



Constitution Review

Current Status as at September 2018

John Skipper



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Work Completed in 2017

Starting with the election of a new Board in April 2017, the need to revise and update the Constitution was given priority status. A sub-committee was appointed and the review process commenced.

The most pressing issues were:

- The means by which remits can be presented, lowering the threshold to make this a viable process.
- The ability of Clubs to force a Special General Meeting was included.
- The ability of the Board to replace a Board member between elections was changed to agreement by majority vote.

These changes were voted on at last year's AGM. The details of the changes made are in the minutes tabled as part of this meeting. The changes have been duly lodged with the Registrar of Incorporated Societies and are now in place.





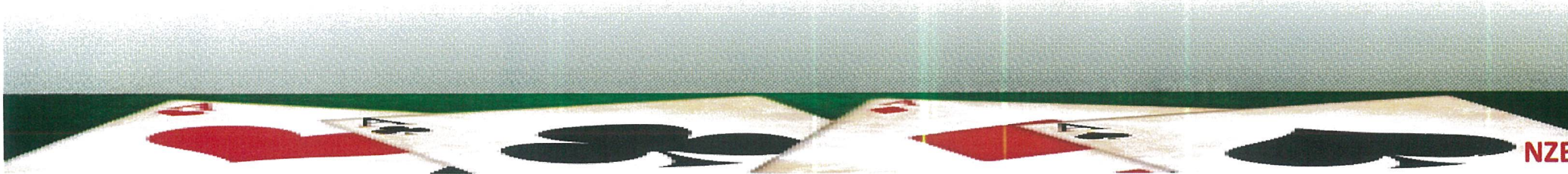
New Sub-Committee Appointed in 2018

Following retirements from the Sub-Committee and Board changes at the 2018 elections, the Sub-Committee has been reconvened as follows:

Russell Wilson – Chairman

Tony Thomson, Alan Dormer, Alister Stuck (Secretary), John Skipper (Board Liaison), Alan Morris (ex Officio).

Terms of reference have been reconfirmed with the Board and work is underway.

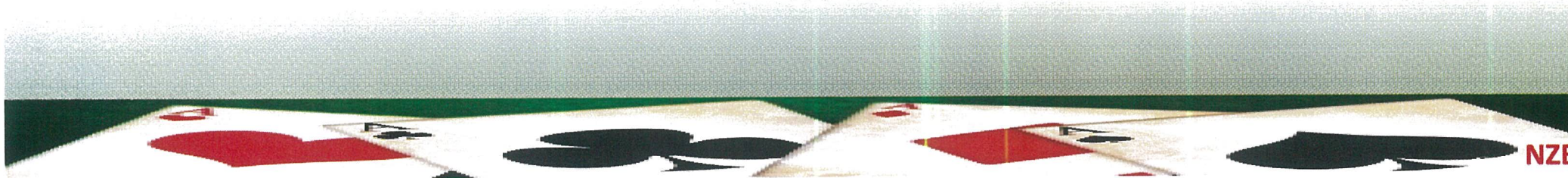




Regional Conference 2018

The first document produced was a discussion document, presented at the Regional Committee Annual Conference in July 2018. This identified six areas for discussion at the conference and submissions to be made against.

The six topics follow, in brief.



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1. The Role of the Board

- Governance
- Responsibility for statutory obligations
- Operational responsibility for:
 - The international programme
 - National Congress (via an operational sub-committee)
 - Development and implementation of projects of national importance – e.g. marketing programs, teaching initiatives, etc
 - Conduct, Discipline and Disputes (involving the Chief Recorder where appropriate)
- Operational oversight of:
 - The tournament programme (via the Chief Director)
 - The Masterpoint Scheme
 - Ongoing projects of national importance (once implemented)





2. The Annual Subscription Levy

- The Annual Levy should be determined at the AGM upon the recommendation of the Board.

3. Timing & method of election of Board Members & Chairperson

- Postal voting versus elections at the AGM
- Election of the Chair by the Board or by election as now
- The staggered three year terms
- The ability to balance the Board with special appointments to supplement elected members.
- The ability to remove a Board or Board members if required.

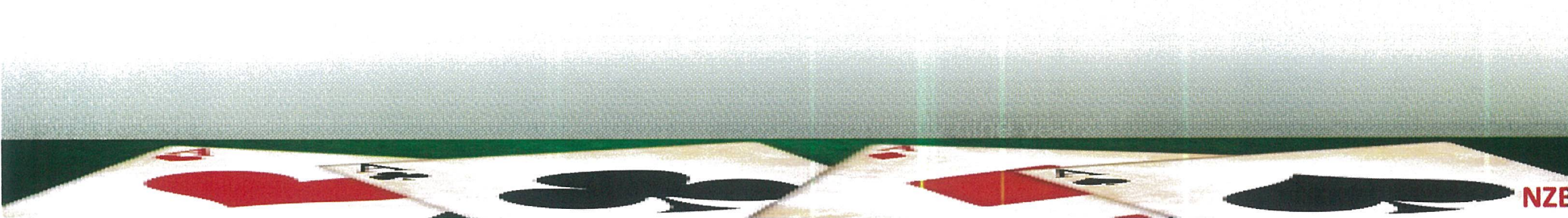


4. Limitation of 9 years' service as Board Member or Chairperson

- What is the maximum tenure on the Board (currently nine years)

5. Powers of Employment (i.e. Secretary, other)

- The Constitution should grant the Board power to employ as necessary without being restricted by, and by removing reference to, prescribed titles (i.e. Chief Executive).



6. Regional Committees

The role and functions of Regional Committees and specifically:

- How are they elected
- How are they funded
- How do they fit in with the Board
- Should meeting frequency and AGM frequency be prescribed.

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Submissions received

There were significant discussions on some of the points above. Written submissions were received from some Clubs. All contributions were positive and constructive.

On this basis the Sub-Committee felt they had enough to get to work on. The process of drafting the document is underway.

Originally there was some hope of having a final document ready at this year's AGM. That has proved to be unrealistic. The following timeframe and stages is what is anticipated at this stage.



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The Plan

The plan is to develop the Constitution in several steps.

- The Sub-Committee will complete the drafting work on the new Constitution over the next week or two. This document will be Committee Draft 1 (CD1) and intended for the Sub-Committee only.
- Once the Sub-Committee is happy with the document, through a series of meetings and discussions, then an updated document will be produced by the end of 2018: CD2.
- CD2 will be presented to the Board, as owner of the project for their review and discussion. Hopefully changes will be minor but once there is consensus at this level, the document will become a Draft Constitution.
- The Draft will be widely circulated, to all Clubs and Regional Committees and be available on the internet. Target date is end of Q1 2019. Feedback will be sought.
- The Final Draft Constitution will be produced after submissions. This will be the document available in good time for the AGM in 2019 for voting on and adoption as the new Constitution of NZ Bridge.



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Regional Bridge Mate Project Updat

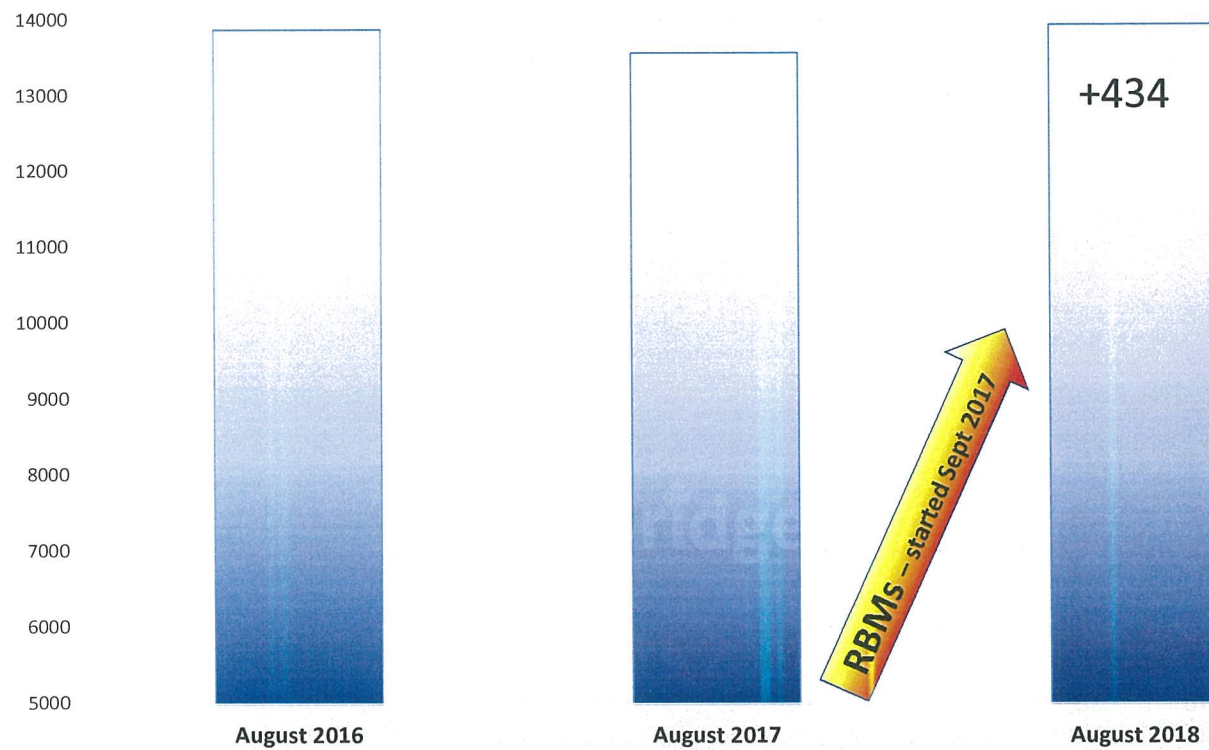
Jane Stearns



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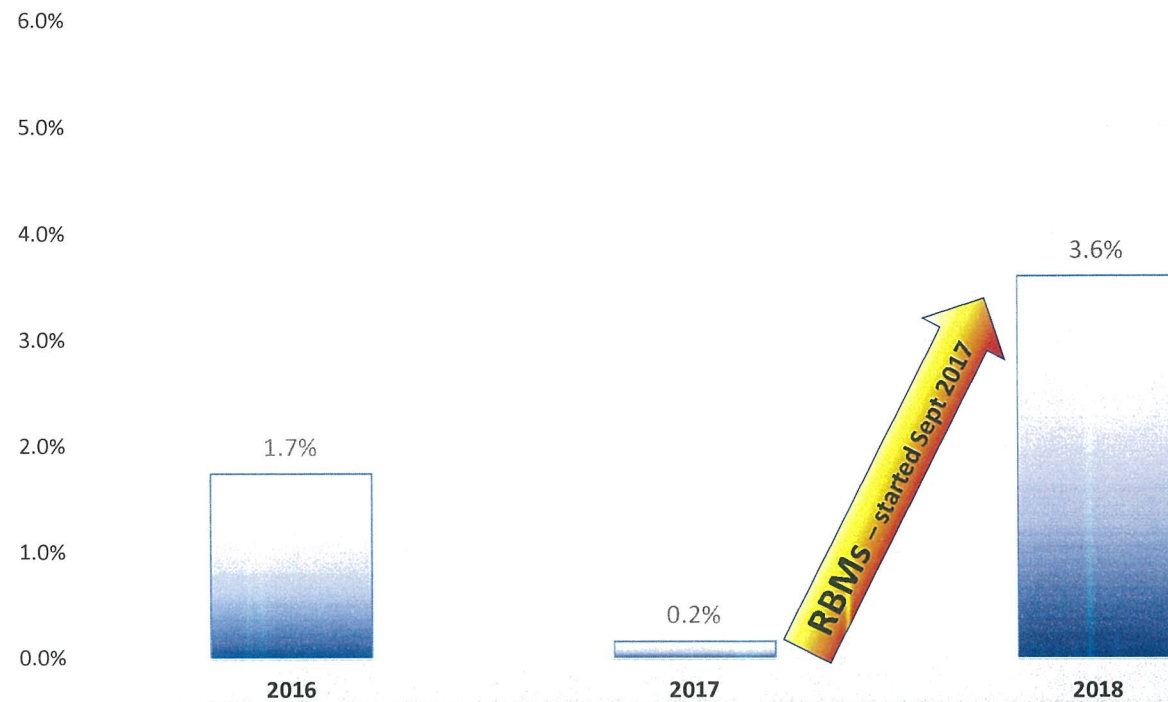
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Bridge Players 2016 - 2018



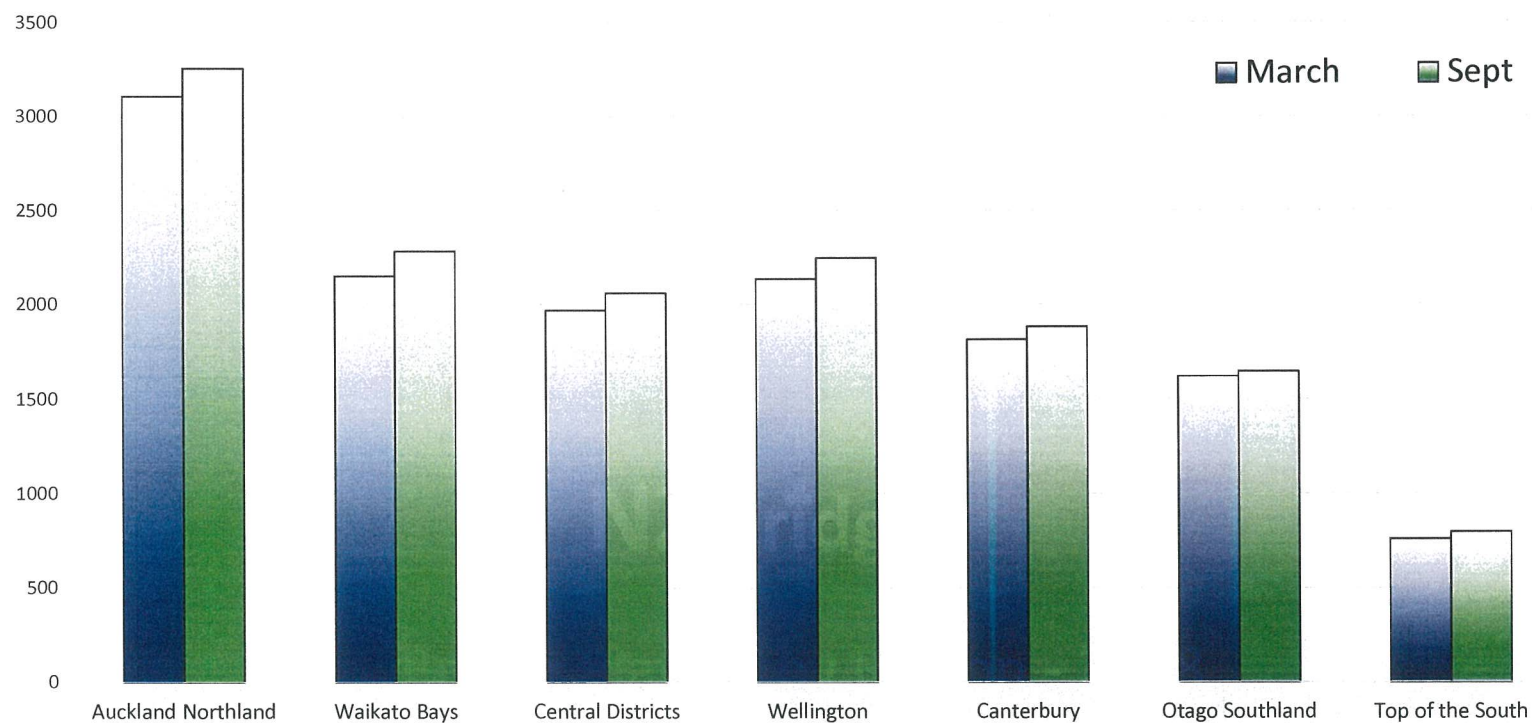
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Increases between April and August



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Bridge Players by Region - 2018



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100 new students in the 15 RBM supported clubs in 2017
178 in 2018 = 78% increase

Support to 20 clubs in Year 2 of project

One-third of affiliated clubs should be given support by end of Year 2

RBM's have worked to increase Intermediates taking part in the InterProvincials

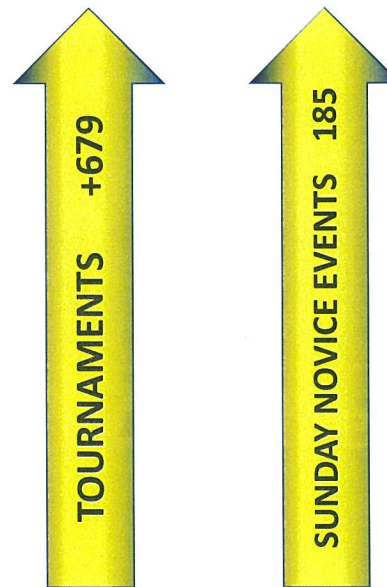
108 Intermediates trialled in 2017

164 in 2018 = 52% increase



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1 January to 20 September 2018



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Regional projects:

- Tournament promotion
- Sunday afternoon social mini-tournaments for beginners from lessons
- Re-affiliation of non-affiliated clubs
- Regular news items to local newspapers
- Region wide radio campaigns to advertise lessons
- Co-ordination of learning opportunities



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2.2% increase in player numbers nationwide compared to the same time last year.

Just gone over 14,000 members – 14,185 as at 1.9.2018

Currently – we are a GROWING sport

Review of project is continuing

