



New Zealand Bridge

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF MANAGEMENT of NEW ZEALAND BRIDGE Held at the Palmerston North Bridge Club 16 / 17 / 18 November 2007

PRESENT Alister Stuck (Chair), Arie Geursen, Norm Silcock, Arleen Schwartz, Kay Nicholas, Susan Edwards, Murat Genc, Tony Lenart, Graham Wakefield

In Attendance

Richard Solomon (Bridge Development Officer), Trish Scott (Secretary).
On 18 November, - Tom Jacobs and Alan Turner (for International Programme Review)

APOLOGY Noel Woodhall

1/2007 “Moved Kay Nicholas/seconded Arleen Schwartz that the apology be accepted” **CARRIED**

The Chair welcomed members to the inaugural meeting of the New Zealand Bridge Board of Management

MINUTES

2/2007 Moved Kay Nicholas / seconded Murat Genc “That the Minutes of the Management Committee of the NZCBA meeting held 31 August 2007 be accepted as a true and correct copy” **CARRIED**

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Bridge Teachers’ Funds	Issue pending
Charities Commission	Following discussions it was recommended that Clubs should make their own arrangements to be registered as a Charity..
SPARC Registration	Ongoing
Scoring Programme	Arie following up with Johnny Lenart regarding licence agreement
Bridge Teachers W/E	Covered in report from Bridge Development Officer
Masterpoint Programme	Dealt with in Agenda
Constitution	Has been widely circulated

CORRESPONDENCE

Discussion regarding the information in the masterpoint manual and that which went out with the two letters regarding the increased charges.

3/2007 Moved Kay Nicholas/seconded Arie Geursen “That the manual information be included in the next newsletter to go out and noted on the website” **CARRIED**

4/2007 Moved Arleen Schwartz/seconded Norm Silcock “That the inwards and outwards correspondence as tabled be accepted” **CARRIED**

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Services

Richard spoke to his report

Bridge Teachers' Weekend Went well but not well supported – discussion that this would be better at a different time of year

Schools Possibility of four schools within the Howick area becoming involved

Mini Bridge Sessions have been held in Tauranga this year – discussion held about sessions with / without masterpoints

Dorchester Discussion regarding the current situation faced by lending and investment institutions and how that might impact on our Sponsorship arrangements in the New Year. Dorchester only marketed their Equity Release product at Congress and information on this went out with the last newsletter. Opportunities exist for interested people to work part time for Dorchester to liaise with bridge clubs in the promoting of their products.

Administration

Masterpoint Programme Discussion on the proposal from Treshna, including the suggestions from Kay Nicholas, the current programme and equipment and what might be required to update.

5/2007 Moved Arie Geursen / seconded Norm Silcock “That we accept the proposal in principle subject to a firm quote for the work and supporting documentation along with timelines being sought from Treshna” **CARRIED**

In view of the above motion the following was tabled

6/2007 Moved Tony Lenart/seconded Kay Nicholas “That the Honorary Solicitor be consulted as to whether the Board is authorised to fund the masterpoint scheme upgrade from the Gifford bequest” **CARRIED**

Manuals Discussion regarding updating and availability of Masterpoint Manual; inclusion of extended points charts; the forms currently in use; to be made available on the web for downloading for use, other than the copies being printed and sent to Clubs, Board of Management, Bridge Development Officer and National Directors

Re-Use of Computer Numbers Clarification to be sought regarding this.

Grade Changes Otago / Southland Centre had some queries from clubs regarding the Junior / Intermediate grade changes and reason for the decision = came about through poor attendance at Junior and Intermediate tournaments and belief variation to this will improve attendances. Australian Bridge Federation have now amended their regulations and recognise a New Zealand Junior as a ‘Novice’ there; an Intermediate as ‘Restricted’ there. An Open player in New Zealand, is ‘Open’ in Australia.

Finance

Reports had previously been circulated to the meeting. As some of the data was not accurate, further information will be circulated by the Treasurer. YTD currently shows a surplus; Congress accounts for 2007 are yet to be consolidated

Overdue debtors – Treasurer to print off overdue information and send copy to the Secretary to follow up with the Clubs. This process will occur when payment has not been received within 60 days from date of invoice.

7/2007 Moved Tony Lenart / seconded Arleen Schwartz “That the schedule of payments as presented be accepted.” **CARRIED**

SPARC Registration Discussion regarding ability to have New Zealand Bridge recognised. Tony Lenart to approach Stephen Henry seeking assistance with this.

Regulations

Directors' examinations took place last weekend.

New Laws – Arie has been in discussions with ABF regarding adoption of the new laws. Following discussion it was agreed to go with the ABF's suggested date of 1 June 2008. Interpretations between the two countries have been largely agreed but are not yet ready to table. A draft will need to go to Zone 7 Laws Commission Organisation for ratification first. Martin Oyston is to publish the Laws in New Zealand and Australia. Director training will be provided by NZ Bridge the exact format of which has yet to be worked out. The most significant changes involve the revoke and insufficient bid laws.

System Card Query from Congress – Sub Committee to advise outcome of discussions regarding this

System Card Julie Atkinson to be asked whether she still has the Word template of the modified NZCBA system card she provided previously

System Card/Scorer Otago Club to be requested whether they would make the template available to NZ Bridge. Martin Oyston to be approached whether he would be prepared to create and carry a stock of these with the new logo.

Pre-Alerts It is not sufficient to simply have these on the system card, a verbal statement drawing attention to the pre-alerts, if any, is also required

Restricted Tournaments Clarification that although a Club may divide tournaments into different grades as they consider appropriate for prizes, however, it is the overall results will which be awarded the B points relative to that tournament.

Congress

The draft accounts show a surplus. 604 players registered as against 556 last year; 78 Australians as against 47 last year. The programme is looking to be the same as last year apart from the dropping of the Individual event. The Organising Committee is looking to appoint an Operations Manager. Noted improvement in the hotel food and the new style of the bulletin proved popular. Discussion about the masterpoint allocations for Congress – information is provided on the walls of the corridor leading to the playing rooms, suggestion these be included in the playing booklet; masterpoint charts – Congress and Administration Committees to reconcile these.

2009 Congress is scheduled for September. We have not received a date yet for the Bermuda Bowl. September will be the date for 2010 Congress.

2010 PABF To be held in May. The Organising Committee made the Board aware that funds would have to be available for organisation and preparation in 2009. The Board will look to have fund raising event during 2009, possibly a nation wide quiz or bridge event, Richard and Susan to discuss and follow up.

ASP/NZ Clash Richard yet to hear back regarding this.

Recorders' Report tabled.

8/2007

Moved Alister Stuck / seconded Susan Edwards "That the Recorders' Report as tabled be accepted."

CARRIED

International

Request received from Karen Cumpstone for a release to enable her to trial for Canada in 2008. Letter to be written to Karen giving her eligibility to do this.

Review of Programme To be undertaken 18th November

Trials Murat to take over responsibility for International and follow up with Wellington Club regarding the trials weekend

General Business

AGM Richard to write to the Education Department regarding the remit from Canterbury Centre. The Waikato Remit to be placed on the agenda for the new Board to consider

This part of the meeting concluded at 10.20 pm to re-convene at 9.00 am on Saturday 17 November 2007

Second Session 17 November 2007 9.00 am

The Board used workshops as a format for working through the transition from New Zealand Contract Bridge Association to New Zealand Bridge Incorporated. These developed a framework under which the new Board would function and at the conclusion of the day the Board agreed to convene two working groups as follows to progress particular aspects of its current responsibilities.

Transition Task to oversee project, achieve transition to New Zealand Bridge and communicate with Clubs and Centres

Graham Wakefield, Arie Geursen, Norm Silcock, Kay Nicholas, Sue Edwards and Trish Scott

Business as Usual

Task to ensure that day to day operations continue up until 1 April 2008 with the committees continuing under same titles

Norm Silcock, Richard Solomon, Arleen Schwartz, Murat Genc, Noel Woodhall, Alister Stuck, Tony Lenart and Trish Scott
Murat requested to take on the specific tasks involving International

The issue of levy for the 2008 year was clarified with the following motion.

9/2007 Moved Graham Wakefield / seconded Kay Nicholas “That from 1 April 2008 the masterpoint levy of \$2.00 per player will not be paid to the Centres but held and paid to the Regional Committees once a bank account under their control is established” **CARRIED**

Levy

Invoices to go out following 1 March for payment by 1 April 2008.

10/2007 Moved Alister Stuck / seconded Graham Wakefield “That the levy remains at \$14.00 inclusive of GST. However the Board is now also required to collect the \$2.00 levy previously paid to the Centres. Therefore the levy was set at \$16.00 inclusive of GST with \$2.00 a member going to the six Regional Committees, in accordance with 20.2 in the Constitution” **CARRIED**

Charities Commission

11/2007 Moved Graham Wakefield / seconded Alister Stuck “That authority be given to make application to the Charities Commission for recognition of New Zealand Bridge under the Charities Act.” **CARRIED**

Third Session Sunday 18 November 10 am

International Programme Review – International Committee

Present were Tom Jacob, Coach and Alan Turner, the International Committee and other members of the Board who had been invited to attend.

Tom spoke to his report. The very professional manner of the central organisation was acknowledged as was the considerable administration and cost savings involved in the travel arrangements made covering the trips, both internal and overseas.

The International Committee will report the outcome of the International Review and its recommendations for the 2008 year, to the Board as soon as possible