



# The Canberra Bridge Club Inc.

*President* Stephen Fischer  
*Secretary* Ruth Gallagher  
*Treasurer* Andrew Kettle  
*Manager* Molly O'Donohue/Philip Thompson

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## MINUTES

Monday 13 February 2012 at 5.30pm

### Attendance:

Stephen Fischer (President), Dorothy Jesner (Vice-President), Ruth Gallagher (Secretary), Andrew Kettle (Treasurer), , Peter Giles, Rowan Bergin, Sue Welbourn, Val Holbrook, Liz Van Der Hor, Tony Marker, Stephen Mendick and Di Hawke.

**Apologies:** David Hoffman, The Managers

### 1. PREVIOUS MINUTES

**MOTION:** That the Minutes of 12 December 2011 be accepted as a true record of the meeting. **MOVED** Peter Giles **SECONDED** Dorothy Jesner

**CARRIED**

### 2. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MINUTES

### 3. MANAGERS' REPORT

The Managers were not at the meeting but passed on the following: the roof has been repaired but the gutters will eventually need to be replaced; the new photocopier is operational, repairs have been undertaken for both the men and women's bathrooms; the windows are to be washed; and, the Club is looking at installing security cameras with assistance from Bill Tutty for the side areas following a recent attempted break in. The table numbers are at an all time high with the weakest sessions being the Tuesday and Thursday nights. Stephen and Niek would look at options for improving those nights in consultation with John Brockwell who had spoke with Stephen about suggested improvements.

**Action Item 1:** Develop some suggested improvements for events on Tuesday and Thursday evenings. Stephen Fischer and Niek Van Vucht.

There was some discussion about communication with the Managers and developing a more ordered process for this interaction. It was agreed that a list of action items for Managers would be developed at each Committee meeting. This list would also be the basis for discussions between Stephen and the Managers. If people have tasks that they wish undertaken outside this process then it was suggested that they allow sufficient time for them to be implemented and if possible put the request in an email copied to Stephen. Items for inclusion in the weekly newsletter could be handled in the same way.

#### **4. TREASURER'S REPORT**

The Treasurer reported that the revenue for the Club was up \$15,000 in the first seven months of this financial year. Table numbers had remained steady, salaries were roughly the same and expenses were within bounds.

#### **5. SUB COMMITTEES**

##### **5.1 Membership and Promotion**

5.11 Peter and Stephen had looked at a wide range of bridge club websites and considered that the standard for the CBC was mid range. They circulated copies of sites they considered better. One suggestion for immediate improvement was to have a link to Google Maps to make it easier to locate. This would be done immediately. They were not recommending any other immediate changes but suggested that further developments, if any, await the outcomes of the Planning Day.

5.12 It was agreed that the proposed day to develop a business plan for the Club would be held on Saturday March 24. Rowan arranged a facilitator who would fulfill the role for minimal cost. Club members outside the Committee could participate but in order to manage numbers will be asked to express an interest with Stephen. Val and Rowan would develop the program.

##### **5.2 Tournament & Calendar**

5.21 Niek reported on the moving of the furniture for the Summer Festival which he said had a good turnout for the moving to Rydges but only Alan Scerri and himself for the return to Fyshwick. He suggested that the Club, with its aging membership, was no longer in a position to undertake this work and we should advise the ABF that the CBC would not be doing this in 2013. The Committee supported him in this position. Stephen will talk to Sean about this, outline the CBC position and determine what further needs to be done. It was suggested that the CBC could still help with the setup but not the moving.

##### **5.3 Employment & Contracts**

5.31 Dorothy reported that the contracts for Directors and the Managers were under control.

##### **5.4 House**

5.41 Sue had circulated a sheet with quotes for a range of procedures for covering the walls in the Barry Turner Room (*Attachment 1*). These included painting, acrylic render and cement rendering. The Committee considered the respective quotes. The preference was for the Unitex render which was not significantly more than the cost of painting, covered the brick work and provided a lighter and more modern look. The work would take 5-7 days and required the bridge sessions to be moved to the Olive Lott Room while it is being undertaken. It was noted that it could not take place during the first week of each month due to the use of the Olive Lott Room and for the other times there would need to be discussion with lessees. Also it was pointed out that as the air conditioning did not work in the Olive Lott Room then it would be better to schedule the work for after March.

## MINUTES February 2012

The Committee agreed to undertake the work on the walls of the Barry Turner room using the Unitex Acrylic render at \$13,365.40 in an off white colour as per a display provided.

### **5.5 Congress and Social**

5.51 Peter noted that the Seniors' Day was being held on Tuesday 20 March and preparations were underway. The cost would be \$25 for members and \$30 for non members .

5.52 Following responses from Committee members it was agreed that on days when functions were held there would be no walk ins. This should be well advertised prior to such events.

### **5.6 BFACT Representative.**

5.61 Stephen said there was little to report from the last meeting he attended. One item he noted was that BFACT was going to write to the ABF about the reduction in the number of teams proceeding to the South West Pacific Teams finals from twenty to eight.

### **5.7 Finance**

5.71 The report being prepared by Val Holbrook on possible ACT grants available for Club expenditure was deferred until the next meeting.

## **6. CORRESPONDENCE**

**In:** Email from Rebecca Plush.

**Out:** Email in response to Rebecca Plush .

## **7. OTHER BUSINESS**

7.1 The Committee was asked to consider a request from a member seeking special consideration in relation to membership fees. The member is currently experiencing a a short term period of financial hardship. The Committee considered the request and in accordance with Section 7(3) of the Constitution agreed to waive payment of the subscription until 1 July 2012. At that time the member would be required to pay the subscription for the remaining half year. The member could also pay the concessional rate for table money for the period. The member will be advised of this decision.

7.2 It was noted that during the Summer Festival of bridge Rick Nehmy had filled in for the other Directors who were playing in the Summer Festival and in the second week had directed all sessions. The Committee agreed to write to Rick expressing the Club's appreciation for his efforts.

## **8. NEXT MEETING**

Monday 12 March 2012 at 5.30pm in the Clubrooms.

Meeting closed at 6.46pm.

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**ACTION ITEMS and Members responsible**

Action Item 1: Develop some suggested improvements for events on Tuesday and Thursday evenings. Stephen Fischer and Niek Van Vucht.

Action Item 2: Undertake research on possible ACT government grants available for some nominated Club expenditure. Interim report by February Committee meeting. (Val Holbrook)