



MINUTES OF NEW ZEALAND BRIDGE BOARD MEETING

Held at the Christchurch Bridge Club Wednesday 5th February 2014 commencing at Midday

PARTICIPATING: Kay Nicholas, Patsy Walters, Alan Turner, Graham Wakefield,
Murray Wiggins, Shirley Newton & Allan Barclay (from 12.50pm)

In Attendance: Alister Stuck Arie Geursen & Richard Solomon

1. WELCOME

Kay welcomed all to the meeting.

2. APOLOGY

Nil

3. MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Copies of the following minutes were circulated prior to the meeting.

- Board Meeting – 22nd November 2013
- Board Meeting – 21st December 2013

Moved confirmation of the Minutes of the Board Meetings held 22nd November 2013 & 21st December 2013.

CARRIED 01/2014

4. OUTSTANDING ITEMS

An updated list had been circulated.

- **Response Jan Spaans** – Alister sought an update regarding this long outstanding matter. Murray advised that it was his recollection that it was agreed at the November meeting that no response was necessary given the likely arrangements with Bridge NZ Ltd and the subsequent announcement of any such agreement. The Board considered it important that a response was made notwithstanding, and it was agreed that Alister would correspond with Jan on the Board behalf.

- **Bridge NZ Ltd** – Murray advised that a response to the proposal from Bridge NZ (2004) Ltd had not been attended to and undertook to draft a suitable reply with Graham's input.
- **New Zealand Club Championships** – At the last meeting concerns were expressed as to the amount of Entry Fees paid for the 2013 Club Heats of this Championship in the Waikato Bays Region. A letter to be sent to all Regions reminding them that the \$100.00 Entry Fees for each participating Club must be paid to provide a realistic travel equalisation fund for those who have to travel long distances. Murray & Kay agreed to prepare a draft for approval. Murray advised that this matter had not yet been attended to.

5. CORRESPONDENCE

The list of inward and outward Correspondence had been circulated prior to the meeting.

Moved that the Report summarising the Inward & Outwards Correspondence be received.

CARRIED 02/2014

6. REGIONAL REPORTS/ MEETING MINUTES

Minutes from 2 Regions were received and circulated prior to the Meeting.

1. Auckland Northland Region Minutes of 17 November 2013
2. Canterbury Region Minutes of 8 December 2013

Moved that the Minutes from the listed Regions be received.

CARRIED 03/2014

7. BOARD COMMITTEE MINUTES & REPORTS

International

Minutes for the International Committee meeting held 9th December 2013 circulated prior to the Board meeting.

Moved that the Minutes from the International Committee meeting held 9th December 2013 be received.

CARRIED 04/2014

Finance

Alan spoke briefly and presented the following Reports.

- P & L Report to 30th November 2013
- P & L Report to 31st December 2013
- P & L Report to 31st January 2014

Moved that the P & L Reports as circulated be received.

CARRIED 05/2014

Operations Report

This Report had been circulated prior to the meeting and once again provided a comprehensive overview of the various significant activities undertaken and outcomes achieved by the Secretary in the period covered by this Report.

Moved that the Operations Report as circulated be received.

CARRIED 06/2014

The following items in the Report were flagged for discussion.

- **Annual Returns**
Graham offered to collate the data collected from Clubs in the 2013 Annual Return. Alister to courier the information to Graham ASAP.
- **System Cards**
Feedback as to the difficulty being experienced by some people completing the new system card electronically. In a majority of instances the issues experienced are overcome when an appropriate version of Adobe Reader is downloaded.

Shirley advised that following the Bridge Teachers Workshop a completed System Card for new players will be made available with the content based entirely on the NZ Bridge lessons. It was also suggested that a System Card including conventions able to be played in Junior Tournaments, which could be modified by a partnership if necessary, also be made available in due course.

It was agreed that the Regulations Committee remind the National Directors as to the policy in place regarding the implementation and use of the new System Cards.

Bridge Development Officer Report

Richard spoke to his report which had been circulated prior to the meeting

Moved that the Bridge Development Officers Report as circulated be received.

CARRIED 06/2014

Congress Organising Sub Committee

Minutes for the Congress Organising Sub Committee meeting held 11th December 2013 circulated prior to the Board meeting.

Moved that the Minutes from the Congress Organising Sub Committee meeting held 9th December 2013 be received.

CARRIED 07/2014

The following items in the Minutes were flagged for discussion.

- **New Swiss Pairs Event**

The programme will include as a trial in 2014 a new 5A Swiss Pairs event aimed at open players below the rank of National Master (175 A Points) or the ABF equivalent. The event will run alongside the existing Open Swiss Pairs event which is to be upgraded from 10A to 15A.

- **Masterpoints – NZ Clubs Teams Champs**

This matter was most recently raised by delegates at the 2013 AGM at which the Board agreed to review the current policy whereby no Masterpoints are offered for the final contested at Congress. Following discussion and after considering the recommendation from the Congress Organising Sub Committee the Board felt the Award of Masterpoints was not appropriate.

Moved that the status quo be maintained and no Masterpoints be attached to the final of this event at Congress.

CARRIED 08/2014

- **Congress Brochure**

The meeting congratulated Richard for the new 2 sided Brochure produced to promote the 2014 National Congress. It was agreed that a copy would be emailed to all Clubs and Regional Committees and made available for download from the Website as well as be available at the Gold Coast Congress.

- **Smartphone App for Congress**

The meeting noted with interest the successful implementation of a Smartphone App by the organisers of the recent Summer Festival in Canberra. It was agreed that this would be idea for the National Congress and that Alister would seek out further information as part of his discussions with the ABF scheduled for late February.

- **Draft Budget 2014 Congress**

The first draft of the budget for the 2014 event was circulated prior to the meeting. Based on the 2013 attendances a small positive financial outcome is forecast for the 2014 Congress.

Marketing Committee

Minutes for the Marketing Committee meeting held 9th January 2014 were circulated prior to the Board meeting.

Moved that the Minutes from the Marketing Committee meeting held 9th January 2014 be received.

CARRIED 09/2014

8. GENERAL BUSINESS

- **NZ Bridge Foundation Inc**

The meeting discussed the activities of the Foundation in particular a perceived low profile and little apparent success with regard to bequests and other fundraising initiatives. It was agreed that Graham meet with the Foundation Chairperson Jo Clark to discuss these points and the way forward.

- **Regional Conference Planning**

The Agenda and assignment of various tasks and segments was confirmed.

- **Youth Interprovincials**

A robust discussion regarding the future of the Youth Interprovincials ensued. It was suggested that this event cease and be replaced with recognition of youth participation in Congress events with subsidies made available to facilitate youth entry and attendance at Congress with special emphasis on the Junior / Intermediate packages at the end of the week. It was agreed that Shirley would discuss various options with Youth Co-ordinator Susan Humphries and report back at the March Meeting.

- **2014 Interprovincials**

It was agreed that the 2014 Interprovincials be hosted by the Auckland Bridge Club & the Auckland Northland Regional Committee at the Auckland Bridge Club over the 3 days 29th November 2014 to 1 December 2014 (Saturday to Monday).

The format, including Teams of 4 and the appointment of a Regional Chef de Mission, replicate those implemented for the 2013 event held in Wellington subject to final advice in due course but that the commencement time on Saturday be 11am or 11.30am and the finish time on Monday be 2.30pm. Travel subsidies to remain unchanged and be based on the lower of either 'seat & bag' tickets or actual cost.

Arie will liaise with the host Club and Region to formally accept their offer to run the event in 2014.

- **Board Elections - Appointment of Scrutineers**

Moved that Mr Ross Hadwin and Dr Alan Doddridge be appointed as Scrutineers for the 2014 Boards member elections.

CARRIED 10/2014

- **Online Magazine**

Allan presented a mock up of the electronic version of the Bridge Magazine as it would appear from the April 2014 edition. Alan also presented information regarding Social Media, Advertising opportunities and plans to promote the Opt-in mailing list.

- **Media Committee**

Moved that a Media Committee be established comprising Richard Solomon, Allan Barclay & Shirley Newton with other to be added and ratified at a future meeting.

CARRIED 11/2014

▪ **Bridge Teachers Development Committee**

Moved that a Bridge Teachers Development Committee be established comprising Richard Solomon, Alister Stuck, Shirley Newton, Alan Turner, Tina McVeigh & Jenny Wilkinson.

CARRIED 12/2014

▪ **Provision of support to Executive Secretarial position beyond April 2014**

Deferred until the March meeting.

▪ **Confirmed Meeting Dates 2014**

Thursday 13 March	Board Meeting Koru Lounge Wellington
Thursday 17 th April	Board Meeting Koru Lounge Wellington
Thursday 15 th May	Board Meeting Koru Lounge Wellington
Saturday 28 th June	Board Meeting Koru Lounge Wellington
Sunday 29 th June	Regional Conference / Miramar Golf Club Wellington

Kay thanked all who had prepared Reports and / or Presentations for the Meeting.

Meeting Closed – 6.30pm