



# Canberra Bridge Club

**President** Pam Crichton  
**Secretary** Deb Milner  
**Treasurer** Lyn Turner  
**Manager** Kerry Butcher/Emily Inglis

5-7 Duff Place  
PO Box 9006  
Deakin ACT 2600  
☎ 02 6282 2382

✉ [manager@canberrabridgeclub.com.au](mailto:manager@canberrabridgeclub.com.au)

## MINUTES Monday 16 March 2020, 1.30pm

**Attendance:** Pam Crichton, Ian Robinson, Deb Milner, John Brockwell, Michele Grant, John Hemenstall, Margaret Kyburz, Patricia McDonald, West Savery, Mary Tough

**Apologies:** Sue Pillans, Lyn Turner, Liz Van Der Hor

### 1. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

**MOTION:** That the minutes of 17 February 2020 be accepted as a true record of the meeting.

Moved: Pam Crichton    Seconded: John Brockwell    CARRIED

### 2. CORONAVIRUS/COVID-19

The ABF has recommended that bridge clubs be temporarily closed for four weeks from 18 March 2020, with the situation to be reviewed at the end of that period. The ABF states "it is a duty of care to our extremely high-risk clientele and to afford the highest level of health and safety to our members, their families and the wider community".

After discussion, the Committee agreed to the following:

**MOTION:** That in line with the ABF recommendation, the Committee resolves to close the CBC club rooms effective from 18 March 2020 for one month, with the possible exception of BFACT events scheduled to occur on the evening of 19 March 2020 and over the weekend 21-22 March 2020.

Moved: Pam Crichton    Seconded: Ian Robinson    CARRIED

**MOTION:** That the Committee authorises the Contract and Employment Sub-Committee to manage the consequent employment issues to the mutual benefit of our employees and CBC.

Moved: Pam Crichton    Seconded: John Brockwell    CARRIED

The Committee noted that the one-month closure means no bridge play, no lessons and no social gatherings. There will be no work for directors and dealers. The beginners' lessons due to start this week have been cancelled. There will be no Bridge for Kids in April. The managers are expected to have work to undertake while the club is closed.

Other issues to be resolved quickly include the contract with the cleaners SKG and the garbage collectors Suez. The Canberra Games Society and Canberra Antique & Classic Motor Club may continue to meet in the building if they wish, but CBC should urge them to follow social distancing and hand washing protocols.

The Committee noted the risks associated with closure, such as members drifting away from bridge. The financial impact of closure will be calculated, eg, bottom line cost per closed month. CBC may be eligible for Government assistance, eg, cash flow assistance based on the PAYG amounts reported in the first two quarterly Business Activity Statements in 2020.

Pam will prepare an email to members advising them of the closure, and follow up about other affected individuals and groups. Ian will look into how CBC might enable members to play online bridge together.

### 3. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

Items shown on the Action List from the February meeting have been completed, are in progress, or have been overtaken by the closure decision, in particular:

- The Asia Pacific Bridge Congress in April 2020 is unlikely to proceed<sup>1</sup>, so no Barry Turner Fund subsidies will be required
- ABF's James O'Sullivan Fund offers low interest long-term loans, so not useful given CBC's current needs
- Vaping in enclosed public places is illegal in the ACT, but there are exemptions for registered therapeutic devices including the device used recently inside CBC. Accordingly, Pam has informed the individual concerned that they can use their nicotine inhaler inside CBC. Pam has also advised the relevant directors.

**MOTION:** That the Committee notes that vaping or inhaling of a personal vaporiser (such as an e-cigarette) in enclosed public places is prohibited under ACT legislation, but exemptions exist for therapeutic devices, such as nicotine inhalers, listed on the Therapeutic Goods Administration Register.

Moved: Pam Crichton    Seconded: Patricia McDonald    CARRIED

- The newsletter reminder about the CBC dress code resulted in an email saying we should tolerate older people's dirty shoes and exercisers' lycra. The Committee agreed to leave the current CBC dress code as it is.
- The proposed wine tasting, the Seniors' Pairs afternoon tea on 23 March 2020 and the forthcoming Sundays with both BFACT and CBC events will all now not occur
- The Kantar lessons were scheduled for 12 and 26 April 2020, the former will now not proceed and the status of the latter will be determined. The Kantar lessons can be re-scheduled once CBC re-opens.
- Mentoring in May will be delayed to a later month
- The NSW Bridge Association was unable to advise whether CBC could attach its Expert Talks to the CBC newsletter, but we can provide a link to the NSWBA website page where the material is publicly available
- Deb/West will provide the Barry Turner Fund paper, with tracked comments and changes as discussed at the February Committee meeting, to Ian Thomson and the Sub-Committee for consideration. Ian R will try to locate a document concerning the formula for the annual payment to BFACT, which may be appropriate as an attachment to the paper.

---

<sup>1</sup> The Asia Pacific Bridge Congress was subsequently postponed indefinitely.

Pam will check Barry Turner's will for whether the trustees can be the full Committee, or need to be named individuals.

- The closure period provides an opportunity to complete the bathroom upgrades. Pam/West/John H will obtain a second quote as soon as possible. The full Committee will consider the quotes.

#### **4. PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

Covered under other items.

#### **5. MANAGERS' REPORT**

There was no Managers' Report.

#### **6. TREASURER'S REPORT**

The Committee noted the Profit and Loss Statement for the year to 15 March 2020 and Balance Sheet as at 29 February 2020.

Pam reported that CBC received \$5,600 for work undertaken for the 2020 Summer Festival of Bridge, compared with \$6,300 in 2019. Fewer buses were required in 2020 compared with 2019.

#### **7. DIRECTING REPORT**

Pam will check the relevant contracts, then advise directors and dealers of the club closure, with consultation with the Contract and Employment Sub-Committee as appropriate.

#### **8. SUB-COMMITTEE AND OTHER REPORTS**

##### **8.1 Membership and Promotions – Nil to report**

**8.2 Tournament and Calendar** – John B tabled his Tournament Secretary report. Further to the discussion at the February meeting, the Committee considered the member's letter about the use of a web movement at the Wednesday morning session, and John B's reply. The Committee agreed that the director is entitled to determine the best movement for a session, and players are expected to follow the director's instructions. Pam will mention the need to support directors and follow their instructions in the newsletter closer to the reopening of the club.

##### **8.3 Contract and Employment – Nil to report**

##### **8.4 House**

- A member has complained about the cleanliness of chairs, side tables and bridgemates. John H regularly cleans bridgemates with their covers removed.
- John H has made a replacement cover for the wall vent in the Olive Lott Room.
- Subject to developments, the Working Bee scheduled for 28 March 2020 will go ahead.

##### **8.5 Congress and Social – No social activities will occur at CBC during the closure.**

##### **8.6 Education**

- The Will Jenner O'Shea lesson is scheduled for 19 September 2020
- South Canberra Bridge Club was considering Sunday morning bridge sessions, not classes, for children.

**8.7 BFACT** – BFACT has not met since the February Committee meeting.

**8.8 Evening players** – Nil to report

**8.9 Website** – Emily will work on the website in the next month.

**8.10 Finance** – Nil to report

**8.11 Barry Turner Fund** – See item 3

## **9. SPONSORS**

The Grange Open Day scheduled for 21 March 2020 and the Travel Associates Adventure Travel Event on 26 March 2020 will now not occur.

## **10. FACEBOOK ADVERTISING**

A member has expressed concern about the effectiveness, cost effectiveness and ethics of CBC's advertising of the beginners' lessons on Facebook. Based on the circulated paper discussing the issues, the Committee noted that:

- signing up for Facebook is a personal choice
- users can choose not to receive targeted ads in their Facebook settings, and
- what CBC is advertising is not illegal or unethical.

In addition, one extra beginner who hears of CBC's lessons via Facebook advertising and plays 30 times in the following year covers the cost of our Facebook advertising for that set of lessons. The Committee agreed that Facebook advertising should continue to be used as appropriate. Pam will reply to the member concerned.

## **11. CORRESPONDENCE**

None

## **12. OTHER BUSINESS**

No other business discussed.

## **13. NEXT MEETING**

**13.1 Next Committee meeting** – Scheduled for Monday 20 April 2020, 1.30pm. A short earlier meeting may be necessary to consider bathroom quotes.

**13.2 AGM date for Calendar** - Tuesday 22 September 2020, 5.30pm

Meeting closed 3.25pm.

---