



**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
OF
NEW ZEALAND BRIDGE INCORPORATED
Held at 10 am on Saturday, 28 Sept 2013
In the Kingsgate Hotel Hamilton**

PRESENT NZ Bridge Board - Kay Nicholas (Chair), Graham Wakefield, Murray Wiggins, Allan Barclay & Patsy Walters.

Secretary of NZ Bridge – Alister Stuck

Chief Director - Arie Geursen

Auditor for NZ Bridge – David Macdonald FCA

Authorised Delegates

Allan Joseph (Kairangi), Russell Watt (Auckland), Elizabeth Kemp (Palmerston North), Bridget Wilcox (Wellington) David Skipper (Christchurch), Dot Rapley (Golden Bay), Mary Pennington (Marlborough), Karen Martelletti (Tauranga), Marilyn Jackson (Invercargill), Arie Geursen (Franklin), Brett Glass (Huntly), Heather Jared (Hutt), Chris Marshall (Picton), Steve Gray (Richmond), Judith Bishop (Thames), Lindsay Reid (Hamilton), Rona Driscoll (Taupo), Margaret Perley (Otago), Alan Doddridge (Hokowhitu), Linda Rigler (Karori), Ian Brash (Rangiora), Michael Johnstone (Timaru), Ron Humphries (Otaki), Susan Humphries (Akarana), Richard Bland (Whangarei)

Proxy Votes

Graham Wakefield (Royle Epsom & Howick), Kay Nicholas (Geraldine), Steve Gray (Nelson & Westport)

Observers

Keith Nicholas, Sharon Simiona, Noel Woodhall, Tony Lenart & Anthony Ker.

WELCOME

The Chairperson, Kay Nicholas, welcomed all those present at the 2013 Annual General Meeting of New Zealand Bridge Incorporated, Board members, authorised Club Delegates (or Alternates) and Observers. A roll call was taken of those present.

APOLOGIES

Alan Turner, Shirley Newton, Richard Solomon, Angela Royle, Phil Rutherford, Jan Spaans, Kate Davies, Anne Somerville, Kris Wooles & Wanganui Bridge Club.

Moved that the apologies be accepted

CARRIED

MINUTES of the 2012 AGM

Moved that the minutes as previously circulated be taken as read

CARRIED

MATTERS ARISING 2012 AGM

Nil

ANNUAL REPORT for year ended 31 March 2013

The Chair indicated that as the Annual Report had been circulated she proposed it be taken as read.

Moved that the Annual Report for the year ended 31 March 2013 be adopted.

CARRIED

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 31 March 2013

Alister Stuck led this segment of the Agenda summarising the Audited Financial Statements.

Moved that the audited Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2013 as presented be adopted.

CARRIED

APPOINTMENT OF AUDITOR

Moved that David Macdonald be appointed as Auditor for the 2013/2014 year

CARRIED

The Chairperson moved a vote of thanks for David Macdonald for the excellent work he did in the capacity as Honorary Auditor. Tony Lenart (a former Treasurer of NZ Bridge and its predecessor NZCBA) echoed these sentiments and complimented David for the work he has done in the role.

NZ BRIDGE FOUNDATION - PRESENTATION

Susan Humphries (Foundation Secretary/Treasurer) and Karen Martelletti (Trustee) led this segment and presented the Foundation's Chairpersons report and the Audited Financial Statements for the year to 31 March 2013.

GENERAL BUSINESS

▪ Discussion Item -Tournament Grades - Huntly Bridge Club

Bret Glass spoke to this item and advised the meeting that this was intended as formal Remit to the AGM.

Following advice from the Chairperson that as due process had not been followed the item was not a Remit but a Subject for Discussion, Brett withdrew the item and undertook to submit it via a Regional Conference next year.

▪ Discussion on Proposed Remit from the Board of NZ Bridge

Alister Stuck & Graham Wakefield presented this segment and outlined the rationale behind the changes that the Board was seeking. The meeting was allowed some time to discuss the following proposed changes with voting to take place at a Special General Meeting scheduled for 6pm Friday 4th October 2013.

- a. Amendment to Rule 10 to require that nominations for Board positions are sent to the secretary by "signature required" courier post, and the closing date for nominations and for return of the ballot papers be on the week days specified.
- b. Amendment to Rule 20 to cause the annual subscription levy payable by affiliated .clubs to be quarterly in advance rather than as one lump sum at the commencement of the financial year, and to calculate the quarterly payment in each case based upon the Home Club player members appearing on the Masterpoint Database at the end of the immediately preceding quarter.
- c. Amendment to Rule 28 to require that the notification of an appeal to the Bridge Appeal Tribunal of a decision by the Conduct, Discipline and Disputes Committee be accompanied by a deposit of \$1,500.
- d. That rule 36 be deleted, as a redundant rule, and be replaced with a new rule that stipulates that any player who owes NZ Bridge money for more than 60 days shall be suspended from participation in any activities conducted under the jurisdiction of New Zealand Bridge until the debt has been cleared.

- **Discussion Item - Club Teams Championships - Wellington Bridge Club**

Bridget Wilcox spoke to this item and asked for some discussion regarding the current policy whereby Masterpoints are not awarded at the Interclub finals. The Wellington Club found it difficult to get a strong open team line up as their players preferred to play in the other Congress events.

Arie responded outlining the background to the introduction of this event whereby it was intended as a low key fun event.

Given the strong support from the delegates for Masterpoints to be awarded at the Final it was agreed that the Board would review the situation during the coming year.

- **Discussion Item - Restructure of NZ Bridge Magazine**

Tony Lenart asked for an update regarding the proposal to transition the Magazine from paper based to electronic format. Allan Barclay responded and advised that it was planned to move to a new format early in 2014.

- **Discussion Item - Real-time Scoring**

Anthony Ker asked if there had been a change of heart regarding the policy whereby Real-time Scoring was not permitted at sanctioned Tournaments. Arie Geursen responded and confirmed that no change to policy was envisaged.

- **Closure**

There being no further business Kay Nicholas, thanked the Delegates and Observers for their contribution at what will be her last meeting as Chairperson.

Allan Barclay thanked Kay for her leadership and said he had learnt much about the principles of Governance during his time on the Board. Allan Joseph thanked Kay for the work she had undertaken on behalf of NZ Bridge during her term as Chairperson.

The Chair closed the meeting at 11.19 am