

Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee

Franklin Bridge Club

14 September 2025

The meeting was called to order at 4 pm by Linda Thornton

Present: L Thornton, A Geursen, H Annabell, C Godding, H Egelmeer and Bev Henton

Apologies: Maureen Nelson, Jonathan Taylor, Dennise Biddick, and Susie Longdell

Moved that the apologies be accepted by H Annabell; seconded by B Henton. No opposition motion carried,

Previous minutes presented; moved accepted as written by B Henton and Seconded by C Godding. No opposition; motion carried.

Inward correspondence received:

Emails from NZ Bridge – minutes, newsletters, information about bridge teacher conference, three online intermediate lessons and directors' assessments.

2. Auckland-Northland Regional Bridge newsletter.

3. Email from member Christine Egelmeer wanting cards with stylised black aces replaced because she has found them confusing.

4. Email from member Carol de Luca requesting seating rights at our tournament on "September 20".

5. Emails from The Hill Sales Manager Elisha Masemann regarding sponsorship of next Sunday's tournament.

6. Quote (via Dennise) for tournament afternoon tea food.

7. Email from member Robin Bennett offering places for FBC members at St John First Aid training, including using a defibrillator. Venue to be Rymans Retirement Village.

8. Email from Secretary Susie Longdell declaring a family interest in a company providing security equipment and excusing herself from future discussions regarding a provider.

9. Emails from members with completed questionnaires.

10. Email from Christine Egelmeer asking that the order of minutes on our website be changed. Forwarded to IT Manager.

11. Auckland Northland Regional Bridge newsletter

Moved receipt of the inward correspondence by H Egelmeer ; seconded by L Thornton

No opposition; motion carried.

Outward Correspondence:

Emails and WhatsApp notices to members including Table Talk and a members' questionnaire.

2. Emails to Elisha Masemann, The Hill Sales Manager, regarding sponsorship of our September tournament, including our formal acceptance of the outcome – sponsorship totalling \$1750,

3. Emails acknowledging receipt of item numbered 3 and 10 in inward correspondence.

Receipt of Outward correspondence moved by H Annabell, seconded by H Egelmeer; No opposition; motion carried.

Items carried forward from previous inward correspondence:

Email discussions and decisions not covered above needing to be recorded - and ratified as appropriate (including items carried over from June 14 meeting).

1. Email discussion about cards with unusual black aces. Final decision needed.

2. Emails about FBC' WhatsApp group membership. Final decision needed.

3. Emails about free first aid training (See General Business)

It was noted that Caroline and Kevin Griffin have affiliated to Papatoetoe Bridge Club and are now associate members of Franklin; we will no longer be paying their NZ Bridge levies. No action required or taken.

Symmetrical cards. Arie reported that these are now required in Australia as a response to a cheating scandal. With symmetrical cards, it is not possible to place a card so the central figure in Spades or Hearts, or the "handle" in clubs can be shown in one direction. Accordingly, this defeats a type of cheating that relied on pointing a card in one direction or another. This development should be included in Table Talk so players will be aware of why it's been done, accept it as a game improvement and be mindful of the new configuration when playing.

What'sApp. Linda reported that she had okayed removal of Kevin and Caroline from the What'sApp partnership group when requested by Neil, the administrator of that app. The thinking was that they were cancelling existing play commitments and not seeking new ones so the App would not be needed. They were able to be added on request. People were requested to allow players who wished to see specific actions to speak for themselves and not take up issues for others.

Officer Reports

Treasurer

Christine gave the Treasurer's report that we have \$30,000 in our term deposit and \$7,824 in the cheque account.

Property Manager

Henk brought in the quotes he had secured for the Security upgrade so as to avoid the necessity of calling a club member to the premises for an alarm or failure to set. The lowest quote that required the least amount of alteration was \$1,000. The consensus of the Committee was that this was the easiest and cheapest method and should be pursued.

Henk also reported on chair upgrades he had received. He provided information and quotes for obtaining cushions to add to chairs needing cushions; refurbishment of the chairs varied depending on whether the seat and back (both) were needed or only the seat. Another option was to replace the chairs piecemeal. A sample chair was able to be requested so we could view it for matching fabric and style before committing to a decision.

Tournament

Catering estimate for the tournament was approximately \$1000. The consensus of the committee was that this was too high and did not include people to serve, etc. Several committee and other volunteers were available as was a casual worker for the day (Susie Longdell's family) so in the interest of saving money and managing the issue in house, we opted not to go with catering.

Carol de Luca requested seating rights. The consensus of the Committee was that if she could be accommodated consistent with an appropriate movement that would be done.

President

Survey. A survey had been sent out and was reviewed for responses. A few items of feedback were noted, such as a strong preference for Monday night to start at 7:15, interest in another day of bridge, were noted. No decisions were requested or made.

The constitution drafting is underway and given the limited time available at this meeting, we will defer discussion of the draft until our next meeting.

First Aid is available through St John's. An email should be circulated among members to determine whether there is sufficient interest to warrant scheduling the course.

Education and Development

We are going to need to identify trainers for bridge courses next year as Maureen has made it plain that she will not be presenting in the future.

Club Captain

The programme booklet will need to be prepared shortly. The consensus of the Committee that a subcommittee consisting of Arie, Linda and Jonathan will be delegated to prepare the calendar and scheduled sessions for 2026. Work will not begin on this until Jonathan returns from overseas travel.

The next meeting was set for 5 October at 4 pm

Meeting adjourned

Dated:

H Annabell (notes) and L Thornton (narrative)