



17 July 2025

Newsletter No 2 for 2025

On Tuesday last the Board met as part of its monthly schedule. The following is a summary of matters discussed.

Appointments

1. Honorary Solicitor

An invitation has been extended to fill this role. Hopefully we will be in a position to share who this shortly.

2. CDD Committee

Following the resignation of Graeme Stout we have extended an invitation to two people to join this committee. Again, hopefully we will be in a position to share their names shortly.

3. International Committee

Following the world champs in Denmark, Jonathan Westoby will be standing down as Chef de Mission. The Board ratified the appointment of Tim Schumacher who will take on the role, effective September.

We want to acknowledge and thank Jonathan for everything he has done for NZ Bridge and the players.

4. Head Director

In June we issued an EOI. We are delighted to have received 2 applicants.

The Board has appointed Peter Newall and Dwayne Crombie to interview the applicants and recommend an appointment to the Board.

Our plan is to make an appointment before the end of July.

Player Rank Review

We have released a consultation document and are seeking your feedback. The idea is to provide an award system that motivates players to advance.

Marketing Grants

The Board supports a regional committee grant regime covering reimbursement of marketing costs. Any recovery must be supported by invoices. It does not cover the cost of teachers.

Annual General Meeting

At the Annual General Meeting we approved an amendment to the constitution in order to be compliant with our tax-exempt status. Inland Revenue has confirmed retention of our tax-exempt status.



Tournament Review

The review, after consultation and input from the regions, has now completed and has been shared with clubs and regions. As previously mentioned, the intention is to give more flexibility to clubs and regions.

Membership

Through June membership grew by 210. Lifting our overall membership to 12,804.

Retaining members and converting those undertaking lessons are important components of us growing as a sport.

Last month we shared the outputs from the national conference. We appreciate clubs try very hard to retain members. Nevertheless, we urge clubs to regularly review what they do. Loss of members not only has a negative impact on clubs, but it also has a detrimental effect for NZ Bridge.

Congress 2025

Arrangements are well advanced, and we hope you have already entered.

This is our premier event, and we encourage participation of all grades. We are keen to see more and more juniors, intermediate, and restricted players take part, either for the entire event or only part. We urge clubs to encourage their members to enter. I know from personal experience I have enjoyed the event and made many friends.

Teaching and Learning

Modernizing and contemporizing our teaching material is well advanced. The material is being tested by a range of teachers. A few tweaks have been identified. We know beginners are enjoying playing the cards a lot sooner.

Incorporated Societies Act

Approx 60% of clubs have registered under the 2022 Act. Those clubs who are yet to register we encourage you to get on with the job. Help can be found in the toolkit. Refer to clubs on the website and scroll down. A special mention to Hokowhitu who registered for the first time.

Next Month

1. An overview of the new "fair play" regime.
2. Allocated roles so you know who to contact

May you continue to enjoy your bridge.

Cheers Allan