



## **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2020**

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# **NEW ZEALAND BRIDGE INCORPORATED**

**as at**

**31 MARCH 2020**

## **BOARD MEMBERS & OFFICERS**

### **LIFE MEMBERS**

**Chairperson**

Allan Morris

**Board Members**

Anne Barrowclough, Clare Coles, Karen Martelletti,  
John Skipper & Greg Whitten

**Secretary**

Alistair Stuck

**Honorary Solicitor**

Fergus More

**Accountants**

BDO Manawatu

**Auditor**

David Macdonald FCA

**Life Members**

John Evitt  
Shirley Waymouth  
Kay Nicholas  
Alan Turner QSM

Tony Thomson  
John Wignall MNZM  
Arie Geursen ONZM  
Robin Young



## **NOTICE OF MEETING**

**THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING  
OF NEW ZEALAND BRIDGE INCORPORATED  
WILL BE HELD VIA ZOOM  
AT 4PM ON WEDNESDAY 14<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2020**

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## **AGENDA**

1. **Welcome**
2. **Roll Call & Apologies**
3. **Confirmation of Minutes – 2019 AGM held 28<sup>th</sup> September 2019**
4. **Annual Report for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2020**
5. **Audited Financial Statements for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2020**
6. **Appointment of Auditor**
7. **General Business**

**Alister C Stuck  
National Secretary  
21 September 2020**

# NZBridge

**MINUTES OF  
THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF  
NZ BRIDGE INCORPORATED  
Commencing at 9.00 am on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> September 2019  
at the Distinction Hotel, Hamilton**

**PRESENT**     **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)

**Proxies / Board Members representing Clubs**

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

**WELCOME** Allan welcomed everyone and declared the meeting open, handing over to Alister to conduct the Roll Call and Apologies.

**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 year ended 31 March 2019**

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

**Moved** "That the Administration & 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**

## **REMITTS 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 **three (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; & 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 2017 be replaced with the document dated 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2019 including the 3 minor corrections listed above."

John Skipper / Brett Glass

**CARRIED / UNANIMOUS**

**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.

The Boards 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 administrative matters such as this one, details of the trial were wildly 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 of the activities of the NZ Bridge Foundation. This included the commitment to support the New Zealand Bridge 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 achievements to date and current activities. 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.
  
- Brett Glass thanked the Board for the support it was giving Clubs in particular the Directing Flowchart which has been found to be 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**

# NZBridge

## ANNUAL REPORT

### Year ended 2019 / 2020

It is once again my pleasure on behalf of the Board to summarise what has happened over the last 12 months and to share some insights into what we are looking at in the years ahead.

What an end to the year. No one foresaw that the world would be rocked by a Global Pandemic that would closedown many economies and have such an impact on Society. As I write this Report the world is approaching 20 million Coronavirus cases.

In March this year the New Zealand Government adopted a hard approach imposing a level 4 lockdown. Because of the lockdown Bridge Clubs around the country were forced to close their doors.

We were truly fortunate that we could feed our addiction by playing online and I want to thank the many Clubs and individuals who got behind Online Bridge and made it happen. However, we need to remember only 10% of our overall membership played online leaving 90% of the membership unable to enjoy their sport.

When initial Lockdown Levels relaxed Clubs opened and are enjoying positive playing numbers. This may be still be in jeopardy as recently the Government imposed Alert level 3 in Auckland and Alert level 2 for the rest of New Zealand. We hope this is only a short-term glitch and we can resume Club and Tournament play soon. Until the recent announcement we were the envy of the world as we were open for Club and Tournament play. May that envy return as soon as possible.

Apart from the economic impact on Clubs and New Zealand Bridge due to no play we lost the usual intake of new members. The loss of new members is significant.

Last year we included for the first time a Scorecard which we repeat this year. **Last year's score is in parenthesis.**



## **The Board composition and function meet the needs of the New Zealand Bridge Community**

Refocus the Board to be more Governance only – Visionary and Strategic in focus

The Board has focused on:-

- Strategic and Policy direction
- Significant effort in dealing with COVID-19.

Nevertheless, the Board has had been involved in a range of operational matters including International, Online Bridge, Complaints, Affiliation.

Score 8/10 (7/10)

Constitution is relevant and supports the implementation of the Board and Organisation's Goals

Constitution approved at 2019 AGM.

Score 10/10 (10/10)

Uses technology to limit the cost of monthly meetings

The Board extensively uses Zoom for Board and other meetings.

Score 10/10 (10/10)

The Board is an exemplary Employer

The Board has an open, honest, inclusive relationship with staff.

Score 10/10 (10/10)

## **Knowing the Bridge Community**

The Board will be consultative and transparent and be open in its relationships

The Board continues to pursue an open consultative and transparent relationships). However, reach to players is limited by lack of a National Database.

Score 10/10 (10/10)

Number attending lessons and subsequently joining a Club; number leaving and, reason is monitored

Nothing has changed.

Score 3/10 (3/10)

Regional Bridge Mate pilot

Pilot concluded in September. 3 of the regions are served by regional bridge mates. Recruitment on hold pending review of regional committees.

Score 5/10 (10/10)

## **Provide a service to the Bridge Community that is relevant**

**A Review of the Tournament and Ranking / Grading system so the outcome increases Tournament participation**

**Level of planning undertaken. Introduced a restricted grade on a trial basis**

**Score 5/10 (2/10)**

**Develop new. and update current Teaching Resources for those teaching and seek opportunities to help players at all levels advance their game**

**Education and Teachers Committee continue to update and add to material. Rolled out an additional education resource**

**Score 8/10 (6/10)**

**Provide support mechanisms to Regional Committees so they can support New Zealand Bridge to deliver on its Key Strategies**

- **Commenced a Review of Regional Committees.**
- **Changed the funding model for Regional Committees.**

**We continue to have a challenge adequately resourcing Regional Committees.**

**Score 7/10 (5/10)**

**Ensure that bridge is played in accordance with prescribed Regulations and properly regulated as per New Zealand Bridge Manual**

**Game continues to be administered according to the Rules that govern the game. The Manual has been updated.**

**Score 10/10 (8/10)**

**Promote a supportive learning environment, e.g.- non-competitive bridge sessions and on-going seminars to both support the hesitant club member and develop a passion for bridge in developing players**

**Regional Bridge Mates running social Sundays and Novice Database. Some excellent work being done by Clubs but there is an inconsistency when viewed across the board.**

**Score 8/10 (10/10)**

## **Provide the Framework for the Bridge Community to flourish & grow**

**Consider how the Regional Committees can be better resourced to support, promote and encourage Bridge locally**

**Working Party established, Terms of Reference agreed and Party has met. However, progress has been slow. A couple of Committees are struggling**

**Score 5/10 (3/10)**

**Develop a Youth Bridge Strategy**

**Youth Strategy is in place but is subject to review. Youth Manager resigned and position vacant for several months. We have recently filled this position**

**Score 10/10 (10/10)**

**Provide the Framework for the Bridge Community to flourish & grow**

**(continued)**

Explore options for increasing participation in Club, Inter club, Regional and National events

Introduction of a Restricted Open Category has had a positive impact on Tournament participation.

Score 8/10 (8/10)

Raise the profile of Bridge at a National Level

We undertook a Research Project and now have a Blueprint. This requires a significant investment and is part of our longer-term planning

Score 8/10 (8/10)

Encourage members of Non-Affiliated Clubs to become Affiliated Members of New Zealand Bridge

A further Non-Affiliated Club has affiliated to New Zealand Bridge

Score 9/10 (8/10)

**Be the Conduit for Participation in the International Bridge Community**

Provide opportunities for players to represent New Zealand

Teams participated in Singapore and Wuhan.

We were instrumental in engaging with WBF to postpone events in 2021 due to Covid-19

Score 10/10 (10/10)

International players to share their experience at local Club Level

We lack a cohesive approach, patchy at best. A challenge exists in that a few of our international players do not play Club Bridge. Future international selection will have an obligation to share learnings.

Score 2/10 (0/10)

**Provide clear Financial Reporting**

There is financial transparency

Board receives monthly reporting

Score 10/10 (8/10)

Annual Budget and Financial performance presented at AGM. We continue to improve our reporting with the hope we can provide continuous reporting throughout the year.

Score 9/10 (7/10)

## **Provide clear Financial Reporting**

**Clear strategy on how New Zealand Bridge "gives back" to Clubs**

**Transparency on where funds are spent.**

**Areas we contribute to include- Directing, Educational Material, Tournaments, Masterpoints, Grading / Ranking, Conduct & Discipline, Manual, Regional Bridge Mates, Templates, and Documents.**

**Score 8/10 (10/10)**

New Zealand Bridge, promotes and organises National events. The most notable is Congress. Congratulations to Richard and the Congress Committee as last year we had record numbers with over 730 players participating throughout the event. Also successfully run were the Interprovincial and New Zealand Wide Pairs.

New Zealand Bridge supports the Bridge Zone Radio Podcast which continues to excel. The Podcast delivers a mix of knowledge sharing, information, and light heartedness. Special thanks to our hosts Barry Jones and Merana Cullen and regular contributor Judge Julie.

Behaviour has improved but once again we have sporadic problems. Regrettably with Online Bridge we had a few examples of bad and inappropriate behaviour. The responsibility must rest with the players. New Zealand Bridge will enforce the Rules.

Selections and Trials took place for Representatives to go to the World Championships in Italy in August / September 2020. This event along with the APBF Congress in Perth Australia were cancelled due to Covid-19. The prospects for International competitions in the short and medium term remain uncertain.

The NZ Bridge Manual was reworked and reworded during the year. Most changes are minor and represent improvements in consistency of terminology. We refer you to the Website for detail.

Recently the Board undertook a planning session as we contemplate the next 12 months, 3 years and beyond. We recognise that inevitably over time there will be changes. Our responsibility is to think about those changes and what they might look like. Over the coming months we will be doing additional work in this area and then sharing our thoughts and seeking feedback. Clearly top of the list is what we can do additionally to help Clubs. Our initial thinking is about employing Development Officers who can work with Clubs and Regional Committees on a growth programme.

The Board is ably supported by a few Standing Committees- International; and Regulations chaired by Board members along with our Regional Committees, Regional Bridge Mates, our Conduct, Discipline & Disputes Committee chaired by

Len Andersen and our Auditor of many years standing David Macdonald. Our thanks to you all for the work you undertake and the support you give us

Also, we are supported by a large group of volunteers who contribute their knowledge, time, and energy to help our game flourish. We extend our gratitude.

Lastly but not least I want to extend my thanks to the management team of Alister and Richard. Their dedication and work ethic has been outstanding. They have been a delight to work with as we take steps to improve the game and ultimately the value, we deliver to you, the player.

Allan Morris

Chairperson

New Zealand Bridge





## **NATIONAL TOURNAMENT RESULTS FROM 2019**

<b>New Zealand Pairs</b>	Shane Harrison (Aus) & James Coutts (Aus)
<b>New Zealand Pairs Plate</b>	June Lei & Zhuqiang Tian (Aus)
<b>New Zealand Teams</b>	Ashley Bach, Michael Cornell, Brian Mace, Tom Jacob, Matthew Brown & Michael Ware
<b>New Zealand Restricted Open Pairs</b>	Nicky Bowers & Joy Watkinson
<b>Restricted Open Swiss Pairs</b>	Pru Robertson & Mark Lynn
<b>Congress Pairs</b>	Russell Wilson & Russell Dive
<b>Open Swiss Pairs</b>	Charles & Anthony Kerr – N/S Harman Yuan & Andrew Liu – E/W
<b>New Zealand Senior Pairs</b>	Tom Kiss (Aus) & Alasdair Beck (Aus)
<b>New Zealand Intermediate Pairs</b>	Yvonne Hughes & John Waller
<b>Intermediate Swiss Pairs</b>	Chris Fleming & Jessica Morris
<b>New Zealand Mixed Pairs</b>	Jinghui Yang (Aus) & Gong Yunfei
<b>New Zealand Same Sex Pairs</b>	Martin Lofgren (Sweden) & Calle Ragnarsson (Sweden)
<b>Cormack Cup</b>	Judy Pawson, Kate Terry, Karen Martelletti & Julie Sheridan

<b>New Zealand Senior Teams</b>	Evelyn & Bob Hurley & Alasdair Beck (Aus) & Tom Kiss (Aus)
<b>New Zealand Intermediate Teams</b>	Barbara Dow, Upal Sarathchandra, Ric Broadhurst & John Waller
<b>New Zealand Multiple Teams</b>	Charles & Anthony Ker, Karl Hayes & Nigel Kearney
<b>Novice Pairs</b>	Neil Sargisson & Jacob Pilalis – N/S Kevin Griffin & Ratilal Ranchhod – E/W
<b>Dan Gifford Rubber Bridge</b>	Jo & Sam Simpson
<b>Baden Wilson</b>	Not awarded
<b>New Zealand Youth Teams</b>	Yiwei Qi, Zachary Yan, Tim Pan & Sheryl Luo,



# NZBridge

**WINNERS OF INTER-PROVINCIAL TEAMS  
HOSTED BY  
CHRISTCHURCH BRIDGE CLUB  
23<sup>rd</sup> NOVEMBER – 25<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2019**

**Open**

Wellington  
Chef de Mission – Lynda Rigler

Karl Hayes, Nigel Kearney, Alan Grant  
& Anthony Ker

**Women**

Auckland / Northland  
Chef de Mission – Douglas Russell

Andi Boughey, Carole Richardson,  
Christine Wilson & Fuxia Wen

**Senior**

Canterbury  
Chef de Mission – John Kruinger

Jane & John Skipper , Paula Gregory &  
Michael Johnstone

**Intermediate**

Wellington  
Chef de Mission – Lynda Rigler

Jeremy Morley, Tegan Bennik, Simon  
Louisson & Mariusz Tumilowicz

**Dougal MacLean Trophy**

Wellington Region