

ANRC Minutes of meeting 14th May 2023

Present: Jane Stearns, Tania Brown, Grant Jarvis

The meeting commenced at 5.00pm

Inwards Correspondence: Auckland Bridge Club (Tournament dispensation), Howick, East Coast Bays, Franklin (lesson promotion expense claims)

All qualifying expense claims have been met for the 2022/23 year.

Auckland BC's formal request to host a listed number of events in excess of their annual entitlement was discussed and approved. It was recognised that their additional A point events (Wes Dodd, Billie Tohill and Bell/Taylor) have a long and distinguished history for Auckland bridge. The monthly Thursday 8B's will be monitored but do not seem to be impacting on other tournaments.

Grant mentioned that four clubs have dropped their future 3A events citing significantly fewer entries, a drop in their local open ranks and issues competing with on-line events.

Inter-provincial trials

These were very competently run by Kevin Hu and Sylvester Riddell. The open and women were combined resulting in three fields of 12-14 pairs playing approx. 100 boards. We wish the successful players well for November. It was agreed to continue the provision of team shirts to first time representatives.

National Swiss Pairs (November 4)

This was confirmed last month as being face to face. Progress on the organisation and budget was discussed incl. a mention of social opportunities on Saturday night. A small survey was held in that regard. It was noted we are the only region to incur the new tournament participation levies for a national 2023 event. The ABC will contact Murray Wiggins to discuss director and/or scorer fees.

2024 Tournament Confirmations.

Grant advised only 4 clubs were still to confirm events for March and April. Jane offered to follow up on our email requests with the Northland clubs. Only 6 events for May/June remain to be confirmed.

Beginner Lesson Feedback

We are hearing some very promising lesson numbers from multiple clubs. Jane has sent spreadsheets to all clubs to indicate the source of their interest and introduction to bridge. Once collated we will forward to NZB, share with clubs and review our Regional Plan accordingly.

Future Initiatives:

General discussion was held on the 2023 Regional Hui, social media initiatives and a regional training opportunity without any firm decisions.

Grant mentioned that we need to identify a way of attracting new Committee members to represent both tournament and club bridge in this region. Grant originally offered to fulfil his role for two years

and that period has now lapsed. He has committed to retain his long- standing national football exec position.

Tournament Participation Levy.

Grant presented a comparison of the cost to players with NZB'S announced tournament participation levy to other national sporting bodies levies. We have been invited to table a paper at the upcoming national conference to address our multiple concerns including:

- The appropriateness of tournament participation fees at a time when patronage is decreasing
- Increasing fees at a time when NZB holds significant capital reserves (\$942K at last AGM)
- Application of fees for a marketing and comms position to provide support to clubs/players whereby only tournament players will pay for the position
- Lack of consultation with clubs and players on the proposal (it was "expected" that tournament players would support it)
- Significant misalignment of the levy compared to other sporting bodies

Tania will be overseas for three weeks. A next meeting date will be set upon her return -prior to the National Conference on Sunday 11 June.

Meeting concluded at 6.24 pm.

Schedule attached.