

Timaru Bridge Club Inc.

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held in the Clubrooms, 63 Wilson Street, Timaru on 7 December 2022 at 7.30 pm.

Meeting Chair

In the absence of the President and Vice President, Grant Patterson offered to chair the meeting. In the absence of the Secretary, Andrea Brown offered to minute the meeting.

Motion: "That Grant Patterson stand in as Chairperson for the duration of the meeting"
Seconded and carried

Minutes Silence

A minute's silence was held in memory of club member Gabriella Elworthy.

Present

General Committee Members: Grant Patterson, Mary McSherry, Allan Luscombe, Sue Milmine, Dorothy Bain, Carole Brand, Anne-Marie Pavletich, Julie Chambers

Club Members: Andrea Brown, Peter Brown, Keith Nicholas, Kay Nicholas, Beverley Beck, Bev Dryden, Mary Mould, Marion Annear, Margaret Hansen, Uneta Denley, Bill Schmidt, Lorraine Jamieson, Jenny Johnson, Jillian Lister, Roger Johnson, Eleanor Timpany, Sian Patterson, Dot Rapley, Mary Cumming, Susanne Windsor, Lesley Andrew, Karen Rarere, Lesley Tilson, Sandra Perfect, Claire Neilson, Dianne Esler, Neil McKinnon, Daphne Fitzgerald, Michael Johnstone, Paula Gregory, Marie Pike, Chris Darvell, Jan Gilbert, Catherine Walton, Dick Walton, Sue McConway, Bruce Aston, Ken Elliott, Dick Walton, Bruce Small, Cath Preen, Chris Allan, Bill Mecchia, Sue Geddes, Steve Geddes, Phil Jackson, Joan Wensley, Caren Hampton, Ann McCully, David Gaskin, Margaret Jones, Nevis Jones, Arthur Brokenshire, Ralph Thompson, Jill Clarke, Sandra Coulter, Judith McBreaty, Rod Gardiner, Pauline Prendergast

Apologies: Tina Ivamy, Gavin Spence, Joe Harris, Amanda Card, Joanne Tinkler, Colin Truman, Isobel McKinnon, Jackie Jones, Lynda Brown, Irwin Seyb, Cena Moulson, Pauline Topham, John Gilbert, Evelyn Milliken, Ashley Milliken, Margaret Christian, Mark Hyde

Motion: "The apologies are accepted"
Seconded and carried

Minutes of 25 November 2021

It was pointed out that the minutes from 25 November 2021 stated, under General Business – Amendments to the Club's Constitution, that the said amendments were attached, but that there was no attachment. Grant asked that a copy of the original clauses from the Constitution and the amendments to them be appended to the minutes of the meeting of 25 November 2021.

Motion: "That these Minutes be confirmed as a true and correct record of the Meeting."
Seconded and carried

President's Report (attached)

Motion: "That the President's Report be taken as read"

Seconded and carried

Motion: "That the President's Report be adopted"

Seconded and carried

Treasurer's Report (attached)

- Carole asked that appreciation for Tina in the role of President for the last 2 years be recorded.
- Carole gave a summary of the Treasurer's Report, noting a drop in total income (\$10K) over this and the last 3 years (\$28K). The Balance Sheet showed healthy bank balances but Carole noted the need to protect those funds as a buffer against future operating losses.
- An annual budget had been developed and implemented for the first time and this year's financial results were close to budget.
- Future focus should be on increasing revenue streams with priority given to budgeting and monitoring, increasing membership and playing opportunities, investigating grant opportunities and maintaining buildings and other assets.
- Carole answered several questions regarding the Club's current financial situation.

Motion: "That the reviewed financial statements for the year to September 2022 are approved"

Seconded and carried

Motion: "That Martin Wakefield be reappointed as reviewers of the financial statements for the forthcoming year to September 2023"

Seconded and carried

Election of Officers

- Two nominations for the position of President necessitated a secret ballot. Sue Geddes and Michael Johnstone were appointed as scrutineers for the ballot (seconded and carried). Each of the nominees, Carole Brand and Uneta Denley spoke to their nomination. Carole Brand was duly elected as President.
- Having received only one nomination for the positions of Vice-president (Pauline Prendergast), Secretary (Andrea Brown) and Treasurer (Sue McConway), those individuals were unanimously elected.

Election of General Committee

- 4 nominations were received for the 5 open positions: Dorothy Bain, Anne-Marie Pavletich, Bill Mecchia and Grant Patterson. These 4 individuals were unanimously elected.
- Nominations were then opened from the floor.
 - Dianne Esler was nominated and seconded. Dianne accepted the nomination.
 - Evelyn Milliken was nominated in absentia. The nomination was seconded. Phil Jackson indicated that Evelyn had previously agreed to accept the nomination.

Following a general discussion, it was agreed to co-opt a 6th member onto the committee as the third representative of the Silver division. Both nominees were therefore elected unopposed.

Remit re Cleaning of Bridge Club (attached)

There was some discussion as to whether or not the remit should be presented at the AGM but the consensus was that it was allowed under clause 22c of the Constitution. The remit was read aloud to the room and offered up for discussion. The proposer and others spoke to the remit covering hygiene and making cost comparisons. Several members spoke against it refuting the hygiene arguments, clarifying costs and outlining the committee's reasoning for entering into a cleaning contract for a weekly clean which included our responsibilities as an employer. During the course of these discussions it was pointed out that the new cleaning arrangements had been implemented on a trial basis although this had not been made clear in previous minutes.

A member speaking against the remit proposed an amendment to the original remit as follows: "that the incoming committee considers members views regarding the cleaning of the toilets following each bridge session, tournament or club room hire once it has gathered sufficient information to efficiently manage the process". There was some debate around the voting process vis a vis the remit itself and the amendment.

The proposer of the original remit stated that at the time of its submission it was not clear that the new arrangements were a trial. Based on the fact that they are a trial they were prepared for the amendment to be put forward so that the incoming committee can properly research the issue. Grant clarified that the remit was withdrawn by the proposer and the amendment would become the motion.

A question was raised about how members' views would be canvassed. The incoming committee was asked to consider this point and, once the new cleaning arrangements had been trialled, assessed and more information was to hand, a definitive decision regarding cleaning arrangements could be made.

Motion: "That the incoming committee considers members views regarding the cleaning of the toilets following each bridge session, tournament or club room hire once it has gathered sufficient information to efficiently manage the process"

Seconded and carried (with one abstention)

General Business

- **Subs:** the Committee recommends that there should be no increase in subscription this year in order to remain competitive locally. Emphasis should be on user pays i.e. table fees, by encouraging people to play more often. These were increased this year so there will be nothing further this year.
- **Trophy Presentation:** Gillian Lister and Karen Rarere were presented with the Elland Plate for the top Timaru pair in the NZ wide competition. Karen asked that the achievements of Paula Gregory and Michael Johnstone in this competition in coming 14th overall also be acknowledged.
- **2022 AGM Process:** The committee was asked to take note of improvements that could be made in the AGM process going forward. These included adding a Timaru Bridge Club heading to the nomination sheet, leaving the nomination sheet on display after nominations have closed and ensuring that signatures on the sheet are legible and that dates for both the closure of nominations and receipt of any additional remits are clear and correct.
- **Inclusivity & thanks**
A request was made that the new committee looks at opportunities to encourage greater inclusivity between the club divisions; consider resurrecting the club-wide closing night get-together for example. Thanks were also extended to Grant Patterson for stepping in to chair tonight's meeting.

Next meeting date to be announced the later part of 2023.

Meeting adjourned 9:05 pm

Confirmed _____

Date _____

Submitted by
Andrea Brown, Secretary