

The Canberra Bridge Club Inc.

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MINUTES

Monday 26 January 2015 at 5.30pm

Attendance: Peter Giles, Val Carmody, Lesley Gunson, Mary Tough, Ian Robinson, Perelle Scales, Elaine Leach, Kerry Butcher, Pam Crichton, Richard Brightling, Rick Nehmy.

Apologies: Jodi Tutty, Neil Garvey, Richard Hills, Bruce Crossman.

1. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

MOTION: That the Minutes of 8 December 2014 be accepted as a true record of the meeting. Moved Perelle Scales, Seconded Val Carmody CARRIED.

2. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

Action item 1: Val Carmody will remove the security packet from the bank soon (Action item 1).

Action item 2: Peter and Jodi are waiting for quotations from Cota and the Seniors magazine on the price of advertisements (Action item 2). CBC will place a free advertisement in the Cota booklet.

Action item 3: The flyer for the Beginners' lessons was completed. The committee was asked to distribute them.

Action item 4: Jodi has spoken to Roy about BFACT matching the ABF grant. Val will discuss it with BFACT as she will need to issue an invoice (Action item 3).

Action item 5: The suggested date for the Cooma visit is Sunday 19 April. Rick will take the concept to the BFACT meeting this Friday. As the South Canberra, Capital, Cooma and Canberra bridge clubs will be involved, it is hoped that BFACT will subsidise the coach by 50%. A 48 seater would cost \$1600. The day would build relationships between the BFACT clubs. We need to see if there is strong interest before we pay a non-refundable deposit on the bus (Action item 4). The day would cost each player \$50 to cover part of the bus fare, a 2 course lunch and 2 sessions of bridge.

Action item 6: Lesley removed the item on room hire from the home page. Peter thinks there is another reference elsewhere. Lesley will check (Action item 5)

Action item 7: Peter Giles wrote to Pianola, explaining the CBC's intention to start using the program at the end of March.

Action item 8: Ian reported that he has received and is considering a paper that relates to director development, including the formal appraisal of directors. He is working on training first. Peter Giles commented that there has been favourable comment on the running of the bridge sessions. A directors' meeting will be held in March.

Action item 9: the new bidding boxes have arrived.

3. TREASURER'S REPORT

The Treasurer's report was tabled.

The profit from the Christmas raffle was \$800.

Flight Centre contract (signed 23 January) for 12 months:

1. The CBC will be provided with a gift card(s) equal to 1% of the total of a CBC members booking with Flight Centre each quarter (exclusive of GST, credit card fees and other transaction fees)
2. The person making the booking does not have to be a direct member of the CBC - can be a friend or associate referred by a member
3. The incentive will only be made if the customer clearly identifies the CBC prior to finalising their booking and making the final payment
4. The booking must be made at a Flight Centre store located in Canberra. GST is not payable on the gift cards.

Peter requested a budget to enable the committee to see what funds might be available for continuing refurbishment.

4. MANAGERS' REPORT

A written report was circulated at the meeting.

The weeds have grown rapidly. Perelle will talk to Malcolm about this job.

514 of the previous 629 members have renewed.

Signs need to be erected in the carpark. Neil or John might do this.

Peter Giles was interviewed by ABC radio during the Summer Festival of Bridge.

U3A course will cost \$35 to cover room hire and a book. Barb Toohey will teach the course and Richard Brightling and Tuesday volunteers will help with administration. CBC needs to acquire a list of media outlets in the ACT to assist with our promotion, especially of beginners' lessons. Advertisements in the Canberra Times have not been worth the cost.

Table numbers: Increase of 51 tables in December 2014 over December 2013. Ian would like to see these numbers broken down into the 4 categories of Daytime, Tuesday and Thursday Nights, Monday Night, Wednesday and Friday nights.

Which nights the club is to open around Christmas needs to be reassessed later in the year.

Players' names: once someone has played a session it is not possible for the club to remove their name from the system.

Melanie Fisher spoke on the subject of handling difficult players at the Summer Festival. The ABF will put information on their website.

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:

The first issue of the Bulletin is likely to be published soon.

Peter would like an article on our history in some issues, eg biographies of Olive Lott and Barry Turner. Such biographies will then be added to our website.

5.1.3 Cooma visit: dealt with above under Action item 5.

5.1.4 Membership forms: the committee needs to consider (May meeting) what we want on these forms when Pianola is operating, as membership forms are available within that system.

5.2 **Tournament & Calendar**

5.2.1 promotion of Tuesday and Thursday events: Ian and Pam rang potential players to ensure reasonable entries following the Summer Festival. A similar effort will be made to ensure there is no drop off after the Gold Coast Congress.

5.2.2 Nation Wide Pairs: on Friday 20 February. The panel discussion after play will be led by Jodi Tutty.

5.2.3 Restricted Pairs Event: on Sunday 29 March will be directed by Sean Mullamphy.

5.2.4 Trials for ACT teams: Ian will talk to BFACT about their plans for these events.

5.3 **Employment & Contracts**

Contracts are being drawn up for Ann Pettigrew and Jeanette Grahame, who will be assisting in the encouragement and retention of beginners and supervised players, starting on 2 February. Barbara Toohey remains in her role.

5.4 **House**

5.4.1 Coffee machine:

Usage has been down for the last two months, no doubt exacerbated by the holiday period and the Summer Festival. We are not using anything like the 300 pods per month that would enable us to continue using the machine at no charge.

MOTION That the CBC ends the trial of the coffee machine; that Richard asks the company to take the machine away and that we sell pods at cost until that happens
Moved Rick Nehmy Seconded Peter Giles CARRIED (Action item 6).

5.5 **Congress and Social**

5.5.1 Valentine's Teams: Elaine will purchase a Valentine's Day cake if possible. Lunch will consist of cold meats and salads, and fruit. Nibbles will be served after play. The committee thought that the cost of decorations should be kept as low as possible eg balloons that volunteers would blow up.

5.5.2 Seniors' Day: Tuesday 17 March. Pam will be the convenor, Ian will help with the publicity.

5.5.3 Stall at Fyshwick markets: to be held on Sunday 29 March. Some goods are under the buiding. We need items of high quality rather than a huge volume of stock.

5.6 **BFACT**: meeting Friday 30 January. Rick attending in Peter's absence. Some issues affecting CBC are the Cooma bus subsidy, a statement from BFACT that it will reduce their affiliation fee when CBC members join late in a year, matching the ABF grant to the CBC and tournament matters.

6. **CORRESPONDENCE**

Out: Peter Giles to Pianola indicating CBC wishes to adopt the system from the end of March 2015.

In: Pianola, agreeing to 3-month trial from end of March

7. OTHER BUSINESS

7.1 Bidding boxes have been purchased.

7.2 Dell computer

MOTION That the CBC purchase a Dell computer, cost \$700, and that it be kept in the office Moved Peter Giles Seconded Val Carmody CARRIED

7.3 Disciplinary sub-committee: This group exists to consider serious disciplinary issues that are referred on by the Recorder or a Director. In the interests of confidentiality a small group is desirable. There was some discussion on how this group should be constituted. It was agreed that the President should be a member of the group, with two members drawn from outside the committee. Peter will approach members who have been suggested (Action item 7)

7.4 ABF masterpoint list should be promoted. Cards should be presented at sessions to players who have been promoted and such promotions should be listed in the newsletter.

8. NEXT MEETING

Monday 2 March 2015 at 5.30pm.

Meeting closed at 7.00 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: check with BFACT re meeting the ABF grant dollar for dollar (Val)

Action item 4: Cooma visit (Peter -- April)

Action item 5: check for anything further on webpage on room hire (Lesley)

Action item 6: Removal of coffee machine (Richard)

Action item 7: Disciplinary sub-committee (Peter)

LONG TERM AGENDA ITEMS

April: categories of membership;
Pianola

May: Nights that CBC will open over Christmas, Summer Festival
Revise membership forms