every club in the Region. In particular Barbara put a lot of work into organising the Westmanstown Centre for the Master Classes and the Interclub League while Bert arranged the Leixlip Centre for the commencement of the A and B Leagues. Barbara also designed a Polo Shirt for the Region. These were worn by our 3 teams in the Fun Team of Four held in Templeogue. Bert also pointed out that we were already setting records – we were the first region this year to have their masterpoints and affiliation fees returned to the CBAI. Both then outlined their aims for the new season.

**Committee Member's Report:** Neil Burke, one of the members of our committee also presented a written report. Neil praised the committee for all it had achieved. This was praise indeed as Neil is the National Treasurer for the CBAI. However a lot of development work still needed to be done. We need to increase the numbers playing in all the competitions, especially the Qualifiers. Over the year Neil acted as Tournament Director for all our competitions. He has also prepared a Draft Constitution for the Region and ran a Master Points Seminar.

**Constitution:** Neil had prepared copies of the Draft Constitution. These were distributed to those present who are to take them back to their clubs for discussion. It is hoped that a final version will be adopted at a Special General Meeting sometime in the new season.

**Communication from Paul Porteous, General Secretary of the CBAI:** (copy attached) The Secretary had received an email from Paul the day before the AGM. She conveyed all the items covered to the meeting. Paul apologised for not being able to attend in person and thanked all the committee for the wonderful success they had made of establishing the Region. He hoped we would encourage more clubs to play in the CBAI and IBU Simultaneous Pairs – these give ordinary members a chance to discover the wider world of bridge. He emphasised the need for clubs to be properly insured. Renewal notices had recently been issued to 19 clubs in our region. He requires a list of our Regional TDs for inclusion in next year's diary. He encouraged us to try hard to recruit new members and to try and promote and run more bridge classes. He requires a list of active teachers. They have a computer student working in the CBAI for the summer and it is hoped to have a website set up for each region by September. He hopes to get to our Clubs Meeting in September.

Following this some questions on **insurance** were raised by members present. The issue of visitors who were not affiliated to the CBAI was raised. It was recommended that queries be addressed to the CBAI or to the relevant insurance company. Any club requiring diaries should put in their order as soon as possible.

**Election of Committee:** As there was no need for an election for any positions, those proposed and seconded for the various positions were deemed elected as follows:

<b>Position</b>	<b>Proposer</b>	<b>Secunder</b>
President:	Jim Egan	Richard Fallon (Cnucha)
President Elect	Neil Burke	Pat Connolly (Cnucha)
Secretary:	Ann Burns	Norma Madden (St.Brigid's)
Treasurer	John O'Connor	Neil Burke (Castleknock)
Dev.Officer	Ann Burns	John O'Connor (Maynooth)
	Barbara Burke	Barbara Burke(Westmanstown)
	Larry O'Sullivan (Westman)	Ann Clerkin (Westmanstown)
	Deirdre Sweeney(Leixlip)	Anne Butler (Leixlip)
Committee:	Helen McDevitt	Neil Burke (Castleknock)
	Barbara Burke (Castleknock)	Neil Burke (Castleknock)
	Una Sullivan	Una Breathnach (John/Kill)
	Brid Dermody(Johns/Kill)	Una Breathnach (John/Kill)
	Noel Mekitarian	Brid Dermody (John/Kill)
	Una Sullivan( John/Kill)	Brid Dermody (John/Kill)

**Nomination of Auditor:** It was suggested that we should have the accounts audited by an accountant. We are to contact the National Treasurer to check out the situation. In the meantime pending clarification Jim Mc Kenna was proposed by Denis O'Shaughnessy and seconded by Una Brannock.

**Delegates for AGM:** The AGM of the CBAI is to be held on Sat. 4<sup>th</sup> July in the Hilton Hotel, Malahide Rd. It was agreed that the 4 delegates from our Region would be Jim Egan, Ann Burns, Barbara Burke and John O'Connor.

The meeting ended with everyone being invited to the lounge for Tea or Coffee.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

