

Franklin Bridge Club Inc.

Minutes of Committee Meeting, held at the clubrooms on Sunday, 9th December 2024 at 4pm.

Present: Linda Thornton (President), Henriette Annabel, Henk Egelmeer, Arie Geursen, Bev Henton, Christine Godding, Maureen Nelson, Jonathan Taylor, Terry Evans for first hour by Zoom

Linda welcomed Christine and Henk as new members on our Committee.

Apologies: Susie Longdell, Dennise Biddick, Teresa Green

Minutes of meeting 15th September 2024:

Moved that they be accepted Jonathan Taylor/Bev Henton

Minutes of the AGM was held on 1st December 2024

These minutes were reviewed and approved for submission to the next AGM, 7th December 2025. Arie Geursen/Henriette Annabel.

Inwards Correspondence:

7 items listed in the agenda be approved. This was not formally moved

Outward Correspondence:

4 items listed in the agenda be approved. This was not formally moved

Inward/Outward correspondence will be on the next meeting's agenda and addressed then.

Individual Reports:

Treasurer:

Reported that we have \$20,000 on term deposit and \$16,400 in our cheque account. Payments for annual subs are rolling in.

Proposed that we remove Chris Glyde from our list of 4 signatories to the bank account, and replace him with Christine Godding. Maureen Nelson/Linda Thornton. A separate minute has been prepared to take to the ANZ.

Sub Committee for 2025 Programme

Jonathan advised that this was a successful move and that we should have another short review at the end of this year ready for 2026. Arie spoke to hope that Monday nights will be more inclusive. The rules have been revamped/simplified and are now in the book.

Computer Matters:

Jonathan advised that Compscore 3 is running well, that Tricia Balle has been trained to score. For 2025, Jonathan will be unavailable on Mondays, but Kevin Griffin will score them. Jonathan hopes to be available some Fridays to assist Jim. Arie said that if Jim is struggling, he would be available after 2pm on some Fridays. We should try to support Jim when we can.

In our new 2025 programme, there are 3 x “one night Swiss pairs” on Monday evenings. The first one is 7 July, we need to get scoring set up for that.

Property Manager:

Henk had been given a handover list by Kevin Griffin. He asked who is now the first call for burglar alarm activation.

Answer: Between 8pm and 6am, first call is to the Securicom guard.

Outside those hours, first call is Neil Miller, then Kevin Griffin. We will need to make changes.

Henk asked who was responsible for maintenance of the defibrillator (answer – no one seems to know. Henk will make enquiries)

Who is responsible for maintaining the fire equipment (answer the Property Manager). We have had a recent inspection.

Insurance: our club’s annual insurance invoice is due on 31st May.

Our premium for the current year was \$5912 + gst. We have had the same broker for more than 10 years and they don’t seem to make any effort, just forward their annual invoice. Kevin had believed that we should try another broker, and get a comparison of premiums. He further said he believed we should do this every 3 years.

Nothing has been done about this – the problem seems to be that no-one knows another broker, we would have to pick someone randomly. Matter is unresolved.

General Business:

Seating Rights

The committee discussed an email from Maria Casci, focussing on Carol De Luca. Arie said “Everyone on the committee should feel free to dissent on any issue at any time”. The Committee unanimously endorsed our ongoing position. Linda had drafted a reply to Maria.

Neil Miller had emailed complaining about Maria’s “gaming the system” of red and green cards/toss of the coin to decide seating. Teresa Phillips and Henriette were already very aware of this situation. Decided for the time being to let it go, Linda will speak to Neil saying “we are aware”.

New Constitution

The absolute legal deadline to have this in place is 2026. Linda is already working on it, Arie will assist her. The process will be:

- 1 Prepare a new draft constitution, using the NZ Bridge and Otago Bridge Club templates as a starting point
- 2 Put it out for consultation with members (a legal requirement)
- 3 Hold a SGM (special general meeting) to ratify it
- 4 Obtain Registrar’s approval

Brief discussion took place about the optimum size of our committee. Is it too large – possibly have a smaller core committee, and co-opt extra people as required for special purposes.

Maureen advised that she does not wish to be Auditor going forward, but to do a less onerous formal “Review”. Many clubs are adopting this stance. An annual audit by a Chartered Accountant would cost \$3-4000.

Parking

Recently, parking at our club has become a contentious issue with our neighbours. Club members have in the meantime been instructed not to park in the Plunket spaces on Fridays, or on Wednesday nights.

There is a question of easement and access. Arie to talk to Kevin Birch and to Plunket, to confirm that we can park there on Mondays. Discussion took place regarding making our front lawn into permanent parking – perhaps gobi blocks, which are permeable.

We await the outcome of Arie’s discussions.

Upcoming tournament, 22nd February 2025

Bev Henton advised that she would send out the fliers to other clubs at the beginning of January. Jonathan will get Terry to list it on NZ Bridge website.

Jonathan will do the scoring, Tony Morcom will direct.

Dennise Biddick may need some assistance with Catering arrangements as this is her first tournament. We will ask Sue Helleur and Debby Naeff to assist her. Judy Collins is no longer available.

Rule of thumb for prizes is to allocate approx. 1/3rd of income to prizes, Christine and Maureen to liaise with Teresa Green re last year's.

New Member

The committee approved Kevin Birch's proposal for Pam Browne to transfer to membership of our club from Mt. Albert club. The proposal form had been duly displayed on the noticeboard. She needs a programme book and an invoice for her sub.

At the AGM, Linda had invited the room at large to put themselves forward if they were interested in coming onto the committee. Cam Gooder, one of the 2024 beginners had expressed interest. Decided that Cam should be invited to join our March/April meeting to see if he did want to join.

A Calendar for 2025 Meetings

The next meeting will be on Sunday 9th February, in advance of our Swiss pairs Tournament on Saturday, 22nd February. The meeting to be via **GoogleMeet**. Linda said she aims to have a committee meeting approximately every 6 weeks, so the next one would be late March/early April.

The meeting closed at 6.15pm.