

# NZB<sup>♣</sup>ridge

**NEW ZEALAND BRIDGE NATIONAL CONFERENCE**  
**Held at the Conference Centre Wellington Airport commencing at**  
**9.50am Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> June 2017**

**PRESENT Board:** Alan Dormer, Alan Turner, Karen Martelletti, Jane Steans & Allan Morris

Alister Stuck, (National Secretary) Richard Solomon (Bridge Development Officer) & Murray Wiggins (Chief Director)

**Regional Representatives:** Giles Hancock, (Canterbury), Rebecca Osborne, (Top of the South), Rona Driscoll (Waikato Bays), Sue Brown (Auckland Northland), Tony Sutich, (Wellington) until midday, Maria Godfrey, (Otago Southland & Colin Carryer, (Central Districts)

**Observers:** Sandra Calvert (Central Districts), Paul Maxwell & Joan Waldvogel (Wellington), & Mary Buckland (Canterbury)

**Apologies:** Clare Coles, Greg Whitten & Laura Stephen

## **1 WELCOME**

Alan Dormer welcomed everyone to the meeting and reaffirmed the new Board's approach of being open and accountable. All those present then introduced themselves and the conference got underway.

## **2 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

It was moved that the minutes of the Conference held in Wellington on 11th June 2016 were a true and correct record of the meeting.

**CARRIED**

## **4 MATTERS ARISING**

Richard advised that the NCEA option for Bridge would not be progressed at this time.

It was also noted that given the turmoil during 2016 no meeting of Regional Secretaries was convened.

It was suggested that succession planning for the Regional Committees be discussed at the Secretaries meeting.

## **5 REGIONAL REPORTS**

Written reports from Waikato Bays, Central Districts, Wellington, Top of the South and Otago Southland Regions were circulated prior to the Conference. (Copies attached to these Minutes). Verbal reports provided by the Auckland Northland and Canterbury Regions.

The common message in reports from Regional Committees was the difficulty in getting Intermediates to participate in the IP's. We need to think of ways to encourage greater participation of Intermediates at IP's and tournaments. Revised grading system might assist.

## **6 GENERAL BUSINESS**

### *NZB Strategic Plan*

Jane presented this segment on behalf of Clare Coles who was overseas. The delegates were invited to consider the Board proposal and seek input from their Clubs and provide feedback to the Board.

Discussed the advantage of developing a strategic plan for regional committees that supported NZB plan, goals and objectives. Our goal is "Grow the game". In doing so we need all parts pulling in the same direction and focused on what is important, while appreciating that the Regions are quite diverse for a variety of reasons- geographic, support of clubs, resource, time, administration overload, etc.

A copy of the PowerPoint presentation is attached to these minutes.

### *Constitution Review*

Alan Turner introduced this segment and briefed the conference as to the establishment of a working group to review the constitution. Activities to date and the likely timeline for presenting final recommendations were outlined. It is likely that a small number of "interim fixes" to the current constitution would be presented at the 2017 AGM with the major revamp / rewrite to be tabled at the AGM in 2018. A copy of the PowerPoint presentation is attached.

### *Marketing & Website*

Karen presented this segment and updated the conference as to the work being done with the new Masterpoints facility and other enhancements to the Website.

### *Proposal – Regional Bridge Development Officers*

Jane took the delegates through the proposal to appoint part-time Regional Bridge Development Officers. The various funding options were discussed. It was left that at this stage delegates could give further feedback as a Region by end June if they had not yet had the chance to discuss it fully with all their regional committee members. Subject to feedback, Jane would be contacting

the clubs directly by the end of the month with the proposal and a personal email. Regions would be advised when the clubs had been contacted.

#### *Update- WBF Rule Changes*

Murray briefed the conference as to the roll out and implementation of the revised WBF rules effective from 1 August 2017. Murray is meeting with the National Directors the day after the conference and hosting seminars in each region over the next 8 weeks to workshop the rule changes. A copy of the new rule book has been provided to each Club and the National Directors.

#### *Youth Weekend*

Richard reported that registrations for the youth weekend scheduled for August were well down on previous years. He asked that Regions promote the event. It was agreed that Richard would resend the Bulletin to the Clubs and Regions promoting the weekend.

#### *Volunteer Awards*

Richard sought feedback from the delegates regarding the monthly volunteer awards in light of a decline in the number of nominations received. It was agreed that the programme was worthwhile should be continued. It was agreed to table this matter at the next Board meeting to see if it can be enhanced.

#### *Remits*

3 remits were presented at the conference.

##### *Remit 1 Waikato Bays*

That the following words be added to the first sentence of Rule 18.10 of the Constitution of New Zealand Bridge Incorporated.

“ ----- and shall be obliged to convene a General Meeting of NZ Bridge within forty (40) days of the date of receiving a written request for such meeting, from not less than forty percent (40%) of members.

Moved Rona Driscoll & Colin Carryer

After discussion the following amendment was moved and carried and shall be obliged to convene a General Meeting of NZ Bridge within forty (40) days of the date of receiving a written request for such meeting, from not less than twenty percent (20%) of members.

Following the adoption of this remit Colin Carrier advised that the remit from Central Districts relating to the same clause would be withdrawn.

##### *Remit 2 Waikato Bays*

That the words “members of the Board and” be struck-out of rule 17.7

Moved Rona Driscoll/ Sue Brown

After discussion the following amendment was moved and carried

Voting at Conference shall be by show of hands among members of the Board and Regional Chairpersons (or their alternate) present on that occasion, notwithstanding the forgoing, voting on remits shall be by show of hands by the regional delegates only.

Moved Rona Driscoll / Sue Brown

There being no further General Business Alan thanked everyone for their attendance and participation in a very successful day.

**THE CONFERENCE CLOSED AT 3.50pm**

The next National Conference 9<sup>th</sup> June 2018