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TOURNAMENT ORGANISER REPORT 2024

Table numbers continue to increase, with Wednesdays and Fridays having on average 9-11 tables. Both Monday sessions continue to have around 6-7 tables and Tuesday RealBridge sessions continue to have a loyal following of 3-5 tables.

As our very own National Director, Ronnie Ng, advised that he would be available some Thursdays to direct, we scheduled all of our Qualifiers and most of our Club Championship events on Thursdays as all day events. There have been some issues with catering for these events, but catering is improving. Some members requested we try the Thursday afternoon sessions again, so we scheduled them in between the all day events. This has not proved a success, with numbers down and most Thursday afternoons having had to be cancelled over the last couple of months. However, following Eunice's last successful beginners' class which contained several people still working, we initiated a Thursday evening session, commencing at 7pm. It has been successful to date, and we will continue to monitor.

InterClub Teams. InterClub Teams were held in February with 18 teams participating and Ronnie Ng directing. This was up from only 7 teams participating in the previous year. Winners were Jan Clarke, Di Coats, Chris Williams and Sally Clarke.

High-Low Pairs. Eva Hartzell, together with her company The Building Establishment, sponsored a very enjoyable fun day on Friday, 5th July. The field was divided in two, with each pair consisting of one player from the top half and one player from the lower half, randomly selected. There were wonderful prizes for the 1st, 2nd and 3rd pairs, as well as a wooden spoon prize. Wine and chips were provided and a good time was had by all. Many thanks go to Eva and her company.

Calendar. Apart from the State Mixed Pairs combining with our Club Mixed Pairs, we held separate sessions for qualifying events and our club championships which has resulted in complaints regarding the number of events, and in particular, all day events. I would welcome any constructive suggestions on how to schedule these sessions.

Standbys. We continue to have Monday and Wednesday standbys, and thanks go to Margo Burnet and Louis Koolen. Thanks also go to Leonie Lovell for doing standby for Friday for as long as she was able. She has indicated she can come back later this year, but in the meantime we are looking for someone who can do it up until then.

I would like to thank Pauline Caust for filling the breach as Tournament Organiser this year. She has done a wonderful job. Finally, I would like to thank our directors for all their hard work over the past year – Louis Koolen, Alan Bustany (our Chief Director), David Bowerman, Margaret Regan, Leon Babinski, Ros Dey, Pauline Caust, Ronnie Ng and Chris Hannan.

Julie Sadler