

## **Minutes of the Executive Committee of the Auckland Bridge Club**

Held in the club Rooms, 273 Remuera Road, Auckland

On 16th June 2015 at 5.30pm

### **PRESENT**

A Hopkins (Chair), M Robertson, D Russell, S Marryatt D Tangney, A Morris

Apologies: A Shami (Europe), J Collins (unwell), T Lewis (USA), A Barrowclough – arrived late

The chairman confirmed a quorum and declared the meeting open

### **Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 19 May 2015 having been circulated were taken as read.

Moved/Accepted: D Russell/A Morris

### **Matters Arising**

None

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

- Request for potential AGM subject- Defer till October
- A lovely thank you letter from a Thursday AM Member
- Further complaints about the timeliness of website results updates which are caused by server issues at our ISP.

### **MANAGER'S REPORT and TREASURER'S REPORT**

Managers' Report was read. The membership figures in Scorer are being matched with MYOB to present more accurately the number of Financial Members: membership is down but being re-checked although attendances are generally steady.

Treasurer – Has been in contact with Walker Wayland the Club's financial auditors to ensure a smooth 2015 Audit. Steps have been taken to facilitate this. The management letter from 2014 is also still pending. The audit should start early – mid August. The Committee stressed the need for a timely audit with full reporting to be available well before the AGM, and requested that the auditor's be again challenged on the accounting treatment of ticket sales and the onerous requirement to follow every ticket from issuance through to usage when the club already has a very good understanding of the flow and usage of tickets.

The Committee also stressed the need to manage casual labour staff in a more formal manner.

The Club's current excess funds should be placed in a series of term deposits with varying maturities.

D Tangney

As previously reported the Club remains on track for a substantial financial surplus this year but this does not mean that the longer term outlook is encouraging.

### **STAFF**

Barbara Mitchell was on sick leave for about a week. Ann Weatherston is on holiday for five weeks.

### **CONFIRMATION OF ACCOUNTS**

D Russell, A Hopkins

### **GENERAL BUSINESS**

1. Electronic scoring was discussed; the Club needs to look towards the future in this area – **A Hopkins**
2. Tournament notices need to be accurate: for example a 5B or 8B event is accessible to all players, not just Junior and Intermediate.
3. NZB Youth Sun PM sessions commence in the upstairs room from 7 Jun, run by Richard Solomon for a modest rent, we need to consider the conflict with potential weekend users – Discuss with Richard : **A Hopkins**
4. National Club Teams Championship for Congress: the website has been updated to invite entries, and a form is available on the Club Noticeboard. Our club won the event in 2014 and are therefore automatic qualifiers. Should there be too many entries the Club Manager, in conjunction with the Committee, will determine a selection process.
5. Player Development Sub-committee has had its second meeting. Their group comprises of D Russell (Chair), T Lewis, B Wright and L McGovern and D Tangney. The aim is to propose a sound

overall teaching/player development programme to the full club Committee within the next 3-4 months. – **D Russell** presented a report which showed that a programme is taking shape and the initial ideas summarised as:-

- I. RETAIN the structure and timetabling our present Beginners' classes, BUT base them around the ten Beginners' Lessons freely available on the NZ Bridge website;
  - II. ESTABLISH similar classes for Improvers, based on the ten Improvers' Lessons from NZ Bridge;
  - III. ESTABLISH play sessions structured around previously identified themes to replace the current random deal Monday evening and Thursday morning sessions;
  - IV. ESTABLISH and publicise a roster of mentors/professionals prepared to assist players in their development;
  - V. ENCOURAGE and assist developing players to form partnerships and/or groupings and to identify mentors for each group;
  - VI. CONSIDER incentives for developing players, eg reduced membership of the Club, reduced tournament fees, etc;
  - VII. RETAIN the current structure of sessions for Advancing (ie, post Improvers' lessons) players to address specific topics, and to solicit suggestions for such topics;
  - VIII. CONSIDER and formalise the Club's expectations and terms/conditions (including remuneration) for teachers/mentors/professionals.
  - IX. Possibly the sessions will be timed to coincide with Wed EVE to encourage members and non-members to stay on and play
6. **M Robertson** summarised initial ideas and the general approach to our premises issues. This is an ongoing project and at this stage there are no immediate plans to carry out remedial work on the premises although some form of roof treatment is pending, and Owen Hayward is gathering quotes for bathroom repairs.
  7. In order to improve the ca park security following the theft of a member's car, a quote was received for the addition of barriers on the Armadale Rd entrances: at \$28,000 plus the additional fencing costs we feel the expenditure is unwarranted at this stage.
  8. Quiz night Fri 31 Jul is being arranged by T Lewis and A Fitzgerald: details pending.
  9. The AGM will be held the 15<sup>th</sup> of November: the format will follow last years with the AGM, a shared lunch and one session of Bridge
  10. Ron Klinger is in Auckland and the AKBC hope to secure him to have a seminar at our Club possibly in November - **D Russell**
  11. The Country of Origins intent was discussed, and the committee agree to keep the current criteria of origin.
  12. A Hopkins is overseas until 2 Aug and Anne Barrowclough will be assuming his duties
  13. Discussion of junior only tournaments– **DTangney**

## CLOSURE

The meeting closed at 7:05 pm. The next meeting is 21 July (18 Aug, 15 Sep, 20 Oct, 17 Nov, and 15 Dec 15).

Signed: .....

Dated: .....