



**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF
NEW ZEALAND BRIDGE INCORPORATED
Held at 10 am on Saturday, 25 September 2010
In the Kingsgate Hotel Hamilton**

PRESENT **NZ Bridge Board** - Kay Nicholas (Chair), Alan Turner, Graham Wakefield, Julie Atkinson & Patsy Walters.

Secretary of NZ Bridge – Alister Stuck

Bridge Development Officer – Richard Solomon

Chief Tournament Director - Arie Geursen

Auditor for NZ Bridge – David Macdonald FCA

Authorised Delegates

Tony Morcom (Akarana), Jill Church (Auckland), Neil Hawkins (Christchurch), Lynne Geursen (Franklin), Joan Eggers & Lucy Armstrong (Hamilton), Heather Jared (Hutt), Marilyn Jackson (Invercargill), Susan Dobson (Westport), Steve Gray (Motueka, Golden Bay and Richmond), Wayne Burrows (Palmerston North, Wairoa, Dannevirke, Feilding Gisborne, & Taradale), Derek Webb (Tauranga), Dinnie Hall (Wellington), Nina Hewitt (Otago), Allan Barclay (Thames), Tony Thomson (Victoria), Tony Sutich (Kairangi), Lynne Fegan (Wanaka & Cromwell), Ron Humphreys (Levin), Peter Bowyer (Howick), Pippa Foley (Akaroa), John Patterson (Marlborough), Alister Buchanan (Napier), Frank Gradon (Taieri), Les Gould & Don Nightingale (Wanganui)

Julie Atkinson (Royle Epsom) Kay Nicholas (Geraldine, Waimate, Timaru & Temuka)

Observers – Steve Boughey, Noel Woodhall, Jo Clark, Michael Johnstone, Karen Martelletti, Ans Geursen, Hans Geursen

WELCOME

The Chairperson, Kay Nicholas, welcomed all those present at the 2010 Annual General Meeting of New Zealand Bridge Incorporated,

including the new Board members, authorised Club Delegates (or Alternates) and Observers. A roll call was taken of those present.

APOLOGIES

Karori Bridge Club, Kris Wooles, Jenny Wilkinson, Arlene Schwartz, Sally Moore & Trevor Robb.

Moved that the apologies be accepted

CARRIED

MINUTES of the 2009 AGM

Moved that the minutes as previously circulated be taken as read

CARRIED

MATTERS ARISING 2009 AGM

Venue for 2010 PABF Championship

Despite the genuine concerns expressed by players attending the 2009 AGM this Championship was an outstanding success.

Visitors did avail themselves of Day Tours offered by local players (**Evelyn Hurley** had suggested the idea at 2009 AGM)

Pre Alerting Regulations (Neil Dravitzki)

The concerns voiced re the requirement for verbal "Pre Alerting" had been noted by the Regulations Committee.

Use of a written Pre Alert is seen as acceptable.

Other Initiatives – Invite Julie to report

7th Region (Gary Duncan)

Fully integrated since 1st July 2010 & competed in 2010 Inter Provincial Championship

Retention of Players (Naomi Hannah-Brown)

Strategies to address this issue will be included as part of the Teacher Accreditation Initiative.

ANNUAL REPORT for year ended 31 March 2010

The Chair indicated that as the Annual Report was lengthy she proposed it be taken as read so she would have time to speak to it and then invite discussion from the floor.

CARRIED

CHAIRPERSON'S COMMENTS LOOKING FORWARD FROM 31ST MARCH 2010

At this time I would like to share with you other exciting initiatives and achievements that have occurred since 31st March 2010 which by the time of the next Annual Report will have become less current.

47th PABF Championship / Hamilton / May 21 – 30th 2010

Programme included:-

- Welcome Dinner & Opening Ceremony - Friday 21st
- PABF Pairs – Saturday & Sunday
- Delegates Dinner – Sunday Evening
- A week of Championship Events
- The Victory Dinner on Sunday 30th

The entire Programme was an outstanding success of which New Zealand as Host Nation can be very proud. It is appropriate to thank the following people who made major commitments to ensure the success of this Championship Event.

2010 PABF Organising Committee:-

Chairperson	Richard Solomon
NZ Bridge Board Representative	Patsy Walters
Committee	Lesley Chubb John Evitt Arie Geursen Alan Taylor
Chief Tournament Director	Arie Geursen
Tournament Directors	Caroline Chapman Matthew McManus Tony Morcom Cliff Rickard Murray Wiggins
Relieving Tournament Directors	Lorraine Stachurski & Julie Atkinson

PABF Sponsors

NZ Bridge acknowledges the Major Sponsorship it received for this Championship from Datacom & the Hamilton City Council. Their generous support helped NZ Bridge ensure the success of the event.

Datacom's Sponsorship provided:-

- **A complex Website** which enabled local, national and international audience participation throughout the entire Championship.
- **An Internet Café & Computers in the main lounge** – which were in constant demand throughout the Competition.
- **"Hot Spots" in the main lounge** – this initiative which enabled Players to use their own laptops was extremely well received.

The success of the PABF depended to a great degree on the commitment and attitude of those "behind the scenes" and NZ Bridge was really impressed by the most helpful attitude of the Datacom staff involved in the above functions. The professional assistance and resources Datacom provided to the 47th PABF Championship exceeded all expectations and such a significant contribution ensured that the event was enjoyed by the vast majority of those attending and those watching from afar.

On behalf of all NZ Bridge members my thanks to Datacom for its continuing generous support of NZ Bridge which is very much valued.

Conduct, Discipline & Disputes Standing Committee

Alan Dormer has been appointed to this Committee since March 2010. We thank Alan for his willingness to contribute his professional skills and experience to this Standing Committee.

Directors' Seminar / Interactive Workshops

This very successful New Zealand / Australian initiative, organised by Arie Geursen, was held on 14 / 15 August 2010 at the Auckland Club. There were 53 participants from all Regions except "Top of the South" including National, Tournament and Club Directors as well as Non Qualified Directors.

Arie facilitated this two day Seminar which included thought provoking Session Presentations, Interactive Workshops and a Question & Answer Panel discussion. Session Presenters included Matthew McManus, Laurie Kelso & Sean Mullamphy from Australia, Murray Wiggins & Martin Oyston from New Zealand.

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the success of this educational initiative for Directors.

Bridge Teachers' Accreditation Initiative

In July 2010 the NZ Bridge Board approved this initiative which is focussed on the Teaching of Bridge & Support of Bridge Teachers with the goal of working with Clubs to provide them with options for teaching their Learners. The Board made a commitment to provide significant funding for the Project and also supported the concept of a meeting for Regional Lead Teachers to be held later in 2010

Project Drivers will be members of the Marketing, Development & Communication Committee who will work in collaboration with the Finance & Strategy Committee in respect of funding aspect of this initiative.

Honorary Life Membership of NZ Bridge – Arie Geursen

Arie Geursen over many years has given unstintingly of his time & considerable talents firstly to NZCBA & since the Constitutional change, to its successor NZ Bridge. His loyalty, whole hearted commitment and focus has been an example to all of us and has set a bench mark few will achieve although it is to be hoped many will aspire to.

In recognition of Arie's longstanding, generous and valuable contribution to Bridge in New Zealand, it was moved and carried unanimously at the Board Meeting of the 4th

July 2010, that at the 2010 AGM, the NZ Bridge Board propose he be awarded Honorary Life Membership of NZ Bridge.

As you are aware this proposal is Agenda Item 8 scheduled for later in the Meeting.

In Conclusion

Thank you for your attention – I leave you with the following quotes to reflect on:-

**Rudi Giuliani – American Businessman & former Mayor of New York (1944)
"Change is not a Destination just as Hope is not a Strategy"**

Pete Johnson – American Jazz Musician (1904 – 1967)

"Strategy is a style of thinking, a conscious and deliberate process, an intensive implementation system, the science of ensuring future success."

With your continued input and support the NZ Bridge Board can strategise and plan to ensure the organisation's future success – "Together we can make it happen".

Moved that the Annual Report be adopted

CARRIED

LIFE MEMBERSHIP

Kay introduced this segment backgrounding the Boards proposal that Arie Geursen be elected Honorary Life Member for services to Bridge in NZ. Kay welcomed members of Aries family in attendance and delivered a PowerPoint presentation outlining a number of achievements in Aries personal and professional life.

Moved that Honorary Life Membership of NZ Bridge be awarded to Arie Geursen.

CARRIED

ANNUAL ACCOUNTS

Alan Turner led this segment of the Agenda firstly summarising the Audited Financial Statements. The key points included a sound financial result for the year, the transitioning of various financial assets to the Foundation. Alan concluded by the issues raised last year around the financial position and reporting were satisfactorily concluded.

Moved that the Annual Accounts as presented be adopted

CARRIED

REMIT

That the following remit be directed by the Board for consideration at the next New Zealand Bridge AGM on Saturday 25th September 2010, namely :-

"That the Constitution of New Zealand Bridge Incorporated be amended as follows:-

(1) That the words "56B Mahars Road, Christchurch" be deleted from Clause 2.1 and the words "544 Ruahine Street, Palmerston North" be inserted in lieu.

(2) That Clauses 16.6 and 16.7 be deleted and the following replacement Clauses be substituted in lieu:-

(16.6) Each Regional Committee shall act during the period from the 1st day of March to the 30th day of April commencing in 2012 and biennially thereafter to determine in consultation with that Regions' Affiliated Clubs the Region's nominations to the Board for appointment as the next Regional Committee and shall advise the Chief Executive and/or Secretary in writing of such recommendations accordingly.

Each individual nomination received by such Regional Committee must be in writing and signed by the nominee and by the President or secretary of at least one of that Region's Affiliated Clubs.

(16.7) If nominations from Affiliated Clubs within a Region exceed the prescribed maximum of six (6) the Regional Committee shall conduct an election by ballot of its Affiliated Clubs with each Affiliated Club being accorded a weighted voting entitlement consistent with Rule 10.9 for each ballot cast provided however that an Affiliated Club shall not be entitled to vote for more than six (6) of the individual nominees. The process for opening, counting and recording ballots cast shall be generally consistent with Rule 10.10 and after the record shall be completed and signed by the Chair and/or secretary of the Regional Committee and any scrutineers present on that occasion the ballot papers shall be forthwith destroyed.

(3) That Clause 16.11 be amended by deleting the words "of Management."

Graham spoke to the Remit and outlined the rationale behind the proposal.

The motion was then put.

CARRIED

GENERAL BUSINESS

- **Appointment of Auditor**

Moved that David Macdonald be appointed as Auditor for the 2010/11 year

CARRIED

- **Taxation Issues**

Heather Jared asked for clarification regarding the Tax liability for payments made to Club Directors. Graham Wakefield responded and advised that the Board should not get involved in the tax affairs of individual Clubs. It was appropriate for those Clubs to seek advice from their Financial Advisers or from the IRD direct.

Alan Turner agreed to seek a one page information sheet on Taxation from BDO.

- **Presentation - Board Initiatives**

Kay delivered a PowerPoint presentation outlining the achievements of the Board to date. Specially printed copies of the presentation were made available to the Delegates.

There being no further business Kay Nicholas, thanked the Delegates and Observers for their contribution to the meeting.

The Chair closed the meeting at 11.30 am