



Committee Meeting held March 13th, 2024

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

Apologies were received from Neil Ruddell. Lee moved that the apologies be accepted, seconded by Olive; Approved

Minutes of the Meeting of February 13th, 2024

Jayne moved that the minutes of the last meeting held February 13th, having been circulated, be recorded as a true and correct record, seconded by Richard; Approved

Matters Arising: Under General Business

Correspondence:

Inward

Invoices:

- Office Products (2)
- Smart Office
- BridgeNZ

NZ/Regional Bridge:

- NZB Agm notice (Zoom option)
- NZB Board Minutes
- Notification of NZ Swiss Pairs
- ANRC Newsletter
- Director's Assessment Schedule

General:

- Community notice board, PaknSave
- Mercury re rate increases
- ResolveNZ re copyright issue
- Venue hire query from The Learning Place
- Notice from Hubands

Outgoing:

- Message to Juniors re lessons
- Housekeeping

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

Finance:

Olive presented the monthly financial statement and moved that the financial report be accepted, including that accounts that have been paid totalling \$4302.78 be confirmed. Accounts to be paid for this month will be presented at next month's meeting. Seconded by Stan; Approved

General Business:

Jayne: Progress is being made on the seminar schedule with the goal being to have one per month. In the planning phase is a program of one-on-one tutorials for around 16 of our members who are struggling and therefore not playing regularly. In keeping with the addition of memorabilia being displayed around the club, Jayne has had a trophy made for presentation to the winners of the Broome Family Tournament. It features 2 liquor dispensers from the time we had a full bar.

Janice: Janice asked if the beginners have been asked how they heard about lessons. This has only been done once in the past apparently. Lee notes that, of the 30 names gathered at the library sessions, only 1 had shown up.

Alan: Alan inquired about the time limits for the AC unit. Olive responded that the unit has been fixed.

Richard: Monday night lessons has 5 tables of students and Tuesday morning has 3. The composition of the two groups has never been the same twice. More current players are showing up now that the introductory lessons are over.

The search for new tablets is problematic in that 8" tablets are getting increasingly hard to find. Noel Leeming offers them at \$267 each but has none in stock. Larger tablets are cheaper but occupy too much table space. Bridge Tab runs perfectly well on Android phones, cheap examples of which can be found for \$99. Although the screens are small, the display is more than adequate in size, except perhaps for the rankings page. They could be the solution to our problem.

On Monday night, a beginner accidentally drove through our chain barrier and took out both posts. After some discussion on how to proceed, it was decided to use warratahs to erect a temporary barrier. Lee will look into insurance as a permanent fix.

Tel: Tel informed the meeting of a copyright issue that emerged with the use of an image in a newsletter. Given that our use of the image was in good faith, believing it to be free, the offending newsletter has been taken down from the website. Tel and Kim both agreed that we should not pay the sum requested.

Olive: Only 6 subs remain to be paid. The profit from the Property Brokers tournament was \$651. Total per player expenses were \$25.55 with more than half of the profit coming from the sponsorship. Jayne suggested that we need to get some sponsors to increase their support in

recognition of the increased costs of running a tournament. That might be difficult given that many sponsorships are a direct result of personal connections.

Olive noted that connection to the tablets is somewhat spotty after shutdown, sometimes requiring 2 reboots to get them all working. Jayne offered to contact John Diamond for help since our usual IT person is currently unwell.

Lee: The hot water cylinder has been repaired following a failure. The element and a valve required replacing. Since that time, the hot water has been tepid at best. Lee will get the plumber to adjust the thermostat whenever he is next in the area.

Kim: Kim reviewed where we are with respect to our new constitution. We have resolved the questions regarding Rules 1-6. Rule 10 requires liaising with Neil so will be done at a later date.

Rule 8: Sections 8.1 and 8.5 are settled. The committee will consist of 10 members, with the Assistant Treasurer and Vice Club Captain being co-opted, either from the membership or the committee. Sub committees can also be struck for a variety of purposes.

8.6 seems superfluous so will be removed.

Rule 12: Section 12.2 represents current practice. Section 12.5 deals with proxy voting. Although our current constitution allows for proxy voting, we have not allowed it for some time. There was considerable discussion about proxy vs postal voting, mechanisms of vote counting and possible abuses of proxy voting. The sense of the meeting was that there was discomfort with the inclusion of proxy voting.

Moved (Richard/Stan): That section 12.5, dealing with proxy voting, be deleted. Passed with a vote of 8:2

Rule 15: Section 15.1 governing the reimbursement of costs incurred by members is perhaps overly broad. Changing the wording from “will” to “may” will resolve the issue.

Rules 17 and 18: Richard noted that Roger Bell’s rewrite of the appropriate sections has allayed his concerns over the roles and responsibilities of directors, expressed during the December meeting. There was some discussion concerning the issue of undue delay which is currently not specified. Lee asked about the use of informal vs formal dispute procedures. A formal process would only be initiated if all informal attempts to resolve the issue had failed.

Rule 19: The question is what process should be used to alter the constitution. Our current rules require a $\frac{2}{3}$ majority but we could change that to a simple majority if we wish. The consensus was to remain with a $\frac{2}{3}$ majority.

Rule 20: This rule deals with the distribution of assets if the club were to cease operating. The assets cannot be distributed to the members (by law) and, currently, our rules state that the assets would revert to NZ Bridge or some other organization involved in the promotion of the game. After some discussion of other possibilities, it seems that our current rule is adequate.

Moved (Kim/Olive): That the new rule 20 will use the same wording as the old rule 28.
Approved.

There was a brief discussion of the time frame and mechanism of communicating with the members. We will post copies in the club and email copies to those members that request them.

There being no further business, the meeting was called to a close at 11:45.

The next meeting will be held on April 10th, at 10 am.