

Committee Meeting held 12th May, 2021

Present:

Lee Walters, Olive Dent, Jane Stearns, Janice Johnson, Neil Ruddell, Yvonne Mc Kinnon, Richard Bland, Helen Brodie, Glenys Barrow, Kim Thomas and Sue Brown (by invitation)

Apologies were received from Kevin Grundy. Lee moved that the apology be accepted, seconded Glenys; Approved

Sue Brown addressed the meeting with a series of questions from NZCBA. They are interested to know what clubs want from them. What follows are the questions and the committee's answers:

- Are we happy with our website? Yes
- Is there any advantage for clubs having a standardised website? No
- Is NZ website useful? Yes, but it is hard to navigate. There have been changes to the online entry into tournaments.
- Congress you can now pay online with credit card
- Does the NZCBA get to all members? No
- Are teaching resources worthwhile? Yes
- Do we have sufficient directors? No
- Are you able to attract new players? Yes, but it is difficult keeping them
- Do you want more sessions or to change start and finish times? No
- Master points are of interest to some and not others
- Do members play in tournaments? Yes
- Do we struggle to get assistance? No
- What worries do we have? Aging members and people reluctant to take on positions on committee

NZCBA are working on the grading system and may replace the rating system and bring in handicapping. They may also use british handicapping system which dictates who people are able to play with. The committee recommended leaving master points as they are.

Congress this year is being held in Tauranga in a bigger venue than Hamilton. NZ bridge is to hold an International meeting. They are also looking at increasing staff administration to support the clubs marketing.

Sue then departed the meeting

Minutes:

Jane moved that the minutes of the last meeting, having been circulated, be accepted as a true and correct record, seconded Helen; Approved

Correspondence:

Inwards

- Waipu Tournament will be held the first weekend in July
- Richard Harrison re lessons
- John Matthews re tournament
- Sue Brown re meeting
- Kim and Ian Reeves re lessons
- Smart office re bill
- Pam Livingston on defence
- Oz Bridge Holiday
- Jane two new members she has given numbers to
- Paula Boughey remove from entries and Duncan Badley
- Directors exams

Outward

- Grant Jarvis re refund for advertising

Glenys moved that the correspondence be accepted, seconded Janice; Approved

Finance:

Neil moved that the accounts that have been paid totalling \$6385.07 be confirmed and the accounts to be paid totalling \$1827.97 be approved, seconded Olive; Approved

General Business:

Jane reported for the Rejuvenation Committee.

It is thought by some that the charge for lessons is too high but majority feel it is a good price. One member suggested we halve Wednesday table money to encourage players but there was a consensus not to do so.

When lessons finish we may encourage learners to come to sessions by giving them a few free tickets but that decision will be made at the end of lessons.

We need to be thinking about how to get existing members to support Monday nights We need people, or a full room, more than the money.

When beginners pay and are ready to play in sessions, they are put in the computer and given a number, i.e. at their Graduation.

Our marketing for lessons can be considered successful. We needed 31 to join to cover our costs and we had 46 on seats the first week. The aim was to encourage people in the age group 50 to 64 and we did achieve that. Some still feel the cost is an issue.

The beginners cited the following as their reason for attending: Existing members 15, Library 10, Road signs 12

We would like to thank Kim, Kevin and Yvonne for the great effort that they put into driving this marketing. A big thanks also to Lyn for her organising the Library team and the tiresome task of following up on all those interested parties.

Fund Raising.

We were turned down by the Whangarei Council for funds for the roof repairs. We need \$8500 for this project. Kim moved that Jane apply to the Oxford Trust for funds i.e. \$8500, to cover the repairs to the roof, seconded Janice; Approved

Helen moved that Jane apply to the Pub Charity for funds to purchase charging stations, the cost being \$400, seconded Janice; Approved

Honour Boards. The engravers are no longer able to get gold leaf for the Boards. The product they are currently using is not satisfactory for our needs. It was suggested we look at vinyl signs where they layer the names on or try sign writers. If you have suggestions please speak to Margaret Hooson. She is responsible for engraving cups and boards.

Library.

There are no beginner's books available at the club. Jane and Richard have ordered "Some Principles of Card Playing" by Paul Masters from Richard Solomon on a sale or return basis. Jane was given permission to purchase a second hand Encyclopaedia of Bridge for the club.

It was suggested we have a film night, with pizzas, to watch the film "Dirty Tricks" at the club. It is available from 21st June to 11th July and we would stream it to club.

Banking signatories are now sorted.

Broome tournament. We had 17 tables, \$300 in sponsorship and the raffle made \$200. The profit was \$983 with catering costing \$300 and \$2.30 per head for the C points.

People who have substitutes must let Director know on the day they have the substitute

Teams start next month on Tuesdays. We will be playing at the Whangarei Cruising club.

Wifi has been dropping off. Olive is to meet Shane Goldsmith to check it out tomorrow.

Glenys to ring Combrio Print to get them to come and clean the photocopier before Saturday. Phone 4300394

Richard has a \$60 account for laminating lessons

Cruising Club is booked for all of June for all sessions and for Scrabble, including the Towai Cup. We can store equipment there in the corner of room where it will be accessible to people. We need to take cups, pens, bidding pads and tablecloths. There is a boiler but not as large as we are used to. The cruising club only has a few mugs; please do not use them - bring your own and remove after each session. Richard will be barman for the Towai cup. Richard will supply a television for lessons during this period. Please start informing members about the changes for June from 1st to 30th. The playing room will be on two levels. The cost is \$20 per session and \$100 for Saturday. Boards will be dealt and have travel sheets to be put in by the Director. Scoring will be done, but not directly after play .

Fundraising for July is organised. Trading table to go up after big weekend tournament.

The Becks have been very generous in supplying raffles and we feel it would be nice to recognise their generosity at the AGM. Jayne Broome is another who has given generously and will be recognised at AGM. Helen is to send a card to Kim's daughter to thank her for designing the street signs for us.

We need to plan ahead to keep enthusiasm with the beginners. It is not the money we need but people. Making them welcome and happy to play in the club is needed in order to retain these beginners. They will have buddies for a start.

Directors. Judith Byrne has done a good job trying to encourage people to Direct. Dave Beck is prepared to sit the exam. Glenys to order 4 directors rule books from Martin. Bruce will direct but not sit exams.

The men's toilet needs updating. The smell is appalling and there is a tap leaking. It needs a new cistern and flooring. Need to get costing and then look at funding. It should have a wheelchair toilet as one of our new players is in a wheelchair

Glenys to write to St Johns to thank them for the defibrillator or AED.

Meeting closed 4.30 pm