

The Canberra Bridge Club Inc.

President	Peter Giles	6 Duff Place
Secretary	Pam Crichton	PO Box 9006
Treasurer	Val Carmody	Deakin ACT 2600
Manager	Lesley Gunson/Kerry Butcher	Tel 02 6282 2382
		Fax 02 6282 2382

email: manager@canberrabridgeclub.com.au

MINUTES

Monday 8 December 2014 at 5.30pm

Attendance: Peter Giles, Val Carmody, Lesley Gunson, Mary Tough, Ian Robinson, Richard Hills, Perelle Scales, Elaine Leach, Kerry Butcher, Pam Crichton, Jodi Tutty, Neil Garvey, Richard Brightling, Rick Nehmy, Bruce Crossman.

Apologies:

1. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

MOTION: That the Minutes of 10 November 2014 be accepted as a true record of the meeting. Moved Perelle Scales, Seconded Mary Tough CARRIED.

2. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

Action item 1: Mary Tough has had difficulty in obtaining a quotation on signs from Tuggeranong Men's Shed. Peter has taken the banner from the wall to the tip but the sign near the gate only needs repainting. The committee agreed that the club's phone number should be put on it, either by painting with a stencil or by stick-on numbers.

Action item 2: Peter and Jodi will meet on the issue of advertising the club in various publications and report to the next meeting.

Action item 3: Dorothy Jesner has offered to format the Bulletin.

Action items 4: The working bee went well.

Action item 5: Peter thanked those who offered help with Power Point. Sue Hollands has also offered.

Action item 6: MOTION That Julia Hoffman, Val Hopwood and Peter Grant constitute a CBC panel to consider nominations for honorary life membership as they arise Moved Peter Giles Seconded Val Carmody CARRIED.

3. TREASURER'S REPORT

The Treasurer's report was tabled.

Table money is higher than at the same time last year, though the player numbers seem lower in the Manager's Report. This is because the table money from the American visit last year was included in event income rather than table money. The profit from the Melbourne Cup event was \$1354 and from the Christmas parties \$1849.

MOTION That for non-home club members CBC deducts ABF and BFACT affiliation fees from the CBC annual membership fee Moved Peter Giles Seconded Val Carmody CARRIED

MOTION That we remove the CBC's safe custody packet from the Commonwealth

Bank Moved Peter Giles Seconded Rick Nehmy CARRIED (Action item 1) The bank charges \$50 per annum for this service. The club could keep certified copies of the document.

4. MANAGERS' REPORT

A written report was circulated at the meeting.

The volunteers who help in the office on Tuesday can contact players who have stopped playing.

Thanks were expressed to Val Hopwood who does the banking for the club every week.

5. SUB-COMMITTEES

5.1 Membership and Promotion

5.1.1 Peter and Jodi will come to the next meeting with a proposal on advertising in the Seniors newspaper or with COTA (Action item 2)

5.1.2 CBC Bulletin:

Richard will have items on Canberra bridge history in some issues. Keith Ogborn might help. Richard thanked David Hoffman for his profile of Olive Lott and Lesley for providing an article by Greg Quittner. Richard will write some articles and then email the issue to Dorothy Jesner for formatting. The only costs relate to printing a limited number of hard copies. It was suggested that Richard might pitch different issues at different categories of bridge players but it may be prudent to wait until a few issues have been produced.

5.1.3 ABF Women in Bridge Committee: BFACT is considering this and when they come back to us Peter will ask for interest. Margaret Bourke is willing to help whoever takes the role.

5.1.4 Honouring members: Paul Sullivan cannot continue on this project but he did note that while there are many members who deserve acknowledgement there are very few events that can be used for naming purposes.

5.1.5 Teaching and Mentoring:

Beginners' lessons will start on 2 February. A flyer will be issued (Action item 3).

A combination of Intermediate and Advanced lessons will be held next year: April (Sean), July (David Beauchamp) with similar arrangements to last year; October (Andy Braithwaite).

May will be Mentoring month: the mentee to pay for the mentor for maximum of 3 sessions. The mentee will ask a mentor from a list of volunteers.

Panel discussions will be held after some sessions.

5.1.6 ABF grant

The ABF has allocated the CBC \$2,810 over the next two years to implement the initiative to retain more novice and restricted players through an integrated and strategic approach to teaching, mentoring and transitioning new players between levels. BFACT had said it would meet the ABF grant dollar for dollar. Jodi will check this with Roy (Action item 4)

5.1.7 Roy will tell Joan Butts that the ACT is interested in the Teacher Training Continuing Development Day, but not in January. When it is held BFACT will cover the food costs and the CBC will offer the room free of charge.

5.1.8 Cooma visit: Peter needs a date from Peter Brennan and to find out the cost of a bus on a Sunday (Action item 5). BFACT will subsidise the bus if the trip is open to all BFACT clubs. Cooma will provide a meal. If the trip is a success then CBC would approach Cootamundra.

5.2 Tournament & Calendar

The Calendar is available. Some information (eg directors' courses) has not been included due to a lack of communication. Bruce will save data for the Calendar in a 2016 Calendar file.

Attendance at Tuesday and Thursday night events has improved but it is important to keep this momentum going.

The ABF grant comes with certain obligations:

- a beginners' coordinator
- restricted events on a weekend once a month. In the first six months these can be held in conjunction with existing events eg a Restricted section, or hopefully a separate movement, with the Valentines teams, and possibly a restricted pairs at the time of the trials for the ACT Seniors team (but this would need clearance from BFACT in terms of directing)
- a panel discussion of about half an hour will be held after the Nation Wide Pairs on Friday 20 February c 4 pm, aimed at Intermediate players

Publicity: Bruce will handle the Red Point Pairs on 6 and 13 March; Elaine the Valentines teams; Ian the Restricted Pairs on 29 March.

App for Calendar: see information on page 3 of the Calendar

Noticeboards: Ian and Lesley will reorganise them.

Ian, Rick and Bruce are considering the promotional aspects of the director's job. The use of the screen has been effective. Music can be offered before sessions. Rick will save out of date publicity for use next year.

5.3 Employment & Contracts

Nothing to report at this meeting.

5.4 House

5.4.1 Coffee machine:

It was suggested that Leone and Richard continue to monitor the viability of continuing the machine. The Christmas period is unlikely to provide a representative sample so the trial should be reconsidered at the end of March, remembering that a table at bench height would be required to hold the machine (cost \$230). We are currently purchasing pods, with no machine hire charges. Should the company wish to change this arrangement, the club would have to pay a hiring fee of \$70 plus \$7 GST and a smaller machine would not heat the milk as happens now.

5.4.2 Policy on hiring premises:

The 21st birthday party that was held went fairly well from the CBC point of view. However such functions are high risk for a low return. There is no problem with our known longterm hirers such as the war games and car groups.

MOTION That we let the CBC premises, or part thereof,

For bridge competitions

For not-for-profit organisations for purposes such as AGMs

At the request of a member of the club for approved purposes

And at the discretion of the committee

Moved Peter Giles Seconded Val Carmody CARRIED

The item on the webpage needs to be altered (Action item 6).

5.5 Congress and Social

5.5.1 Christmas parties: the parties held on Monday and Wednesday mornings were wonderful and the committee thanked Elaine for her organisation

5.5.2 Sunday Christmas party in 2015: Elaine suggested that a party be held on Sunday to enable those who work to attend a party. She suggested that 20 boards be played in a social atmosphere as an Individual event. Ian said that this was not a popular format when it was used at a Christmas Party in 1985. Christmas in July was suggested. To be discussed in March or April.

6. CORRESPONDENCE

In: John McIwath, Pianola agent in Australia

Peter said this system would be helpful for both office management and individual players. The cost is \$1500 a year but would be reduced by 20% for payment up front. It would be better if we complete this year's round of membership renewals on the existing system and for Kerry to have time to settle in. A three-month trial is free if you commit before the end of December. Peter will write to them committing CBC to a trial but asking for it to be deferred (Action item 7). Access data files will have to be transferred to Excel. The system does integrate with Comp Score. The information is kept in the cloud. The system can be accessed from home by players. Pianola's next enhancement will be a dedicated website. SABA has been very happy with. The North Shore bridge club also uses it. MOTION that the Canberra Bridge Club commits to a 3-month free trial of the Pianola system, in a period that suits the managers but not before the end of March Moved Peter Giles Seconded Rick Nehmy CARRIED

Out: Liz Van Der Hor thanking her for her outstanding help on the Calendar.

7. OTHER BUSINESS

7.1 Directors' meeting:

Directors need to be aware that they are the public face of the club. They need to be able to think ahead in order to look after the members. The screen is being used regularly. They have been asked to fill in a book with partnership information but this is not working yet. Rick has worked on Leone's paper on developing directors. Ian will write a paper on directing in the club (Action item 8)

Gordon Henderson is taking six months off. We do have sufficient directors in the club though there are difficult times such as during the Summer Festival.

7.2 Australian Bridge Directors Association membership

Only members can access the directors' bulletin and attend any seminars that are held. Cost \$25 per year. The membership of a couple of CBC members is paid by the ABF. CBC may have 15 active directors.

MOTION That the CBC pays the annual membership of ABDA for all active directors in the CBC Moved Ian Robinson Seconded Peter Giles CARRIED

7.3 Bidding Boxes

MOTION That the CBC:

1. Numbers the bidding boxes in the same way as the Bridgemates have been numbered.
2. Initiate a "rolling" renewal and replacement programme whereby the club purchase 5 new sets of bidding boxes in January each year.

3. Purchase 5 new sets of bidding boxes from Paul Lavings immediately at a cost of \$264.50.
4. Purchase a supply of individual replacement cards from Paul Lavings as follows:
 - a. 100 x Pass cards @ \$0.45 each. (\$45)
 - b. 20 x Alert cards @ \$0.45 each (\$9) and
 - c. 20 x 1 Club cards @ \$0.45 each (\$9)

Moved Perelle Scales Seconded Jodi Tutty CARRIED (Action item 9)
Paul Lavings will bring them in January, saving CBC postage costs.

7.4 Equipment for Olive Lott room

MOTION That Peter Giles has the authority to acquire tables, at a reasonable price, from restaurants going out of business, Moved Pam Crichton Seconded Perelle Scales CARRIED.

7.5 Raffle will be drawn during the session on Friday afternoon 19 December (c 2.30pm) by the manager of Flight Centre as their voucher is the main prize.

7.6 Masterpoints audit: only one anomaly was found which occurred when there was a stand-in director. Sean corrected it as soon as it was drawn to his attention.

The ABF requires masterpoints to be submitted quarterly; CBC in fact does it monthly. Some delay is needed after events to allow for score corrections.

8. **NEXT MEETING**

Monday 26 January 2015 at 5.30pm.

In closing the meeting Peter thanked everyone for their work for the club. The committee thanked Peter by acclamation.

Meeting closed at 7.10 pm.

ACTION ITEMS and Members responsible

Action item 1: Remove security packet from the Commonwealth Bank (Val)

Action item 2: draw up a proposal on advertising in the Seniors newspaper or with COTA (Peter and Jodi)

Action item 3: flyer for February beginners' lessons (Jodi/Ian)

Action item 4: check with BFACT re meeting the ABF grant dollar for dollar (Jodi)

Action item 5: date for Cooma visit and cost of bus hire (Peter)

Action item 6: change item on webpage on room hire (Lesley)

Action item 7: write to Pianola about free three-month trial (Peter)

Action item 8: paper on directors (Ian)

Action item 9: order bidding boxes and replacement cards (Perelle)

LONG TERM AGENDA ITEMS

February:

allocate committee members to promote Tuesday and Thursday events

Revise membership forms

March:

Christmas parties in 2015