



Committee Meeting held November 14th, 2024

Present: Lee Walters (in the Chair), Kevin Grundy, Janice Johnson, Neil Ruddell, Tel Hudson, Olive Dent, Kim Thomas, Jayne Broome, Stanley Abrahams,

Apologies were received from Richard Bland, Alan Pumfleet. Lee moved that the apologies be accepted, seconded by Kevin; Approved

Minutes of the Meeting of October 10th, 2024

Lee moved that the minutes of the last meeting held October 10th, having been circulated, be recorded as a true and correct record, seconded by Kevin; Approved

Matters Arising: Under General Business

Correspondence:

Inward

Invoices:

- BridgeNZ
- Engraving Systems
- Office Products (2)
- Whangarei District Council

NZ/Regional Bridge:

- Regional Committee budget workbook
- Sue Brown, Northland Championship updates
- Draft AGM minutes
- Board meeting minutes and follow-up document
- NZ Bridge Foundation, call for Trustee nominees
- Notice of Levy increases
- Secretary re year end updates
- Sue Hunt re Towai Cup
- List of 20A tournaments for 2025

General:

- Sutherland Security
- Justine MacDonald from Office Products
- Chris Whalley re tablet issue (Samsung)

Outgoing:

- Housekeeping only

Kevin moved that the inward and outward mail be received, seconded by Janice; Approved

Finance:

Neil presented the monthly financial statement. Neil moved that the financial report be accepted, including that accounts that have been paid totalling \$9278.80 be confirmed and accounts to be paid totalling \$3497.63 be approved. Seconded by Kim; Approved

General Business:

Tel: Tel read his proposed text for a community radio ad on the local NZB station. It comprised 115 words and would take approximately 1 minute to read. Lee noted that he would have to check with Richard to ensure that the times and pricing of lessons were accurate. Stan suggested that we consider advertising in the Coffee Club news pamphlet. We will need costs before proceeding. He also noted that, in order to facilitate word of mouth advertising, we give each member 2-3 pamphlets each for distribution to friends and family members.

Tel also noted that we have several boards with plastic cards that are unpleasant to play with and also not handled well by the dealing machine. Any pack that is not accepted by the dealing machine should be replaced and the offending pack placed on the table for any interested members.

Olive: The MWIS tournament returned a profit of \$679 and the net costs were \$27.89 per player. The raffle returned \$180 thanks to the donation of prizes. Our database will need updating to make sure all addresses are complete and names are consistent with those on NZ Bridge. She has taken to turning off the computer on Thursday nights to allow for updates. Also, we need to update the Bridge Tab versions on all tablets. These two measures should ensure that the tablets operate without problems.

Lee: There is an opportunity for getting another fridge from Renate Tolks. Alan has taken on the issue of space rentals and will report to a later meeting. Lee requested and was approved for \$125 for help at the Christmas party.

Two separate medical emergencies at the club highlighted our need for some basic medical equipment. Isabel Thom requested that we purchase a stethoscope, automatic BP cuff and a pulse oximeter for emergency use. This will allow for basic information to be relayed to the ambulance crews and perhaps hasten their response when needed. Lee noted that it was difficult to get St John to respond in a timely fashion otherwise and we have few, if any, members willing to drive ailing members to the A and E. Tel volunteered to bring some medical equipment of his.

Kim: Re-registration. Kim noted that the best set of rules need only be consulted rarely and our current rules are fit to purpose. However, the new act does require certain updates. Section 26 of the act specifies what must be included that our current rules do not.

The recently circulated draft is essentially the same as the old rules but with the inclusion of the extra material required by the act. In his comments, Roger Bell noted that there are two approaches. One is to put everything in the rules, including the relevant passages of the Act. This would result in a very large document. The second is to go for a lean set of rules containing key elements and references to the Act where appropriate. That being said, there are certain decisions that can't be made by Kim and Roger alone and this is where the Committee comes in.

Kevin asked what should we do about situations where our current practice deviates from the old rules as, for example, with nominations for membership? The Committee or the members will need to decide if such old rules need revising and be redrafted accordingly. Kim noted that the old rule regarding complaints is not fit for purpose and will be redacted and circulated for input. We also need to look at the time limits for lodging complaints.

There was a lengthy discussion of how to proceed, during which many members of the Committee expressed their confidence in Kim and Roger. There was discussion of such issues as appeals, proxy votes and tables of interests for Committee members. Kevin suggested that, in order to help focus our discussions, proposed changes to the rules be presented as a series of motions for consideration by the Committee.

Jayne: Jayne noted that fund-raising for Tamati has been very successful. Tamati has received \$640 and his accommodations have been arranged. In addition, the club has received \$70 in donations to go along with the \$300 given by the club. Jayne also has received a total of \$470 so far. She has asked if Tamati could attend the Christmas party to thank the members for their help. He has also agreed to send daily updates to the club during the competition.

Jayne's plea for help with the newsletter during her recent absence was fruitless and Lee noted that the absence of willing volunteers was becoming a significant issue for the club. Jayne suggested posting a signup sheet prior to tournaments in an effort to get more people involved. The January newsletter will focus on a preview of February with pics and news from the contributor's holidays. Seminars will resume in March.

Stan: Stan asked about the process for reporting psych bids. Olive noted that it is the responsibility of the psych bidder to report the bid to the director and place their name in the book. Only 2 such bids are allowed per session. Stan noted that a senior player psyched while he was playing with a novice on Tuesday night and suggested that this practice should be strongly discouraged when playing against inexperienced players.

There being no further business, the meeting was called to a close at 11:27 am.

The next meeting will be held on December 12th at 10 am.