



## **MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF NZ BRIDGE INC**

**Commencing at 9.00 am on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> September 2019 at the  
Distinction Hotel Hamilton**

### **Welcome**

Allan welcomed everyone and declared the meeting open, handing over to Alister to conduct the roll call and apologies.

### **Participating**

#### **NZ Bridge Board**

Allan Morris (Chair), John Skipper, Karen Martelletti, Clare Coles, Greg Whitten & Anne Barrowclough.

#### **Officers of NZ Bridge**

Alister Stuck, National Secretary, Richard Solomon, Manager Major Events & Bridge Education & Murray Wiggins, Chief Director.

#### **Authorised Delegates**

Alan Geare (Otago), Alister Stuck (Hokowhitu), Robin Young (Marlborough), Mary Buckland (Ashburton), Kate Terry (Tauranga), Les Gould (Wanganui), Sue Brown (Kerikeri), Lynn Hall (Masterton), Jan Stupples (Christchurch), Jenny Cooper (Golden Bay), Mary Buckland (Ashburton) Steve Gray (Nelson & Richmond), Rona Driscoll (Taupo), Bryan Gallaher (Waikato), Colin Carryer (New Plymouth) Nigel Kearney (Wellington), Brett Glass (Huntly), Ray Curnow (Westport), Nick Cantlon (Te Awamutu), Marilyn Jackson (Invercargill), Lynne Fegan (Wanaka), Kay Nicholas (Timaru & Temuka), Jan Whyte (Palmerston North), Clare Coles (Cambridge), Richard Bland (Whangarei), Lindsay Reid (Hamilton), Pam Hancox (Karori), Deborah Tangney (Auckland) & Richard Solomon (Akarana)

#### **Authorised Proxies**

Alister Stuck (Royle Epsom), Mary Buckland (Rangiora), Clare Coles (Thames) & Rona Driscoll (Omokoroa & Putaruru)

#### **Observers**

Jan Spaans, Keith Nicholas, Sandra Calvert, David Brewer, Phil Rutherford, Derek Evennett, Trish Downward, Mike Neels, Eunice Eccles and David Edson.

## **Apologies**

Angela Royle, Fergus More, David Macdonald, North Shore, Gisborne, Hawera, Thames & Oamaru Bridge Clubs.

Moved: that the apologies be accepted.  
(John Skipper/ Clare Coles)

**CARRIED**

## **Minutes of the 2018 AGM**

Moved: that the Minutes of the 2018 AGM as previously circulated, (subject to a minor spelling correction) be adopted.  
(Ray Curnow / Steve Gray)

**CARRIED**

## **Annual Report for year ended 31 March 2019**

Moved: That the Annual Report for the year ended 31 March 2019 be adopted.  
(Allan Morris/ Rona Driscoll)

**CARRIED**

### *Matters Arising:*

Rona Driscoll congratulated the Board for a very good report and for its many achievements during the year.

## **Administration & Finance Reports for the year ended 31 March 2019**

This year Alister and Greg were invited to provide a brief report covering the Admin and finance portfolios. These were included in the Annual Report Booklet which was circulated prior to the meeting.

Moved: That the Administration and Finance portfolio reports for the year ended 31 March 2019 be adopted.  
(Allan Morris/ Rona Driscoll)

**CARRIED**

## **Audited Financial Statements for the year ended 31 Mar 2019**

Greg Whitten presented this segment summarising the financial performance and position for the year under review. Of note the funding of the RBM trial out of cashflow without need to draw on reserves and the lighter spend in International activities were covered. The result for the year is within budget and the overall financial position sound.

Moved: that the audited Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2019 as presented be adopted.  
Greg Whitten / Lynne Fegan)

**CARRIED**

## **Appointment of Auditor**

Moved: that David Macdonald be appointed as Honorary Auditor for the 2019/2020 year.  
(Nigel Kearney /Colin Carryer)

**CARRIED**

## **Remits from the Board**

John Skipper presented this segment firstly summarising the work and consultation done over the past 18 months preparing the revised constitution for consideration at this meeting.

After circulating the document 3 minor errors (cross references) were identified. Given that these changes would have no material impact on the intent of the remit John advised the meeting that the document would be updated to reflect the following corrections.

- Clause 9.7 – cross referenced to levies 14.2. Should be 15.2
- Clauses 14.4; 14.9; and 14.12 are cross referenced to clause 13, Board Meetings. They should be to clause 14, General Meetings.
- Clause 23.1 – cross referenced to 13.2; should be 14.2, General Meetings

Moved: That the NZ Bridge Constitution last revised on 11<sup>th</sup> October 2019 be replaced with the document dated 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2019 including the 3 minor corrections listed above.

(John Skipper / Brett Glass)

**CARRIED UNANOMOUSLY**

Moved: that following the adoption of the above remit 2 be withdrawn.

(Allan Morris / Anne Barrowclough)

**CARRIED**

## **General Business**

### **Changes to board requirements at Tournaments**

Brett Glass raised the Huntly Bridge Clubs concerns to the changes firstly that they were adopted without consultation and secondly the impact that the changes will have on tournament quality. He was specifically concerned that the change will reduce the number of boards played as clubs may opt for the minimal number. There may be some players who make a decision on whether to play at a tournament based on a (high) number of boards being played. These people could be disappointed on the day if the minimal number is selected by the tournament director.

The Board's position is that this change is not mandatory but offers clubs and directors some flexibility when considering table numbers and the time available within which to host the events. This is a 12 month trial after which the impact of the changes will be evaluated. While the Board does not consult prior to making a number of decisions especially operational matters such as this one, details of the trial were widely promulgated by way of a bulletin sent to Clubs and postings on the Website and social media.

### **NZ Bridge Foundation**

Derek Evennett gave a brief update as to the activities of the NZ Bridge Foundation. This included the commitment to support the NZB youth strategy, hosting the NZ Wide Pairs and the publication of promotional material and brochures. The first of which (bequests) was available at the meeting and will be promoted during congress. Derek invited all delegates to support the Foundation both with fund raising and opportunities to support the bridge community with grants.

### **Update from NZ Bridge**

Clare Coles led this segment and took the delegates through a PowerPoint summary of the Board's current activities and achievements to date. A copy of the presentation is annexed to these minutes.

### **General discussion topics**

Pam Hancox asked that more be done to promote our international teams in the Media.

Ray Curnow responded and outlined what was being done and the difficulties faced. Unless the Teams were winning events the mainstream media had little interest in such stories.

Sue Brown asked what was being done following the Tournament and Grading review. This had been put on hold while NZB finished its website platform.

Brett Glass thanked the Board for the support it was giving clubs in particular the directing flowchart. This is very helpful.

### **Closure**

There being no further business Allan thanked everyone for attending the meeting and for their participation. Allan wished everyone a successful time at congress and closed the meeting at 10.01am