



**MINUTES OF NEW ZEALAND BRIDGE BOARD MEETING**  
**Held via at the Conference Centre Wellington Airport on Tuesday**  
**14<sup>th</sup> July 2015 commencing at 8.30am**

**PARTICIPATING:** Arie Geursen, Allan Joseph, Phil Rutherford, Karen Martelletti,  
Alan Turner & Shirley Newton

**In Attendance:** Alister Stuck, National Secretary & Murray Wiggins Chief  
Director

**1. WELCOME**

Arie welcomed all to the meeting.

**2. APOLOGIES** Anthony Hopkins & Richard Solomon

**3. PREVIOUS MINUTES**

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

- |                          |                           |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Board Meeting Minutes | 12 <sup>th</sup> May 2015 |
| 2. National Conference   | 13 June 2015              |

Moved that the Minutes of the Board Meeting held 12<sup>th</sup> May 2015 & the  
National Conference held 13 June 2015 be confirmed.

**CARRIED 29/2015**

**4. REGIONAL REPORTS & MEETING MINUTES**

Minutes from a number of Regions were received and circulated prior to the  
Meeting namely

- |  |               |
|--|---------------|
| 1. TOTS Regional Minutes               | 17 May 2015   |
| 2. Wellington Regional Minutes         | 03 March 2015 |
| 3. Wellington Regional Minutes         | 31 March 2015 |
| 4. Wellington Regional Minutes         | 19 May 2015   |
| 5. Canterbury Regional Minutes         | 11 June 2015  |
| 6. Auckland Northland Regional Minutes | 5 July 2015   |

Moved that the Minutes from the listed Regions be received.

**CARRIED 30/2015**

The meeting noted the growth initiatives being pursued by the Auckland  
Northland Region, in particular the planned coaching tour for existing players by

Ron Klinger later in the year. Alister will write to congratulate them on behalf of the Board.

## **5. OUTSTANDING ITEMS**

An updated list had been circulated. A number of items were completed since the last meeting including the annual Budget and the Strategic Plan. It was agreed that Alan would prepare a 4 year rolling Budget prior to the next meeting. It was further agreed that Alister would resend the Scope and delegations of authorities to the appropriate committee chairs for review and return in an effort to clear this long overdue matter.

## **6. 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 31/2015**

## **7. BOARD REPORTS & MEETING MINUTES**

### **Finance & Membership**

Alan presented P & L Reports for the months ending 31 May 2015 & 30 June 2015, along with a summary of the Levies invoiced as at 30 June 2015

Moved that the Financial Reports and Levies Summary as circulated be received.

**CARRIED 32/2015**

### **BDO Report**

Moved that the BDO Report as circulated be received.

**CARRIED 33/2015**

It was agreed that the budget for the forthcoming youth weekend be increased by \$3300 to \$8300 given the higher than anticipated registrations which currently stand at 52.

It was also agreed that Richard revert to Jan Spaans of Bridgemate New Zealand regarding the restriction imposed on NZ Bridge as to the use of their 40 Bridgemates recently purchased. The Board does not wish to limit the use to National events and above and accordingly Richard is to seek to have that restriction revoked at some cost or otherwise.

## 8. TASKFORCE REPORTS

### *Strategic & Business Plan-*

Following its release it was agreed that Richard engage with the Regional Committees regarding the rollout and implementation of the Plan. Karen, Shirley & Phil will facilitate a phone conference call with Richard to workshop this project.

### *Tournament Regulations-*

Allan Joseph reported that the drafting was almost completed and he expected to have the regulations finalised within 2 weeks.

### *Board Manual-*

The Board has engaged Anne Barrowclough to investigate how other sporting and “not for profit” organisations of similar size are governed and organise themselves compared to NZ Bridge and provide the Board with an objective and independent report on possible alternative options (if any) for NZ Bridge

### *Website Upgrade-*

Karen reported slow progress with regard to the finalisation and roll out of the revamped website.

### *Tournament Participation-*

Alan agreed to prepare a scoping document for this project to be presented at the next meeting.

## 9. GENERAL BUSINESS ITEMS

### **Appointment- National & Regional Recorders**

Moved that the following appointments be ratified for a further 2 year term commencing 14 July 2015

Region	Name
National Recorder	Malcolm Smith
Auckland Northland	Russell Watt
Waikato Bays	Malcolm Smith
Central Districts	Colin Carryer
TOTS	Shelia Beggs
Canterbury	Jenny Wilkinson
Otago/Southland	Dennis McCaughan

**CARRIED 34/2015**

It was noted that Tony Thomson of Wellington did not seek reappointment and that Murray & Malcom were working to fill this vacancy as soon as possible.

### **Reprint- NZ Bridge Manual**

It was agreed that Allan Joseph and Murray Wiggins would coordinate the reprint of the NZ Bridge Manual.

### **AGM 2015**

Moved that the 2015 Annual General Meeting be held on Saturday, 26 September 2015 at the Kingsgate Hotel, 100 Garnett Avenue, Te Rapa, Hamilton, commencing at 10.00 am.

**CARRIED 35/2015**

### **Remits for the AGM**

Moved that That Notice be given on the Order Paper for the 2015 AGM that the following Remits Nos. 1 – 5 respectively be proposed to be resolved on that occasion, namely:-

#### **Remit No. 1**

**That Clause 3 – Interpretation** – be amended (in the appropriate alphabetical location in each instance) as hereinafter set out, namely:-

1. By deleting the definition of “Tribunal” and replacing with the following definition:  
  
“Tribunal” means any Tribunal from time to time constituted as the Bridge Appeal Tribunal in accordance with and pursuant to Rule 28 for the purpose of determining any appeal from a decision of the Conduct, Discipline and Disputes Committee.
2. By inserting a definition “Regulations” as follows:  
  
“Regulations” means the Tournament Regulations as adopted from time to time by resolution of the Board of NZ Bridge and published in the Manual and/or on the NZ Bridge website.
3. By inserting a definition “Form” as follows:  
  
“Form” means the Form specified from time to time by resolution of the Board of NZ Bridge as prescribed for the purpose of filing a Notice of Appeal with the Registrar of the Bridge Tribunal.
4. By inserting a definition “Procedures” as follows:  
  
“Procedures” means the formal Procedures as adopted from time to time by resolution of the Board of NZ Bridge as applicable in the event any matter is referred to the Conduct, Discipline and Disputes Committee, and published in the Manual and/or on the NZ Bridge website.
5. By inserting a definition “Manual” as follows:

“Manual” or “NZ Bridge Manual” means the most recent edition of the Manual as published from time to time by NZ Bridge and available on the NZ Bridge website as a reference for Regional Committees, Affiliated Clubs and Players detailing the required standards relating to the conduct of bridge matters applicable to and/or governing Bridge Organisation, Administration and Operations in New Zealand.

**CARRIED 36/2015**

**Remit No. 2**

**That Clause 7 – Affiliation** – be amended as herein after set out, namely:-

That Clause 7.2 be deleted and replaced by the following in lieu:

“7.2 Every Affiliated Club shall be bound by the provisions of these Rules by virtue of its affiliation and all members of the Club are, by virtue of that affiliation, also bound by the provisions of these Rules to the extent the same apply to members of an Affiliated Club participating in the game of Contract Bridge.”

**CARRIED 37/2015**

**Remit No. 3**

**That Clause 22 – Treasurer** – be deleted and that the following Clause be inserted in lieu, namely:-

“22 Treasurer and Honorary Solicitor

22.1 The Board shall appoint from time to time an independent professional accounting firm to assist on a fee for service basis with the keeping and maintenance of proper books of account and financial records for NZ Bridge.

22.2 Notwithstanding Clause 22.1 the Board may appoint one of its members to act as Treasurer having such duties and responsibilities as the Board shall determine including liaising with such accounting firm and reporting regularly to the Board on the state of NZ Bridge’s finances and ensuring an audited set of Financial Statements is presented each year to the AGM.

22.3 The Board may from time to time appoint a person to be the Honorary Solicitor for NZ Bridge, who shall not be disqualified from such appointment by virtue of being a member of an Affiliated Club.

22.4 Nothing in Clause 22.3 shall preclude the Board from at any time or times engaging any other firm or person to provide legal services to or for the benefit of NZ Bridge and/or independently instructing the performance of such services.”

**CARRIED 38/2015**

#### Remit No. 4

**That Clause 27 – Conduct, Discipline and Disputes** – be amended as hereinafter set out, namely:-

That Clauses 27.3 to 27.5 inclusive be deleted and replaced by the following in lieu:

“27.3 Any determination of such allegation, complaint, matter, breach or failure may involve the imposition by the Conduct, Discipline and Disputes Committee upon such person or persons of any one or more of the following sanctions:

- a) Suspension or prohibition (temporary or for a defined period or for life) of such person or persons from participation in any capacity in all or any Contract Bridge events, tournaments, competitions, matches or sessions conducted under the auspices of NZ Bridge or by any Affiliated Club, or by any other party with the approval of NZ Bridge, and to extend, continue or vary the terms of, or lift, a current suspension or prohibition already in force;
- b) Imposing any condition or restrictions upon the participation by such person or persons in any capacity in any Contract Bridge events, tournaments, matches or sessions or giving any directions relating to such participation, whether temporarily or for a defined period or for life;
- c) A bar upon that person or persons being nominated as a candidate for, or being appointed to any vacancy in any office under this Constitution, or being employed by NZ Bridge, whether indefinitely or for a specified period of time;
- d) A bar upon that person or persons being selected as an official or as a playing member of any representative team or squad whether at club, regional, national or international level, whether indefinitely or for a specified period of time;
- e) A formal reprimand or censure;
- f) Imposing a monetary fine not exceeding \$20,000 payable to NZ Bridge, and fixing the date by which payment of such fine is due;
- g) Awarding a sum or sums of money payable to NZ Bridge on behalf of any person or persons affected by the conduct or behaviour the subject of the determination by way of reparations to or in recognition of costs and expenses incurred by any person or persons, and fixing the date by which payment of such sum or sums is due;
- h) A requirement that such person or persons meet the cost of, or make a payment towards the costs of, conducting any such enquiry (and carrying out any associated investigations) and/or making such determination, or the costs and expenses incurred by any Committee members, witnesses or others in relation to a hearing, such

payments to be made to NZ Bridge on such basis and by such date or dates as the Committee shall order;

- i) Any order for publication by the Board of the Committee's determination and/or the reasons for such determination, on such basis and in such manner as the Committee shall require; and
- j) Any order for notification of the Committee's determination and/or the reasons for such determination together with any related recommendation and details of any sanction or sanctions imposed, to any overseas bridge organisation, federation or association, on such basis and in such manner as the Committee thinks fit.

27.4 The Chairperson, or any two (2) members of the Committee in the Chairperson's absence or unavailability, shall have the power to impose upon any such person or persons as an interim measure any sanction allowed under Rule 27.3 (a) or Rule 27.3 (b), from any date following receipt of the allegation or complaint until the enquiry into and/or determination of the allegation or complaint shall have been completed by the Committee, and to extend, continue or vary the terms of, or lift, such a sanction already in force.

27.5 The Committee, in enquiring into and/or determining any allegation or complaint, shall undertake a process or procedure in each case at its sole discretion but in accordance with the Committee's adopted Procedures as from time to time promulgated in the NZ Bridge Manual, and otherwise consistent with principles of natural justice, but shall hold such enquiry in camera, and further shall be entitled to consider its verdict, decision or determination in respect of such allegation or complaint in private."

**CARRIED 39/2015**

## **Remit No. 5**

**That Clause 28 – Right of Appeal** – be deleted and replaced with the following Clause in lieu, namely: -

"28 Right of Appeal

28.1 A verdict, decision or determination made by the Conduct, Discipline and Disputes Committee under these Rules may be appealed by any person affected only and exclusively to a Tribunal called the Bridge Appeal Tribunal established under Clause 28.4.

28.2 An appeal is commenced when such person lodges a Notice of Appeal on the Form from time to time prescribed by NZ Bridge for that purpose with the Registrar of the Sports Tribunal established by the Board of Sport and Recreation Act 2002 and continued under the provisions of the Sports Anti-Doping Act 2006, who shall also act as Registrar of the Tribunal.

28.3 Any appeal notified in accordance with Clause 28.2 shall not be treated as valid unless the Notice is:

- (a) accompanied by a filing fee of \$1,500 paid to the Registrar of the Tribunal, and a copy of the formally written record of the verdict, decision or determination of the Conduct, Discipline and Disputes Committee the subject of the Appeal; and
  - (b) is filed within ten (10) days of the date such written decision has been advised to and received by such person or persons as are the subject of the decision.
- 28.4 The Tribunal shall be constituted on each occasion a valid appeal is filed with the Registrar by the Chairperson of the Sports Tribunal for the purpose of adjudicating upon the appeal after the completion of any interlocutory processes, utilising not less than two (2) current members of the Sports Tribunal (one of whom shall act as the Tribunal Chairperson) and one (1) member chosen from a standing panel of persons experienced and knowledgeable with respect to the game of bridge and the practical application of its Laws and Regulations including the conduct of bridge tournaments and events, the membership of such standing panel being appointed and/or discharged by resolution from time to time of the Board of NZ Bridge.
- 28.5 The practice and procedure of the Tribunal shall be regulated by and be consistent with the Sports Tribunal Rules as promulgated from time to time, modified on any occasion as the Tribunal may think fit, provided however that the Tribunal shall also have the powers to impose any one or more of the sanctions, orders, restrictions or prohibitions identified in Clause 27 as available to the Conduct, Discipline and/or Disputes Committee.
- 28.6 The Tribunal shall have the powers to:
  - (a) if in the opinion of the Tribunal Chairperson the interest of justice so require, to order that security for costs be lodged by any party or parties with the Registrar; and/or
  - (b) make an order for costs incurred in respect of the appeal by any party and/or the Tribunal, against any party or parties.
- 28.7 Hearings will be on the record unless in the opinion of the Tribunal there are exceptional circumstances requiring an oral hearing. The Chairperson of the Tribunal shall be entitled to determine and give directions relating to prehearing case management, procedural and/or evidential matters, and to exercise such function without reference to the other Tribunal members.
- 28.8 Any penalties orders or sanctions imposed by the Conduct, Discipline and Disputes Committee are deemed to be suspended after the filing of a valid appeal unless, upon the application of any party and after providing the opportunity for both sides to be heard, the Tribunal determines that any or all such penalties, orders or sanctions shall continue in force pending determination of the appeal."

**CARRIED 40/2015**

Meeting Closed 3.30pm



### Confirmed Meeting Dates 2015

Date	Day	Venue
18 Aug 2015	Tues – Board Meeting	Wgtn Airport Conf Room
26 Sept 2015	Sat – AGM	Kingsgate Hotel Hamilton
20 Oct 2015	Tues – Board Meeting	Wgtn Airport Conf Room