

## **Minutes Otago Southland Regional Committee 1pm Sunday 4 July via Zoom**

**Present:** Judith Lawton, Lynne Fegan, Philip Noye and Carole Bee

**Apology:** Bradley Johnston

**Minutes:** Minutes of the previous meeting held on 23 May were taken as read and moved as being a true and accurate record by Judith Lawton.

### **Correspondence:**

**1. Inwards** a. Anne Somerville (27/05) re Interprovincial Team Trials travel payments.

b. Alexandra Club (30/05) re photos of tournament winners and privacy. Judith sending email to all clubs asking them to follow NZBridge protocol and for clubs to at least ask prize winners if they are comfortable with this on the day so they can comply as much as possible.

c. Taieri Club (08/06) re cashless tournament concerns. We will contact them and see if there is anything we can do to help support them as society as a whole is becoming more cashless. Letter will be sent to all clubs reminding them about the requirement to use NZBridge website for entries and to offer any support they need to do this and cashless tournaments. Judith to add her story of how easy it was for the last tournament that Invercargill ran this way.

d. Judith Lawton (29/06) Date for tournament directors' exam Oct 15-18 to be held in Invercargill. Murray Wiggins will confirm times, format and support needed. 10 spaces available and at least 4 entrants from Invercargill.

**2. Outwards** a. Congratulations to rubber winners Pam Nisbet and Peter McCaskill.

### **Financial:**

Still in a good overall financial position \$16,632 at 20/4/21. Still awaiting approx \$4,000 reimbursement for travel paid to Inter Provisional (IP) Tournament that has been paid for.

Moved Lynne seconded Phil - Carried

### **Agenda Items:**

1. Most clubs are moving towards cashless tournaments. In terms of audit clubs need to be able to show all income and where all payments are made. Cashless is more transparent. As tournaments come up the committee needs to communicate with the club to see if we can support them in any way and get feed-back from those that do use the new system. Our role to support and encourage. There may be a role for bridge mates here to help smaller clubs and maybe take over that role for them for their tournaments.

2. NZBridge Mates seems that these roles may be going to continue. Judith to enquire if there has been any moves to replace Otago Southland. Role is a very big one and remuneration not realistic especially in Otago Southland where region is huge in travel times and we really need 2 minimum, but possibly 4 to ensure no travel greater than 2 hours. Also have not had the promised report on Bridge Mate from NZBridge as promised. Judith to ask for this.

Feed back from on line entries on NZBridge site not all positive but seems to be some reluctance to take this on board. Not sure what NZBridge contractual obligations are to the website designer. There was discussion at conference about a NZ wide database. Hard for the region to know how to best support clubs with no clear direction given on where we are likely to end up.

3. Lynne to request a new password for NZBridge administration as we are not able to access at the moment.

4. Carole Will be second signatory for payments made by OS regional committee. Phil suggested a change to single signatories as it is quite common in organisations with a top limit. Just look at spending history.

5. See above

6. Committee agreed to pay out of town participants in the tournament directors' exam from Otago Southland region clubs that are incurring accommodation and travel \$200. Those travelling each day from outside Invercargill \$50.

7. Rubber bridge results winners Pamela Nesbit and Peter McCaskill mostly collated. Still a small number of results to be supplied.

8. All accommodation for our Provincial team heading to Auckland is confirmed and paid for. Ibis is cancelled and another motel booked close to the venue. MIQ and emergency housing have made this very difficult. Limited options near the venue.

9. Te Anau tournament results late and no morning session results and not posted on NZBridge website. Oamaru results were also 2 weeks after the event and only emailed out top 3 place getters. Carole to send a polite email to ask if there were any particular issues and if we can do anything to help them improve this outcome in the future.

10 Bridge School Holiday programme is on the rocks due to lack of entrants at this stage. Wondered if it more successful if advertised as part of a "package" deal with other offerings but none of these type of programmes are aimed at secondary schools. Need to get along side any active youth groups or directly into the school.

Phil mentioned a recent on line conference about teaching bridge and papers are available on [Bridgemindsport.org](http://Bridgemindsport.org). Day 4 specifically about teaching in schools. Loads of good information there. Lynne said a recent survey of their club gave them some surprises in terms of the reasons people play bridge and they are not all about competing and playing for long periods of time.

Phil also mentioned that his club has introduced a revision session every 5<sup>th</sup> night (no competition play that night) and they reinforce the bidding protocols and iron out the bad habits that get picked up around the tables.

11. It was also noted that Brad Johnston is drafting a paper on clarifying the 2C opening which it is now illegal to open with less than 19HCP and distributional points can only be added after the 9<sup>th</sup> playing trick. NZBridge rules seem to be a bit unclear on this point. There is also no mention of the Benjaminised 2D opening.

12. Motion: "That we apply for funding from the Bendigo Valley Sports and Charity foundation for the accommodation for the O/S Team travel to provincials." Moved Phil seconded Lynne - Carried

13. Do we as a regional committee need some guidelines on what payment should be made to tournament directors and scorers should we be asked for guidance? Variable depending on the type of tournament (Pairs v Teams or Swiss Pairs) and size and grade of the tournament.

We should ask Lindsay for feedback on her recent experiences and clarify with Alister Stuck the requirements of NZBridge with regards for a separate scorer. Technology and having to use computers to generate results is a barrier for some of the more senior directors.

14. Surveying re Regional Tournaments to be decided before congress. Leave on the table until then. Noted that we need to review our overall programme first and see if we are giving everyone opportunities to compete at the regional level. Need to consider timing so not lots of travel for one area within the region, travel during winter in weather vulnerable areas and spreading the events around the region throughout the calendar.

15. Brad still waiting to hear if Winton and Otago have been able to agree a tournament date swap.

16 Director for the O/S Congress is Davis Stevens. Judith to ask who supplies a scorer.

17. Sue Brown, NZ financial consultant, will be in the region before and after National Teams in August/Sept and Judith will supply her with a list of people and topics she might like to talk to and address.

18. Potential speaker(s) for O/S Regional Conference. Maybe Patrick Carter (running big clubs) Barry Jones from Bridge Zone Radio broadcast.

19. We need to find out from clubs what they want at conference. What do they need help with? Is it directing/ scoring/ learners/ retention? May end up being a series of workshops rather than paper presentation.

20. We need to give players the heads up if IP trials are going to be teams then they should form their teams early and practice together. Phil is drafting a paper on trials v selection and the advantages of each and how they could work in the future.

21. Lynne looking for potential dates for O/S Regional conference 2022.

**Strategic plan:**

**See attached Document**

**Meeting closed 3pm**

**Next meeting potentially 14 August 4pm via Zoom**

#### **Critical Actions**

<b>WHO</b>	<b>WHAT</b>	<b>WHEN</b>	<b>Actioned</b>
Judith	Email to all clubs re photos, cashless tourn and on line entries offering support.	ASAPracticable	
Judith	Email re replacement O/S Bridge Mate,	ASAPoss	
Carole	Email to Te Anau and Oamaru to ask if we can help support them getting their results posted in a timely fashion.	ASAPoss	
Lynne	Get new admin password for NZBridge	By next meeting	
Brad	Follow up with Winton and Otago re date changes.	ASAPoss	
Judith	Find out if we supply scorer for O/S Congress	ASAPoss	
Carole	Investigate options for logo development	Not urgent.	