

Minutes of Committee Meeting of New Plymouth Bridge Club

Wednesday 13 September 2023, 4.30 pm at the Clubrooms

Present: Deane Skelton, Christine Burton, Jenny Cleaver, Frances Corcoran, Pam Livingston, Anthony Murcott, Diane O'Donnell, Cecelia Stringer, Jim Sutherland, Janet Voss.

	Welcome: Deane welcomed the Committee and Janet who came to observe.
1.	Matters Arising from Previous Minutes: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Further discussion regarding Competition Rules pertaining to Rubber Bridge. Moved Cecelia/Deane - "That a Rubber Bridge player can be a non-financial member but will not be eligible to win the competition or play in the final." Passed, Pam voted against.2. "Bridge Parking Only" signs are now up on the building at the back of rooms.3. Under Financial Report item 3. Should read "Table money for the year to date has increased by \$10,000." – minutes altered accordingly. Moved Jim/Jenny – "That the minutes of the meeting on 16 August 2023 are a true and correct record." Agreed.
2.	Correspondence (Cecelia): <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. NZ Bridge Board Meeting minutes.2. NZ Bridge information pack regarding AGM later in September, including President's Report and Financial Report. (This document is in the Committee Room if members wish to view.)3. Request from a member asking for dispensation for the last session of the Marsh Cup. M&G to discuss and reply.4. NPDC regarding our Building Warrant of Fitness due 6 October 2023. Frances advised NPE have this programmed and will attend to. Through slot: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Query regarding handicap system as believe some people have too high an advantage. Pam to look into.2. Request for coat hooks for handbags as feel the bags left on the floor could be a health and safety issue. This matter has previously been discussed by the Committee. Agreed we promote putting bags on the centre unused tables at regular sessions, and use the Committee Room as a Cloak Room during tournaments. Incident Book: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Key left in kitchen cupboard again 28 August
3.	Financial Report (Diane): <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Jim advised his sister, Denise Karageorge (Chartered Accountant) is willing to review our accounts for this year. Moved Diane/Deane - "That we appoint Denise Karageorge as our Reviewer for 2023." Agreed.2. Sponsorship money is starting to come in for 2024 year. Judy Herdson has a sponsor for a nine-night competition and agreed this be used for the Auckland Cup. Craigs Investment Partners 2023 sponsorship needs further promotion. Suggested we do this at the President's Night.3. Weekend of Bridge had a small loss of approximately \$150.00 – to be further checked.4. Fullerton Teams online tournament made a profit of \$819.005. Diane presented a projected cost schedule for prizes, updating Honours Boards, trophy engraving etc for 2024 year. Pam reminded members that the trophies list has been altered for 2024. Pam, Deane and Diane to have a meeting to discuss prizes and bring back recommendations to October meeting.

	Moved Diane/Christine – “That the Financial Report and Accounts for Payment be approved.” Agreed.
4.	Training & Development (Christine): <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Teachers’ Conference in Christchurch in November. Some funding from the NZ Bridge Foundation is on offer for attendees – Christine and Walt will make an application. 2. Stayman lesson on Sunday. Christine/Jim/Frances have underway. 3. NZ Bridge Tool Kit for Clubs may include a template for renewing the Constitution. Cecelia to follow up. 4. Agreed we invite Phil Barron to our next meeting for discussion on the new rules and regulations for Constitutions. 5. Another 3+1 event is planned in November.
5.	Building (Tony): <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Alteration to door into women’s toilet in hand. 2. Wells, on behalf of Nova, have installed new monitoring system to read meter. 3. Jim/Tony following up with roof painting quotes.
6.	House (Frances): <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Urn has been fixed by disabling one of the elements. It will now be slower to heat but will give us an extra urn for tournaments. 2. Catering for tournaments requires more people to help. Frances advised she is happy to co-ordinate but needs volunteers to fill urns, clear tables, wash dishes, prepare food. Suggested a ringing list be compiled. To promote with Bridge Buddies.
7.	Bar (Jim): <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Profit margin is just over 30%. This is slightly down on previous due to increase in alcohol prices. Jim felt that the prices we are charging members should not change.
8.	Directors (Jenny): <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Job Description for Chief Scorer is underway. 2. The Directors have asked about the Club’s finances (which are tracking better than last year) and whether their remuneration is able to go back to 2022 levels. Diane advised that \$18,000 would be the whole year cost for Directors. After discussion about the Club’s financial situation at the 2022 AGM the Directors volunteered to only receive half their normal remuneration for the 2023 year. The Committee agreed that the directors’ remuneration be paid in full in 2024 and thanked them for their contribution towards helping the Club financially.
9.	Match & Grading (Pam): <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Competition Rules for 2024 are being finalised by Pam and Russell for insertion in the new Programme Book and published on the website etc. 2. Teams and Swiss Pairs events that occur the same week can create a storage problem for dealt boards. The Secretary’s cupboard to be used for extra storage when needed.
10.	General Business: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Wednesday afternoon sessions in 2024 to be included in the Programme. These to run for eight weeks – 4 x 2 week competitions. John Holdom to be approached to sponsor again. 2. Teams training – suggested this could be run on a Sunday afternoon or come 15 minutes earlier for talk about teams on the first night of competition. 3. Post Office box – agreed we cancel the Post Office box when it comes due in 2024. A lockable postbox to be installed at the rooms and all mail to be addressed to 70 Hobson Street once this box is in place. Tony to expedite. 4. Frances raised the matter of the phones needing replacement. Felt only one phone necessary in rooms. Jim offered to donate a modern phone to the Club that he has available. 5. Nominations for Committee have not progressed. Discussion on the Secretary position being shared and some interest has been shown by several members. Nominations to be promoted.

	<p>6. The Club will be 75 years old in 2025. Deane would like to see a sub-committee arranged to decide how to celebrate this event. We be further considered early 2024.</p> <p>7. Deane has updated the Grand Master photos.</p>
	<p>Closure: 6.10 pm.</p> <p>Next Meeting: Wednesday 11 October 2023, 4.30 pm, at Clubrooms.</p>
	<p>Signed: Deane Skelton, President. Date:</p>