



2020 Annual General Meeting

David Jones - Life Membership

I am privileged to announce what is, in fact, a lifetime achievement award in recognition of what we believe to be some 50 years of service to the County, with this person's name first appearing in AGM minutes of 1969.

In addition to extensive service at Club level, this person performed numerous roles within the County, serving on the then Council, now the Executive Committee, the Competitions Committee and the Midland Counties Congress Committee where, in addition to his committee role, he supported the event with the loan and transportation of bridge paraphernalia, including tables and bidding boxes, to/from various locations in the Midlands.

I am sure you have worked out by now that I am, of course, talking about David Jones.

In addition to David's service to Warwickshire in a committee role, he has also represented Warwickshire as a player, competing in many national events, being part of the winning Tollemache on two occasions. His playing achievements also include winning numerous local and national events, including Crockfords, Hubert Phillips, Grand Master's Pairs, NICKO (5 times) and the Garden Cities (8 times). David has also represented England in the Camrose, and other friendly internationals, and has represented Great Britain in the European Seniors.

Locally, David has been part of the winning Goodman Cup some 14 times, along with a number of other events.

Then there is David's 40 years as an EBU Tournament Director, a position from which he retired, at the rank of National Director, last year, running more National events than anyone could possibly count, and also the EBU Overseas Congress, which presented some interest challenges!

David also runs many Club and County events, bringing his calm and level-headed approach to dealing with many tricky situations and sometimes even trickier players. His support of new TDs, myself included, provided a great insight into how to achieve the best outcome, and to do so with a smile and good grace. I personally thank you, David, for the great times we have had and I hope are yet to have. I am sure David will recount sometime my fine technical prowess in resolving a printer issue we had moments before he was to announce the result in one Devon Congress!

David is also well-known for his collaboration with the late, great, Harold Franklin and Roy Edwards and his work with Hilton Hotels, and then joining forces with Lawrence Gaunt to form the long-standing Best of Bridge, where people have enjoyed many hours of play and fun seminars. I can say without a doubt that David is the most fun person to run a seminar with. I can recall occasions where his co-host would elaborate on some piece of system, or bidding sequence, or even play, where at the end would say to David, '... And what do you think, David?' and David's response would be, 'Well I don't agree with that!' The room would erupt with laughter and we would hear the counterargument. The banter is just classic and everyone enjoyed themselves enormously.

So, David, the County would like to honour your lifetime of dedication and support, not only to the County but also to the wider bridge community, by awarding you with Life Membership of Warwickshire Contract Bridge Association. Congratulations, and thank you.

Darren Evetts – September 2020