

MINUTES of the **Franklin Bridge Club committee meeting** on **Sunday, February 9, 2025**, at the clubrooms at **4pm**.

Apologies: Arie Geursen

Present: Linda Thornton, Maureen Nelson, Jonathon Taylor, Henriette Annabell, Bev Henton, Terry Evans (Jnr), Susie Longdell, Christine Godding, Dennise Biddick, Henk Egelmeer (who left partway through the meeting).

Minutes from previous meeting.

Passed as correct record. Moved by Bev; seconded by Henk.

Inward Correspondence carried forward from December 2024 meeting

(a) Email from Jenny Odom tendering her resignation.

(b) Email from Heather Waldren with invoice for AGM flowers.

(c) NZ Bridge emails including monthly newsletters (November one includes an offer by a Waikato member to run an online course on Compass scoring), 2025 tournament schedule, restricted tournament classifications, info from the Teaching and Learning Committee re attracting and retaining members, Lovelock Pairs preparations, reminder of player levy increase from April 1 next year.

(d) Emails from Grant Jarvis about our tournament dates clashing with others, especially online ones and his work to resolve these issues with NZ Bridge. As a result, our 8B tournament has been confirmed for May 24 but our 5A and 5B tournaments on September 20 still clash with a an online one. He has formally written to the Board to resolve this issue.

(e) Email from Arie in response to the above email suggesting we need to aggressively market the Intermediate / Junior section, and possibly make it a f2f Swiss pairs for both sections, which he says are all the rage these days. He points out the only problem would be no number of pre-dealt boards needed but notes we can always get the Regional Committee Boards.

(e) Email from Dianne Conroy disputing a ruling on a competition winner.

(f) Email from Club Captain seeking feedback about a trial digital sign in club window.

(g) Email from a Programmed Property Services representative offering their interior and exterior painting and washing services for future consideration.

Jonathon moved this correspondence be received, seconded by Denise and passed.

Outward Correspondence carried forward from December 2024 meeting

(a) General emails to all members including Table Talk, info about the AGM, Lovelock Pairs and a rubber bridge night and a request to not park beside the adjacent 'Plunket' building.

(b) Linda's reply to Dianne Conroy.

(c) Secretary's email to Grant Jarvis thanking him for his input into sorting our tournament clashes.

(d) Secretary's email to Maria Casci acknowledging receipt of her complaint.

All approved (Henriette/Maureen)

Email discussions and decisions by committee via email carried forward from December 2024 meeting that need to be noted and/or ratified as appropriate.

- (a) Emails among committee members agreeing to putting on supper on the night of the Lovelock Pairs Competition instead of a pre-session potluck dinner.*
- (c) Emails among committee members re presentations to retiring officers which reached agreement on presenting flowers for women and Mitre10 vouchers for men retirees.*
- (d) Emails between committee members regarding parking and access issues. The decision was to discuss this at the next committee meeting.*

Ratified (Jonathon/Henriette).

Recent Inward Correspondence

- (a) Email from Jane Stevens for ANRC seeking comment on the clashes between online and face-to-face tournaments and tournament issues in general.
- (b) Email from Jane Stevens advising of \$300 subsidy of costs associated with attracting beginners to lessons - and an email from NZ Bridge with the appropriate funding application form (sent on the treasurer).
- (c) Email from NZ Bridge advising that an online director's course will be conducted by Allan Joseph starting shortly and giving some details.
- (d) Email from member Kevin Griffin voicing dissatisfaction with room air conditions on recent Wednesday nights and asking for a response as to the action planned to prevent it in the future.
- (e) Email from Waiuku lawyer Mandy Rusk acting for Maria Casci.
- (f) Inquiry about venue hire – forwarded to Maureen.
- (g) Thanks for the flowers email from Teresa Phillipps.
- (h) NZ Bridge board meeting minutes from November meeting and levy invoices.

Received (Terry/Christine).

Outward Correspondence

- (a) Club captain's emails to all members regarding various events in the club calendar.
- (b) December and February issues of Table Talk to all members and notification of Ken Cruise's 90th birthday recognition.
- (c) Secretary's emails to Many Rusk and Kevin Griffins advising of receipt of their emails referred to above.

Approved (Terry/Henriette).

All email decisions or discussions since the last meeting concerned items to be considered under General Business.

General Business

(a) Tournament clashes and tournament policy in general – feedback requested from ANRC

The committee agreed it would continue to state its opposition to clashes between online tournaments and our club tournaments. Dennise suggested we request NZ Bridge move the clashing online tournaments to a Sunday, leaving the Saturdays free for face-to-face events. Linda undertook to write to Grant Jarvis (ANRC) stating our position.

(b) Lesson recruiting and advertising.

The use of our Facebook page was discussed and it was agreed it should be used as one option. We have 90 followers. Terry reported he had already provided the material sought by Mel Auld for the NZB Facebook page. Dennise offered to put something on Neighbourly and this was accepted. Robin Bennett's suggestion that we print some business card size promotional material was discussed, along with examples Terry had provided by email. The end decision was to print some A6 versions with no logo on light yellow card. Terry to arrange this. A further decision was to run a classified advertisement in the Public/Community Notices section in the Franklin County News starting on February 27. Susie to oversee this.

(c) Logo

Any decision about a logo, its design and whether we even need one was deferred. Meanwhile, we will continue to use the existing one that is on the website there but nowhere else.

(d) Building Signage

Option 10 of those options already circulated by email by Terry was chosen and it was agreed this would not include any logo. No decision was made regarding painting the unaffected part of the fascia and the gable above. It was decided to proceed with the new sign on the street front (which will cost \$1100 for two sides and will promote the upcoming lessons). Later it will be replaced by a more generic sign. Terry will oversee this and also investigate graffiti protection options.

(e) Lawyer's letter prompted by Maria Casci that relates to another member's request for special seating rights.

Linda's confidential suggested written response to this was agreed on unanimously after discussion. As honorary solicitor, Linda noted the committee was bound to be very careful not to breach the privacy of the player who had requested special rights.

(f) Room temperatures and air movement on Wednesdays.

Terry said steps had been taken to make sure that heat pump and fan settings were not changed in response to a player's request in the future. This, he found, was the major underlying cause of the hot conditions that prompted member Kevin Griffen to write to the committee.

(g) Update on parking issues. Discussion of the legal etc aspects of parking on the north side of our building was deferred until the next meeting so Arie could report in person. He had already confirmed that we have no right to use the parks outside the council owned Plunket building. Meanwhile, with regard to better providing for parking in front of our building, a separate but related matter, one contractor had priced concreting the area to make it all-weather at \$65,000. Other prices were yet to come in. Properly providing for drainage to keep water away from the building would be an expensive necessity, Henk noted.

(h) Improvers night.

It was agreed we would run an Improvers Night on Thursdays, probably during the same weeks that lessons were running on Tuesdays. Linda has undertaken to organise these sessions with the help of Lynne Guerson and Chrstine Egelmeer, both of whom have already volunteered to help (moved by Terry/seconded by Henriette). It was noted NZ Bridge has Improvers lessons on its website that members can access.

(i) Unpaid subscriptions. These were due on January 31. A small number remain outstanding and it was agreed approaches would be made to some late payers by phone or email if they are not paid shortly.

(j) Next tournament preparations. These were reported to be well underway. Dennise's son is getting married on the same day. As yet no volunteers had stepped forward to help in her absence but she plans to have enough to cover the catering requirements, ie to help with the the morning and afternoon teas and lunchtime hot drinks. Members to be asked to bring a plate. Dealing, scoring and directing was reported to be all in hand. Terry will pick up and return extra Bridgemates from Howick Bridge Club. Linda will do the envelopes.

(k) New trophy suggested for Patron's Monday night team's event. Patron Lynne Geursen's offer to provide a new trophy for this event was accepted. Linda offered to donate the runner up's prize. Both offers were viewed favourably.

(l) Bridgemates. Terry reported he had had no joy in getting additional ones so far. He had replaced keyboards in eight so we have 22 in total and will borrow some from Howick if needed for the upcoming tournament. Jonathon undertook to check the batteries in our Bridgemates before the tournament.

(m) Request by a group of Improvers for permission to hold parallel sessions on Monday nights. This request, which had been made in writing by email, was not discussed in detail but it was agreed that, before any decision on it could be made, it would need careful consideration and that that would take time. Maureen offered to report back meanwhile to the player representing the foursome, advising them of this.

Finally, the date and time for the next committee meeting was set for **March 16 at 4pm,**

The meeting closed at 6.15pm