



## **Committee Meeting held December 12th, 2024**

Present: Lee Walters (in the Chair), Stanley Abrahams, Richard Bland, Jayne Broome, Olive Dent, Kevin Grundy, Tel Hudson, Janice Johnson, Alan Pumfleet, Neil Ruddell, Kim Thomas, Roger Bell (by invitation)

Apologies were received from Tel Hudson. Richard moved that the apologies be accepted, seconded by Olive; Approved

### Minutes of the Meeting of November 14th, 2024

Janicemoved that the minutes of the last meeting held November 14th, having been circulated as amended, be recorded as a true and correct record, seconded by Lee; Approved

Matters Arising: Under General Business

### Correspondence:

#### Inward

Invoices:

- Woodhill Super Liquor
- Smart Office
- Sutherland Security
- Office Products
- Engraving Systems

NZ/Regional Bridge:

- ANRC Newsletter
- List of Active Directors

General:

- Kelly Pierce re Woolworths ads
- James McNee of the Community Listings site
- Bridge NZ closed until January 20th
- Ant Hopkins re raffle

### Outgoing:

- Notices re seminars and raffle

Lee noted that, at \$75 per week, advertising at Woolworths was not possible. The Coffee Club at \$35 per week was too expensive as well. She will be contacting James McNee, and if the

service is free will get our lessons advertised, as well as our session play. Kevin moved that the inward and outward mail be received, seconded by Olive ; Approved

#### Finance:

Neil presented the monthly financial statement. Neil moved that the financial report be accepted, including that accounts that have been paid totalling \$3587.83 be confirmed and accounts to be paid totalling \$2378.58 be approved. Seconded by Olive; Approved

#### General Business:

Kevin: The ZB community Services ad has been placed and will run until the end of February. It has already been read on air several times.

Our player database is now up to date barring a couple of missing addresses. It has been rationalized with the NZBridge active player list. Kevin will update the email addresses and lists over the break.

The latest ANRC newsletter mentioned that Waikato Bays will be offering clubs assistance with the Compass scoring system. It seems to offer some advantages, although in other areas, Olive seems to think that it is no better than what we have. Kevin will investigate what the pros and cons of the system are and report back at a later date.

Janice: Janice noted that the radio ad has been read on air and thanked those involved.

Alan: The new rental agreement has been drafted and all that needs finalising are the amounts to be charged. After a brief discussion, it was decided to charge \$100 for 4 hours, \$200 for a full day with a bond of \$250. Neil added that all these figures should be +GST.

Lee noted that the Scrabble Club, as a regular renter, should be exempt from these fees. This club currently pays \$30 per session which should be increased to \$30 +GST. Richard suggested that the Scrabble Club could be treated in much the same way as our members - a standing subscription plus table money.

Kim: Kim welcomed Roger to the meeting and summarised the process to date for re-registering the club. Although there is no appetite for re-inventing the wheel with our new rules, Section 26 of the new act does require new sections be added to our rules. The core of our constitution will remain the same, however. The biggest change is that the Committee now has complete control over the operation of the club except where specifically circumscribed by rules concerning the AGM, SGM or Finance Committee. The need to add sections such as dispute/discipline provisions, conflicts of interest etc., have naturally led to a longer document. Questions where the Committee needs to make decisions have been isolated and can be dealt with in turn.

Roger noted that he recommends one change from the latest draft regarding time periods for certain dispute provisions. He now recommends that these 2 week periods no longer take into account public holidays and that the summer recess of the club not be included in any specified time period. He will look to Neil to comment on the accounting provisions of section 10. Otherwise, his notes provided in the latest drafts should serve to explain most of the additions.

Richard brought up issues around the dispute resolutions in the latest draft. Some of the provisions would appear to need modification to recognize the unique role of the director and the powers accorded to the director by the laws of the game, particularly as they relate to rude/abusive behaviour at the table. A detailed discussion of a recent incident followed as it was illustrative of the issues involved. At least some of the difficulties result from the fact that most of our directors are not experienced in dealing with these issues. There was some discussion of using a recorder in these situations. Having heard the arguments, Roger and Kim agreed to look at the language and accommodate the concerns regarding the role of the director.

Turning to the other issues:

Rule 1. It was agreed that the name of the club should be changed to the Whangarei Bridge Club.

Rule 7.3. It was agreed that the requirement to post new member applications on the club notice board for 2 weeks should be deleted.

Rules 7.10 and 7.11. There was discussion over the issue of the rights of members who have not paid a sub by March 31st, to play or vote. Generally speaking, such members are stricken from our membership list and the NZ Bridge active player list by that date and are therefore no longer club members. As such, they have no right to play nor to participate at the AGM.

Rule 8.1. It was agreed to replace the term 'Bridge Committee' with simply 'Committee'.

Rule 8.5. There was a discussion concerning the officers of the club and their roles; specifically, those who need to be elected and those who can be appointed, either from within the Committee or at large. Much of the discussion centred on the role of the Assistant Treasurer, which, despite having been essential for the last 20+ years, is not formally recognized in our current constitution. A consensus emerged that we should list 5 elected positions; President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Club Captain and 5 others, for a Committee of 10.

Rules 8.3 and 9.7. It was agreed to keep the current limit of \$1500 for discretionary spending by the Committee.

The other rules that needed further discussion were left to the next meeting.

Olive: Approximately  $\frac{1}{4}$  of subs have been paid already. The Northern Centre Pairs realized a profit of \$354 to be forwarded to the Centre. Tamati has received a payment of \$910 from the club and its members, in addition to the funds raised by Jayne.

Olive offered a vote of thanks to Richard and Lee for production of our booklet. Keeping this process in house saves the club a lot of money.

Lee: This being the last meeting of the year before the summer break, Lee thanked the Committee members for all of their hard work throughout the year and wished them a happy Christmas and New Year. Holiday bridge will commence on January 6th and will be directed by Henri. Play will occur on Mondays and Fridays until January 31st.

There being no further business, the meeting was called to a close at 11:35 am.

The next meeting will be at 10 am on Thursday, February 13th, 2025.