



New Zealand Bridge

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD
OF NEW ZEALAND BRIDGE**
Held Wednesday March 17th 6.00pm via Phone Conference

PARTICIPATING Kay Nicholas (Chair), Norm Silcock, Patsy Walters, Graham Wakefield, Alan Turner, Michael Ware.

In Attendance Alister Stuck Secretary, Richard Solomon BDO

Apologies Arie Geursen, Murray Wiggins

1 WELCOME

Kay welcomed all to the meeting.

2 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES- February 5th 2010

Moved the minutes of the February meeting were a true and correct record of the meeting.

CARRIED 09/2010

3 CORRESPONDENCE

The list of inwards and outwards correspondence was circulated prior to the meeting.

Moved Inwards & Outwards Correspondence as circulated be received and approved.

CARRIED 10/2010

4 OUTSTANDING ITEMS

Outstanding Items as published were reviewed and updated.

Jean Peche Policy

Michael is to prepare and circulate a policy document no later than March 31st 2010.

Regional Recorders

Alister is to contact Noel Woodhall regarding the preparation of guidelines for the Regional Recorders.

Masterpoint Charges

The Memo to Clubs drafted by Norm was adopted at the meeting. Alister will distribute to the Clubs, Regional Committees and publish on the Website.

Tournament Schedule 2011 & 2012

Alister advised that Susan Edwards had circulated the skeleton for 2011. At this stage only two Regions have responded confirming the proposed dates for the 10A & 15A events in their catchments. A proposal to host both the North Island Pairs and Teams as part of a 4 day Easter Congress in 2011 is being considered by the Auckland and Waikato Bays Regions. Susan will distribute the 2012 skeleton shortly.

Charities Status

Graham reported that execution of the Variation to the Trust Deed is progressing and that he will propose resolutions during the meeting to enable the transfer of the Gifford Estate Fund to the Foundation. This is subject to the approval of the Foundation's charities status by the Charities Commission once the revised Trust Deed is available.

NZ Bridge Manual

Alister advised that the updating of the Manual for was well underway and the draft would be distributed during the following week. It was noted that the Masterpoint Manual would be updated and combined with the Manual this year.

It was agreed that additional copies of the Manual would be available for purchase at a cost of \$15.00.

Annual Review of Scope & Delegation of Authority

Those present were reminded that the S&DA documents are subject to annual review. Committee Chairs are required to complete the review and forward documents with proposed amendments to the Secretary for distribution. All reviews are to be completed ASAP so that any amendments can be ratified at the May meeting in Wellington.

5 BOARD REPORTS

Operations

It was moved that the Operations Update as circulated be taken as read.

CARRIED 11/2010

PABF 2010

Richard reported that to date 45 Teams had registered for the PABF. The entries in each section are as follows:

Open	15
Women	6 or 7
Seniors	8 or 9
Youth U26	8
Youth U21	4

The format for the Championships has yet to be agreed. Richard advised the meeting that New Zealand Bridge would be invited to enter a 2nd Seniors team in the event. It was agreed that the International Committee would manage the nomination process.

Finance

Alan advised the meeting that the 2009 Accounts would be available for distribution by the end of March. David Macdonald has sought clarification regarding the Audit statement from the Waikato Bays Region which does not refer to the correct accounting period. Alan is following this up with the Regional Chair Karen Martelletti. BDO Manawatu are finalising the review of the March 2009 GST return and will advise their findings direct to the Auditor.

Alister reported that the current year's records are totally up to date and he does not envisage any delays in completing the March 2010 accounts or a repeat of the issues encountered during the previous year.

New Zealand Bridge will move to a 2 monthly GST return period effective 1 April 2010.

Alan concluded his report by requesting any amendments to the budget requests by 31 March 2010. The final budget is to be presented and ratified at the April meeting.

Alan left the meeting at 6.40pm

6 REGIONAL REPORTS

Copies of meeting minutes from 2 Regions (Wellington & Waikato Bays) were circulated prior to the meeting. It was moved that the reports be taken as read.

CARRIED 12/2010

Richard left the meeting at 6.50pm

7 GENERAL BUSINESS

2010 Annual Returns

Alister reported that 11 Clubs had not filed their Annual Returns and that he had enlisted the help of the Regional Committees to complete this exercise. This has delayed the preparation of the Annual Levy Accounts and the completion of the WBF membership return.

It was noted that both projects would be completed during the following week and membership details for the offending Clubs would be taken from the Masterpoint Database for those purposes if necessary.

Treshna Project

Alister reported that due to time pressures he had not had time to test a further update from the Developer. He will complete this soon and provide feedback to both Treshna and the Project Manager John Kruiniger.

Archiving- NZ Wide Pairs Results

Following a suggestion from Richard Solomon it was agreed that if possible the results of the 2009 NZ wide pairs would be archived and accessible from the NZ Bridge Website. Alister will attend to this and report back.

Regional Conference

The next Regional Conference will be held in conjunction with the August Board meeting over the weekend of August 28th & 29th in Wellington.

Top of the South Regional Committee

Alister advised the meeting that he had received 3 nominations for the inaugural Regional Committee. Alister has contacted Robin Young with a view to generating a further nomination or nominations.

Board Elections

Following the recent elections Jenny Wilkinson (Christchurch) and Julie Atkinson (Auckland) will join the Board effective 1 April 2010.

Kay thanked Norm for his efforts with NZ Bridge and its predecessor NZCBA over the past 10 years. Kay will contact Murray Wiggins upon his return to New Zealand to thank him for his efforts during his term on the Board and will write to the successful candidates. Alister advised that 66 Clubs voted which was up on the previous year.

A vote of thanks was extended to Dr Alan Doddridge and Jenny Wilson who assisted as Scrutineers during the elections process.

It was moved that the Voting Papers be destroyed.

CARRIED 13/2010

Gifford Estate Fund

It was moved that subject to the New Zealand Bridge Foundation being accorded Charitable Status by the Charities Commission authority be given for the transfer of the special fund account known as the Gifford Bequest, together with all interest accrued thereon to the date of such transfer, from New Zealand Bridge Inc to the New Zealand Bridge Foundation as a separate endowment to continue to be recorded by the Foundation under that name, with the proviso that the special trusts applicable to such endowment include:

1. That the Rubber Bridge competition at the National Bridge Congress continue to be subsidised from the endowment by an annual grant of not less than \$5k on each occasion towards participation costs, overheads and prize money, the grant to be allocated at the discretion of the Congress Organising Committee in each instance, and

2. That any other allocation of funds from the endowment be for bridge related purposes and the benefit of the bridge playing community, rather than simply for any charitable purpose.

CARRIED 14/2010

Trans Tasman Initiatives

Alister advised that he has been invited to attend the Gold Coast Congress debrief in Brisbane in April. Those present endorsed this initiative and agreed that this was a good opportunity to share ideas and information. Alister will table a proposal with the GCC organisers to better align the NZB and ABF Tournament Grades. This should make it easier for players to choose the appropriate sections and to prevent people playing out of grade.

Secretarial Support - NZ Bridge Committees

It was moved that the Secretary would attend all Committee meetings/ telephone conferences and provide secretarial support as required, with copies of all meeting minutes held by the Secretary and circulated as soon as available.

CARRIED 15/2010

Zone 7 Delegates

It was moved that Arie Geursen, Alan Turner, and Kay Nicholas be appointed as NZ Bridge delegates for the Zone 7 meeting being held in Hamilton in conjunction with the PABF

CARRIED 16/2010

Coaching Grant Policy

Alister advised that the Coaching Grant Policy Document was due for review as at the end of Jan 2010. Following suggestions tabled at the February Regional Conference the policy around the travel claims is to be reworded. It is not the intention of the Policy that claims for short across town journeys be reimbursed.

In addition the document is to include a definition of a "Small Club" in terms of eligibility for funding applications for Learner's Classes. The draft Document is with Kay and Richard and will be finalised and circulated within a few days.

Historical Decision re Directing in Auckland Region

Kay asked for clarification as to whether an agreement re exclusivity of Directing Major Events in this area had been formalised by the then Auckland Centre.

The meeting closed at 8.15pm

Next Meetings

Sun April 11 th	7.30pm	Skype Meeting
Fri/Sat May 7 th & 8 th	5.00pm	Wellington