



## Committee Meeting held October 12th, 2023

Present: Lee Walters (in the Chair), Nancy Beck, Kevin Grundy, Janice Johnson, Judy Allison, Neil Ruddell, Richard Bland, Kim Thomas, Ron Pumfleet

Apologies were received from Olive Dent and Tel Hudson. Janice moved that the apologies be accepted, seconded by Judy; Approved

### Minutes of the Meeting of September 14th, 2023

Judy moved that the minutes of the last meeting held September 14th, having been circulated, be recorded as a true and correct record, seconded by Ron; Approved

Matters Arising: Under General Business

Correspondence:

Inward

Invoices:

- Smart Office
- Super Liquor

NZ/Regional Bridge:

- Masterpoints Report

General:

- WDC Invitation to October 17th Christmas Event Hui
- Ron Klinger
- Nadia Prakash re Join A Club Feature

A motion (Moved by Lee, seconded by Ron) to participate in the Join A Club feature was approved.

Outgoing

- Housekeeping only

Kevin moved that the inward and outgoing mail be received, seconded by Lee; Approved (this item was presented during general business)

### Finance:

Neil presented the monthly financial statement. Neil moved that the financial report be accepted, including that accounts that have been paid totalling \$2747.19 be confirmed and accounts to be paid totalling \$1167.08 be approved. Seconded by Richard; Approved

### General Business:

Richard and Lee: The annual ANRC conference was held recently. Across all clubs, approximately 50% of all beginners fail to progress to club play. There is a recruitment drive being spearheaded by Mel Auld on Facebook. Participation will cost around \$350-500.

Motion: That the Club participate in the Facebook campaign (Moved Lee, seconded Janice); Approved.

Our lessons next year will be taught by Richard starting Feb 26th. We will need some members to help with communications.

The conference was attended by reps from only 8 of the 21 clubs in the region. With Grant Jarvis retiring from the Chair, the ANRC is likely to struggle for committee members. The main topic was recruitment. Overall numbers for Auckland/Northland clubs have increased. Recruitment of club directors remains an issue. Kate Terry spoke to the issue of online bridge which poses many problems with, as yet, no solutions. Auckland has a severe travel issue, with times for travelling between clubs rivalling those between clubs in Northland. Many senior players are no longer travelling to tournaments but instead playing online. This has led to some tournaments being cancelled for lack of numbers. The most popular sessions/tournaments seem to be those that are restricted to Open/Intermediate or Junior pairings.

Ron: Ron and Nancy have reviewed the printing costs for various items associated with sponsorships and will soon review the sponsorship packages. He would like a photo of the club exterior for use in the 70th anniversary material. Tait Real Estate had a tough year and felt that \$1000 was too much for a sponsorship package and would be looking for a less costly alternative. Nancy conveyed to them how much the members enjoyed having them speak at the tournament.

Ron can do the design and printing of ancillary materials for cost and the cost of using bidding pads as ads is only a one-time \$40 charge. After that, they are the same price as plain pads. Lee noted that packages are restrictive and that we should be aiming to get what we can for sponsorships. Currently, all of our major sponsors are personally connected to a specific club member.

Nancy: Nancy raised the issue of mission objectives for sponsors and grants. Neil noted that any such objectives would have to fit with the stated objectives in the published rules and constitution. Kim wondered if there was, in fact, any clash. Perhaps we could just state the club's objectives with more user-friendly language. The issue will be put on hold for now pending a review of the constitution after the new Incorporated Societies Act is implemented.

Nancy noted that our club ticks several boxes for granting agencies, such as community, teaching and elder participation. She asked if we should have annual goals for fundraising and sponsorships. Neil noted that our greatest need is for one-off grants for specific projects. Since we can cover the costs of tournaments, if necessary, sponsorships are a bonus. Having \$300 as a flat sponsor contribution would be fine.

Nancy noted that the granting agencies look positively on having sponsors. Possible future projects that could be considered are: Roof (not scheduled but will be required eventually), BBQ area, toilet reno, kitchen reno, bar area reno, computer and other electronics, exterior painting, 70th anniversary.

The estimated cost of the toilet revamp has gone up and could now top \$43K. The Lottery Corporation is contributing \$8K and has extended the time limit to June 2024. The Brenda Gordon Trust has offered \$5K verbally, and the Jubilee Trust is being asked for \$25K but we won't hear from them for several weeks.

We have had 145 badges done with more than 40 to go. Extra magnets have been ordered and will be sold for \$5 each. The Whangarei District Council Community Fund is another source of funding. We could approach them for help with painting. They distribute funds 3 times per year and will also fund events, such as the 70th anniversary. Should we foster relationships with other community groups by donating books, cards etc? Neil reminded the meeting that our role is to manage the club and what we do should be in sync with the club's stated rules and objectives.

Neil: It is possible to register under the new Incorporated Society Act online. We need a constitution that is compliant with the Act. Hopefully, New Zealand Bridge will provide some guidance for clubs. Kevin noted that there is a letter from Anne Barrowclough purporting to do just that. He will arrange for a copy to be distributed.

Janice: A sympathy card needs to be sent to Wally Yovich for his recent bereavement. Janice would like to see a portable PA system purchased for the club. We will need details and quotes to assess.

Lee: The club has been rented for a birthday party on Wed, Nov 29th. The room will be decorated on Tuesday so the Wednesday players should be informed. Lee is about to sign off on the flood damage. There was some discussion over the 70% Club and whether or not handicap sessions should be included. Most present favoured the status quo.

Saturday's tournament has 10 tables of Juniors and 9 of Intermediates. A great turnout.

The meeting was called to a close at 11:33 am

The next meeting will be on November 9th at 10:00 am