

# Timaru Bridge Club Inc.

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**Minutes of the Club Committee meeting held in the Clubrooms 63 Wilson Street Timaru on 27 May 2021 at 5:30 pm.**

**Present:** Allan Luscombe, Joe Harris, Sue Milmine, Pauline Prendergast, Grant Patterson, Penny Dewar, Ashley Milliken, Mary McSherry & Anne-Marie Pavletich.

**Guest:** Bill Mecchia (Computer Manager)

**Apologies:** Tina Ivamy, Gavin Spence

**Motion** – “The apologies are accepted”

Seconded and carried

(Given the absence of both the President & the Vice-President, the Committee elected Joe Harris to serve as Chair for the meeting.)

**Minutes of 29/4/21**

**Motion** – "That these Minutes be confirmed as a true and correct record of the Meeting."

Seconded and carried

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## **Matters Arising**

- **Review of Divisional Structure**

After lengthy discussion the following motion was approved

**Motion:** We will re-establish the Bronze division for less experienced players (Learners, Novices and Juniors) on Wednesday evening with about 20 boards played and running from 7 – 9 or 9:30pm.

Seconded and carried

Kay & Keith Nicholas have agreed to run the sessions beginning June 16, 2021.

Joe will send an email to all previous lesson attendees not currently playing, as well as those recently resigned from the Club and all Silver division players.

- **Club Bylaws & Constitution**

Nothing new to report

- **Beginner lessons 2021**

Grant reported that there are currently 12 expressions of interest. He will be soliciting volunteers to assist with instruction.

- **Tournament catering & Tournament Secretary report**

The South Canterbury Congress was very successful and also a lot of work.

In the future we need a catering subcommittee to assist the Secretary.

**Motion:** The Tournament Secretary should appoint a Catering Subcommittee.

Seconded and carried

We should also consider increasing the entry fee to cover the cost of catering if volunteers are not available to help with making sandwiches.

- **Asset register**

Grant & Penny presented an updated review of the Club's asset register. The analysis seems to indicate that the Club is likely to face significant maintenance expenses over the next 5 years. Given the state of our current finances we will need

to increase our membership and consider increasing our table fees and/or the annual subscription. We should also be applying for external funding (eg. Pub Charity Limited grants) as they do in Temuka.

Grant & Penny will do further work to refine the numbers. Penny will also investigate how some assets could be depreciated.

- **Computer Manager update**

**Diffusion of Computer skills:** Bill will work with Jim Buford and possibly Colin Truman to develop better documentation for setting up Bridge Scorer and also the instructions for dealers.

**Most Improved Award:** Bill will develop a spreadsheet based on a player's average percentage score (over at least 10-12 playing nights) for the remainder of 2021. We can then compare this with the player's 2022 average to determine the "most improved" in each division.

- **Collin Marshall plaque**

In previous minutes we approved a plaque for Collin Marshall, but this was never actioned further.

**Motion:** Pauline will propose wording for a plaque to be placed on the Club bookcase acknowledging Collin's significant contribution to our library.

Seconded and carried

## Correspondence

- **Received**

Email from Michael Neels re: X-Clubs programme (will follow up next meeting)  
Note of appreciation from Kaikoura Bridge for the excellent Congress

- **Sent**

Thank you note to Todd Moody for donation of bar fridge  
Thank you note to Ashburton Bridge Club for help with dealing cards

## Reports

- **Treasurer**

Current Cash Summary reviewed and accepted.  
Noted that Club funds are being spent without prior authorization of the Committee. We previously agreed that all purchases over \$100 require prior approval.  
Penny will let Dell's Office Supply know that Steph is the only authorized purchaser.  
Penny will forward other pending payments by email for approval.

- **Personnel**

Noted that we may need to hire an additional casual cleaner to help after tournaments.

- **Room hires**

Kay's report was reviewed and accepted  
Pauline will confirm that Temuka is paying the room hire fee for the tournament held 29/5/21.  
Question raised regarding inclusion of "room hire expense" in the costings of our own tournament. (No conclusion reached – although new information indicates that this is not necessary.)

- **Wednesday afternoon bridge**

Kay's report was reviewed and accepted

- **Silver Division**

Sue's report was reviewed and accepted

- **Bar report**

The bar license is up for renewal (cost \$579 for 3 years). This is less than the cost of purchasing a Special License for each tournament.

Motion: The bar license should be renewed

Seconded and carried (with 1 opposed)

- **Works report**

Ashley reports that there are only 27 chairs left to reupholster and the work is being completed below budget.

### **General business**

- **Non-playing membership subscription**

If a player is not playing at all during the year, they need to inform the Secretary so we can suspend their membership with NZ Bridge. They will still have their bridge number when they resume play.

If a player is only playing for half of the year, they pay a sub of \$50

- **Tablet replacements**

A recommendation was received from the Tournament Committee and the Club Captain that we purchase 10 new tablets.

A lengthy discussion of this topic included the following comments:

- Noted that borrowing tablets from other clubs for Congress is less than optimal (issues with lack of Courier transport and configuring with our WiFi network)
- Noted that tablets have a finite life and the battery is not replaceable. (Although new information indicates this may actually be possible.)
- No tablets were purchased 2020 due to reduced play (Covid) and no record of purchases in 2019.
- Previously, we purchased 5-10 tablets per annum.
- For future planning we need a recommendation from the Computer Manager indicating the optimal number of tablets the Club requires

**Motion:** We will purchase 10 tablets this year

Seconded and carried

Grant will consult with Bill to determine if our current Lenovo tablets offer the best value for money before proceeding with the purchase.

- **Additional equipment purchases**

Based on the recommendation of the Tournament Committee, the following motion was approved:

**Motion:** We will purchase 2 additional trolleys (estimate \$552) and 2 trestle tables for the Café Bars (estimate \$200).

Seconded and carried

**Next Meeting:** Thursday, 8 July 2021 5:30 pm

Meeting adjourned 7:15 pm

Confirmed \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Submitted by  
Joe Harris, secretary