



## Committee Meeting held February 9<sup>th</sup>, 2023

Present: Lee Walters (in the Chair), Kevin Grundy, Janice Johnson, Judy Allison, Neil Ruddell, Tel Hudson, Richard Bland, Olive Dent, Kim Thomas

Apologies were received from Nancy Beck. Lee moved that the apologies be accepted, seconded by Kevin; Approved

### Minutes of the Meeting of December 8th, 2022

Lee moved that the minutes of the last meeting held December 8th, having been circulated and appropriately amended, be recorded as a true and correct record, seconded by Neil; Approved

Matters Arising: Under General Business

Correspondence:

Inward

Invoices:

- Hubands
- NZ Bridge Levies
- Sutherland Security
- Tim Boyd
- Smart Office

NZ/Regional Bridge:

- Updated Masterpoints List and Baden Wilson Award
- 2022 Ranks Report
- Flyer on Club and Tournament Directors training and assessment.
- NZB Board Minutes, November 2022
- NZB Child Protection, Health and Safety and Privacy Policies
- ANRC Newsletter and Interclub Registration
- National Rubber Bridge Notice
- Kate Terry re Online Tournaments

General:

- Notification from Fred Muller re Donation
- Paihia BC re sponsorship
- Toni Keijzer re handicap system
- Jeff Thomas re use of carpark

### Outgoing:

- Kate Terry declining online tournament for March 18th
- Letter of thanks to Fred Muller

Judy moved that the inward and outward mail be received, seconded by Lee; Approved

### Finance:

Neil presented the December 2022 and January 2023 monthly financial statements. He noted that the bank balance in January includes ca. \$12,000 unspent monies. Neil moved that the financial report be accepted, including that accounts that have been paid totalling \$7779.71 (Dec) and \$5231.53 (Jan) be confirmed and accounts to be paid totalling \$0.00 (Dec) and \$1081.58 (Jan) be approved. Seconded by Olive; Approved

### General Business:

Janice: Janice suggested mailing out remaining bills but Olive declined because of the incomplete and often inaccurate addresses on file. Janice asked if an extra set of signs advertising lessons could be placed on Fairway Dr. After some discussion, it was decided that Kim would order an extra set.

Nancy: Judy delivered a written report by Nancy (below)

Oxford Sports Trust. We requested \$8,000 of the \$11,490 cost for sound baffling of the club room. They awarded us \$3,000 which has been deposited to the club's account. If we choose not to go ahead, this money will need to be refunded. Lee expressed her opinion that we should not go ahead given that we have other, more urgent priorities such as the roof. Rather than sound baffling, it makes more sense to educate the members about manners at the table. Olive mentioned that Thursday night is quieter suggesting that the noise during the day is as a result of the more social nature of these sessions.

Lee moved the following: That the Club not proceed with sound-proofing the Club and that the funds secured be refunded to Oxford Sports Trust. Seconded by Tel; Approved

Jo Green of Tait Realty wishes to talk to the tournament players on Jan 11th. She needs to know the approximate time for the end of play. Given that we have 11-12 tables, that should be around 5 pm.

Badges. The original list of names has been made into badges and the new list of 25 or so is also done. We have paid for 186 badges. With the next batch of around 25, we will need to get an accurate count of the total that has been delivered to date and the names used. The residual of ca. 100 badges can be ordered in batches of 20 or more and paid for by the credit we have with the company.

Disabled Toilet. We have until around September before submitting a report to Lottery Grant. Lee reported on the difficulties being encountered with contractors. We are awaiting a plumbing

quote for removal of the superfluous toilet but the current plumber claims to be too busy. We may have to find another plumber.

Judy: Confirmed that the Scrabble tournament will be held over Easter. All we are required to do is clear out the fridge. She detailed the preparations required for setting up for the Tait open.

Neil: Neil asked for a notice in the newsletter asking all members that pay by direct debit to please describe what the payment is for in the reference for the debit. Otherwise, it can be next to impossible to determine what is being paid for.

Tel: The next newsletter is ready for publication next week. He asked if there were any senior members of the club willing to write an opinion piece (any topic) under the title, From the Bridge. There being neither takers nor suggestions, he proposed that he would supply a column from his own perspective. Lee confirmed that information on the lessons was included in this issue.

Kevin: Kevin mentioned the Auckland/Northland Interclub series to see if there was any appetite for competing in the event. It would require teams of at least 3 pairs to work. It was agreed to email all members to assess interest.

Given that we will be purchasing new tablets shortly (thanks to the generous donations from Anne Rosandich and Fred Muller), he noted that we also received money from Kia last year for the purchase of charging stations and appropriate short cords. Richard will include them in his search for tablets.

Is it still planned to host a junior tournament? Lee said that one is being planned for October and will hopefully feature a room of Juniors and Intermediates in separate sections. Approval has yet to be obtained, however.

The website needs to be updated with the inclusion of the many, many donors and sponsors that Nancy's great work has recruited. He needs .png files of commercial logos in order to make the ads look good. Tel suggested that Helen send to him all of the notices from the Donor Board and he will extract logo files that we can use.

Olive: approximately  $\frac{2}{3}$  of the members have paid their dues. We have a box of envelopes for those yet to be paid. Addresses are often incomplete so we need to ensure that full postal addresses are obtained for new members.

Richard: Richard will look for tablets and charging stations to the full extent of the donations. He mentioned that some emails of late have shown email addresses of all recipients. We need to get in the habit of using BCC to hide addresses. Perhaps we should be developing a privacy policy. Kevin noted that there is a revised privacy policy from NZ Bridge which serves as a model.

Richard cautioned against making policy decisions outside of committee meetings, especially those involving money. Only a full airing of issues at committee meetings is likely to result in the best decisions.

Contacting beginners has begun, but is in the very early stages. He will need 4 sets of 8 boards and Olive assured him that a full box of boards is available.

Lee: Lessons administration is under control. A special thanks to Mandy Bax who has assumed the role of Communications Officer.

So far, there has been no action on replacement of the blind. A local firm Chem Wash has agreed to look after the roof.

The application for our insurance claim has been accepted. Repairs will take several days at a date yet to be determined. Play at the club will need to be cancelled for the duration. The claim covers the two nearest lights and while the electrician is around, we will get the other four fixtures in the area replaced.

The alarm has not been set properly on several occasions. Each occasion results in a \$75 call-out fee from the security company. We need to be more careful.

Stanley Abrahams is offering lessons, provisionally on Saturday 10-12. These will not be for beginners, but all others will be welcome. The system will be a 5-card spade, not the NZB system. There will be no set program.

The Northland Centre Pairs has been rescheduled to November 18th. Debbie Lomas has asked to be able to use a gold leaf book for the Honour Boards and Lee gave the go ahead. She now has all the boards and they will be updated shortly. In addition, the Roy Roughton trophy is to be engraved.

Our outside lights are in rough shape. Some sensors are broken and the centre light has been moved downward so that it is less effective. We will need to upgrade them. There was some discussion of using solar powered lights in lieu of a hard-wired system.

The Junior/Intermediate tournament is scheduled for Oct 14th, but not yet approved. As our 70th anniversary approaches, Margaret Hooson has started a review and rationalisation of our cups and awards.

The Northern Regional Committee meeting will be on March 31st. Lee intends to raise the issue of poor support for our tournaments from fellow clubs. Richard noted that this phenomenon is wide-spread in the region. Olive noted that the Northland Centre is a victim as well. By the time costs were factored in, the Centre only made \$80 from the Northland Centre Pairs last year.

Lee informed the meeting of a complaint made by a member about the handicap system. The situation has been dealt with and the system is attached to the NZB scorer that we use. Essentially, the handicap is based on previous scores obtained in the previous 6 months, in that particular session. Only scores above or below 52% are used in the calculation. Lee encouraged members to bring their concerns to the AGM for airing.

The meeting was called to a close at 11:18 am. The next meeting will be at 10:00 am, March 9th.