

Minutes of the Franklin Bridge Club committee meeting held on Saturday August 3, 2024, at the clubrooms at 3.30pm.

Apologies: Teresa Green, Kevin Griffin

Minutes from previous meeting: Accepted (moved by Linda/seconded by Henriette).

Matters Arising from the minutes.

New forms for registering substitutes and slips for recording table money were tabled. The intention is that substitution forms will be printed on yellow paper and the slips on white.

Inward Correspondence of interest/needing discussion.

(a) Emails from NZB regarding problems which arose recently regarding the transfer of FBC session results and masterpoints to the NZB website. Jonathon has been our key contact in this and it is being sorted out.

(b) Emails from Terry regarding installing the honours board and the fixing of errors relating to one year.

(c) NZ Bridge emails including:

- Board minutes and newsletters;
- Info about an upcoming (August 22) online session for clubs on reviewing rules, regulations and changing constitutions to meet requirements under law changes affecting Registered Charities and Incorporated Societies;
- A request for suggestions of what should be included in a toolkit for clubs that will be discussed at the next NZB conference;
- Info about an online NZB series on RealBridge providing supervised play for players coming out of lessons (committee members have aired their views by emails on this and whether we promote it but no decision about policy on such matters has been made);
- NZB draft constitution to be presented at its AGM;
- Notice of an event marketing kit available from NZB.

(d) Auckland Northland Region newsletters etc and notice of the upcoming August 11 annual regional get-together, where topics will include retaining new members, changes required by the new Incorporated Societies rules and how to run sessions on RealBridge for your club. Maureen and Terry and have already agreed to attend this event as our delegates.

(e) Emails from Terry regarding the latest dealing roster and his policy on dealing. Also, he has written a dealing instruction manual and tested this while training a new director. This is being proofread by Maureen.

(f) Email from Dianne and Richard Whitelaw advising that Dianne could no longer be a partner secretary as they were on the point of moving to Tauranga but hoped to play some sessions when back in Franklin before the sale of their house here is settled later in the year (Maureen wrote a thank you email in reply).

(g) Email from Jann Spaans, of Bridgemates NZ, reporting on keeping current Bridgemates going and the progress being made towards the release of Bridgemate 3.

(h) Email from a participant in Franklin's Ultra Restricted Tournament re scoring issues. This has been sorted.

All the above Inward correspondence and emails was received (Neil/Arie)

Outward Correspondence

(a) General emails to all members including Table Talks, info about Sunday sessions, potluck dates, Goulash night and scoring issues.

(b) Email thank you letters to Maria and Arie for their help with our April tournament.

(c) Email from Jonathon to other clubs and a player involved in the Ultra Restricted Tournament Series re fouled boards at the Franklin event.

All this outward correspondence was received (Neil/Bev).

Email Discussions and Decisions by committee via email that need to be noted and/or ratified as appropriate.

(a) Emails among committee members agreeing that a member's request for fixed seating after hip surgery be granted.

(d) Emails between committee members approving sending of card and flowers to Jacqui Trepass who is unwell and not likely to return to bridge sessions (Maureen has since delivered the same herself).

(e) Emails among committee members agreeing to replacing the two remaining 13-year-old air heat pumps of which only one is working and accepting the offer of Terry Evans senior, a heat pump specialist, to supply and install new ones at cost for about \$3305 each plus \$100 per unit for a worker to do the required gas connection work on the roof. Two members agreed to help with the lifting (these units are now installed and working).

(g) Emails agreeing to replace programmed graduation night with a Goulash session (which was held last week).

(h) Two separate emails from members concerned about rushing play during sessions. Committee members in responding to this agreed it should be discussed at this meeting as part of director issues (see general business).

(i) Emails around scoring issues that arise when players put in the wrong information at the start of play. Studying this has shown that it is more often experienced players not novices who at fault. Solution being tried is to delay handing out boards for a session until players have entered the correct table number.

(j) Emails about covering cleaning when Neil was away for a period in July. Terry stepped up to do this.

(k) Emails agreeing to grant the request of four new bridge players to practice in the committee room during Monday night sessions.

The above emails were noted and ratified as appropriate (Maureen/Jonathon).

Property Report

Although absent from the meeting, Kevin wanted it noted that the new air-conditioning units looked awesome and that those involved (particularly Terry Evans Snr and Jnr) had made a great job. The meeting agreed.

Education Officer

Maureen reported that her big concern at present was where we go from here with beginner players now the introductory lessons are finished. The expectation was they would join the improver sessions. Chris was making a great job of these but felt his current group would be held back by the graduating beginners. Maureen acknowledged some in her group might not even be ready for learning Stamens and Transfers, while Chris had covered the likes of checkback Stamen in his sessions. Arie said he considered that supervised sessions of just playing bridge were very important for the new graduates.

Maureen indicated she needed a break and would not be able to take next Thursday's session. The meeting strongly agreed that further Thursday sessions for graduates should not be Maureen's responsibility alone and that a schedule of four supervisors a night for the remaining sessions should be set up with people finding their own substitutes if they cannot make it on their agreed night/s.

Maureen wanted to acknowledge and thank Terry Evans, Henriette, Kevin and Caroline Griffins, and Sue and David Spencer for their very strong and regular support in helping with the beginners' lessons.

The meeting decided to resolve the issue of future lessons for graduate and improving players at a later date. Meanwhile, improver sessions will run on Thursdays until the end of October as set out in the programme booklet.

General Business.

Directors

Arie reported on how his trainee director programme was going and noted Jonathon was confident about directing and Henriette said she was okay with directing. Linda wants a bit more time due to her life being extra busy at present. They boost our team of current directors - Chris Glyde, Teresa Phillips and Arie.

As some members have voiced concern over some aspects of directing, including the time allowed per board, Arie suggested that he get all directors together for a discussion of directing that would cover such issues and make known the committee's expectation of seven and a half minutes per board being allowed and overall three hours to play 24 boards.

The meeting decided to accept Arie's offer to hold a directors' meeting, sort out a director roster and look at playing time pressure. (Maureen/Susie).

Tournament Reports.

The April tournament was judged to have been very good.

The Ultra Restricted Series (with one to go) had been very friendly and such a success overall that Mark Buckley from Papatoetoe (the instigator) wanted to repeat it next year. Our tournament was the largest in the series and we covered our costs.

Our September Intermediate and 5A tournament – there will be two separate sessions - already has seven pairs registered. Jonathon will be doing the scoring. Bev will talk to Maria Casci about covering her as organiser if her health forces her to step back.

Entry will be \$40 and numbers will be capped if necessary.

Compscore upgrading

Compscore 3 has previously been off the agenda but if we could use it, it would avoid the many problems of Compscore 2, the meeting heard. A suggestion was that if we could put 2 and 3 on the same computer and compare the two we could see what is what

Scoring and Scorerers

Jonathon is doing the scoring on Mondays and Kevin does Wednesdays. They plan to swap over next year. Kevin has now recruited Tricia Ball to be a scorerer as well. Jim Buckland does Friday scoring. Aries noted he is usually home from golf by 2pm and available if any issues arise on that day.

NZ Bridge and governance/administration matters

The new NZB Toolkit is to replace the former manual. One folder will be on governance and will include a proforma constitution in line with the new legal requirements. A zoom call for all clubs is planned for August 22. Arie thinks we can do our own constitutional changes, due to Linda's professional skills. The same goes, he says, for our Insurance, Resource Management and the various other policy documents that NZB says all clubs will need to have sorted.

Linda said she would register herself and attend the August 22 zoom call.

Front lawn sign

Terry pointed out the email address is now incorrect on this sign. There was support for resuscitating Kevin's suggestion that we put a sign for the front of the building. This was not a pressing issue but it was suggested that Kevin could get costings when he is not busy.

Meanwhile, we could correct the email address on the current sign.

Dealing and dealers

Arie will cover for Terry as dealing supervisor while the latter is away – and until the end of the year if that suits.

Sunday bridge

There will be no Sunday session on the weekend of our upcoming Ultra Restricted Tournament. Susie to advise members via Whats App and email.

Email and internet platform

Terry proposed we move the management of franklinbridgeclub.com to a commercial platform at an estimated cost of about \$US100 a year. This was approved.

Manuals

Terry has written manuals for dealing and for the opening and closing of the clubrooms, which need to be formally adopted. Arie said manuals were essential and that we should have one for scoring too. He suggested that anyone who has a job description for their role send it to Terry who can compile them too. Terry has also offered to also write manuals for managing FBC emails and the FBC website, if they are wanted. There was no formal decision on that.

Arie noted manuals are very important and compiling them was a significant contribution on Terry's part. Arie said he was happy to help Jonathon update the scoring manual

Socialising and analysis after sessions

Arie suggested we provide sausage rolls and the opportunity to a donate on for a glass of wine after teams' events as play usually finishes early on teams' nights. Neil says this is a big job – someone needs to get the wine and someone needs to get the food. No decision was made about this.

Meeting closed at 6pm.