

CANBERRA BRIDGE CLUB INC

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday 5 October 2022, 5.30pm

MINUTES

Margaret Kyburz, President of CBC, opened the meeting at 5.30pm.

1. ATTENDANCE

Roger Brake, Kerry Butcher, Val Carmody, Bruce Chapman, Rowan Corbett, Pam Crichton, Bruce Crossman, Tamara Cutcliffe, Nicole Finn, Michele Grant, Peter Grant, Simon Grant, John Hempenstall, David Hoffman, Julia Hoffman, Will Jenner-O'Shea, Margaret Kyburz, Tim Mather, Patricia McDonald, Deborah Milner, Jon Pike, Nikki Riszko, Alison Russell-French, Allen Scerri, Susan Scerri, Andrew Struik, Ian Thomson, Mary Tough, Bill Tutty, Jodi Tutty, Elizabeth Van Der Hor, Niek Van Vucht, Brett Yeats, Jennifer Yeats.

2. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF PROXY VOTES

Margaret acknowledged the two proxy appointments received, from Hilda Hills (appointing Deb Milner) and Lyn Turner (appointing Jennifer Yeats).

3. APOLOGIES

Anne Fleming, Di Hawke, Hilda Hills, Janet Kahler, Peter Kahler, Andrew Kettle, Juliana Maher, Pamela McKittrick, Rick Nehmy, Ian Robinson, Perelle Scales, Lyn Turner.

4. CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE 2021 AGM

Tim Mather asked, on behalf of Pamela McKittrick, that "without top players" be deleted from page 3 of the draft minutes of the 2021 AGM.

Motion: That the minutes of the Annual General Meeting of 11 October 2021 (with the requested amendment) be accepted as a true record of that meeting.

Moved: Val Carmody Seconded: Niek Van Vucht CARRIED

5. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE 2021 AGM

Margaret addressed the three matters arising from the minutes of the 2021 AGM:

- Treasurer Jennifer Yeats has calculated the number of tables required for a CBC session to be considered viable as five tables for RealBridge and four tables for face-to-face sessions, based on marginal net average costs.

- To date player numbers have been too low for the Club to offer a separate movement in a session for players “in the middle”.
- Currently MyABF is available for congresses. It is expected MyABF will be available for smaller bridge clubs next. CBC has provided its suggestions and concerns about MyABF to ABF’s MyABF working group. CBC may move to MyABF in the future.

6. REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

Margaret presented her report:

- Margaret thanked the Committee and our employees (teachers, directors, the two managers) for their efforts over the year. Margaret also thanked the three retiring Committee members – Deb Milner, Ian Robinson and Liz Van Der Hor.
- Unfortunately, the Club experienced its third COVID year. RealBridge only was offered during the lockdown from 12 August to 15 October 2021. The Club benefitted from the ACT Government’s COVID financial support, and RealBridge provides a greater financial return to the Club than BBO.
- The new Committee will consider the implications for CBC of governments’ most recent COVID announcements as a matter of priority.
- During the past year, the Club’s gardens have undergone a makeover.
- The Club has received a significant donation from Earl and Susanita Dudley. The Committee has decided this money will be used for education purposes.

Motion: That the President’s report be accepted.

Moved: Elizabeth Van Der Hor Seconded: Nikki Riszko CARRIED

7. TREASURER’S REPORT AND STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS

The Treasurer, Jennifer Yeats, presented her report and the Statement of Accounts for 2021-22:

- Overall, there was a profit of \$50,102, with the ACT Government’s COVID subsidy totalling \$40,000.
- Table numbers are increasing now, but if another COVID wave occurs then they could fall back again.
- Most members are now comfortable with CBCPay. It results in less work for the directors but more work for the managers, and Jennifer monitors for problems. Bruce Crossman assists with solving CBCPay software issues.
- Maintenance expenditure in 2021-22 included the garden work and two new signs.
- The Dudley donation is shown separately on the Balance Sheet.

Motion: That the Financial Statements of the Canberra Bridge Club Inc, as tabled, be adopted.

Moved: Tim Mather Seconded: David Hoffman CARRIED

8. AUDITOR'S REPORT

The Auditor's report on the Accounts for 2021-22 was tabled.

Motion: That Nikki George of National Capital Accounting be appointed the Auditor for the Canberra Bridge Club Inc for 2022-2023.

Moved: Jennifer Yeats Seconded: Jodi Tutty CARRIED

9. REPORT OF THE TOURNAMENT SECRETARY

Margaret tabled and read out Ian Robinson's Tournament Secretary's report:

- Table numbers during the past year were well down on pre-COVID levels. CBC membership numbers have stayed relatively consistent, so some members are not playing bridge or are playing fewer CBC sessions.
- The Tuesday competition night survives with limited numbers.
- Individual directors have stepped up to the plate to keep the Club running, often changing their personal plans to satisfy bridge club needs.

In addition to the directors acknowledged in Ian's report (current directors Bruce Crossman, John Donovan, Rob Hurst, John Spooner, Josh Tomlin and Jodi Tutty, also the late Sally Barber), members noted that Christy Geromboux and Andrew Struik have directed since 1 July 2021.

Motion: That the Tournament Secretary's report be accepted.

Moved: Bruce Chapman Seconded: Roger Brake CARRIED

10.1 JOINING FEE

Will Jenner-O'Shea raised that in relation to ABF youth members, the ABF covers the ABF and state/territory (eg, BFACT) fees for anyone under 26 years, whether a full-time student or not.

Will therefore proposed, and members agreed, to remove the words "that there will be no joining fee for full-time students under 26 and youth under 18 years" from the motion, and instead say "that there will be no joining fee for anyone under 26 years".

Motion (amended): That the 2022-2023 joining fee to the Canberra Bridge Club Inc be \$10 (includes GST) except for concession and distance members who will pay \$5 (includes GST) and that there will be no joining fee for anyone under 26 years.

Moved: Jennifer Yeats Seconded: Tamara Cutcliffe CARRIED

10.2 ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION

Will Jenner O'Shea again noted that the ABF and many bridge clubs offer free membership for all individuals under 26 years. It is desirable that CBC be consistent with this arrangement. It also means there's no need to monitor when each individual is no longer a full-time student.

Motion: That the motion on the agenda be amended to provide free CBC annual membership to anyone under 26 years.

Moved: Jennifer Yeats Seconded: Tamara Cutcliffe CARRIED

The amendments required were:

- removal of "persons under the age of 18 years at 1 January 2023" and "full-time students under the age of 26 years at 1 January 2023" at point (i); and
- insertion of a new paragraph at the end of the motion "Persons under the age of 26 years at 1 January 2023 will receive free membership".

Motion (amended): That the 2023 annual subscription to the Canberra Bridge Club Inc be \$80 per annum (includes GST) except for:

- (i) Concession members, ie:
 - disability support or age pensioners; and
- (ii) Distance members, ie:
 - persons who reside permanently more than 80 kilometres from Canberra General Post Office; and
- (iii) at the discretion of the Committee, other persons experiencing hardship;

who will pay \$40 per annum (includes GST); and
- (iv) Persons who join after 30 June 2023 and before 1 October 2023, who, if paying the full rate, will pay \$40, and if paying the concession rate, will pay \$30; and
- (v) Persons who join after 30 September 2023, who will pay the full relevant annual subscription but whose membership will be valid until 31 December 2024.

Persons joining as non-home club members will be entitled to an additional deduction representing the affiliation fees paid to the ABF and BFACT.

Persons under the age of 26 years at 1 January 2023 will receive free membership.

Moved: Andrew Struik Seconded: Jodi Tutty CARRIED

11. ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS & COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Julia Hoffman was Returning Officer. Julia announced the results of the election of office bearers and Committee members:

- The candidates for the positions of President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary and Tournament Secretary were elected unopposed;
- There were nine nominations for the remaining eight Committee Member positions. Alison Russell-French asked that her nomination be withdrawn, so the remaining eight candidates were elected unopposed.

The following Committee was therefore elected:

President:	Tim Mather
Vice-President:	Mary Tough
Treasurer:	Jennifer Yeats
Secretary:	Michele Grant
Tournament Secretary:	Bruce Crossman
Committee members:	Roger Brake, Bruce Chapman, Nicole Finn, Anne Fleming, Di Hawke, John Hempenstall, Hilda Hills, Patricia McDonald.

12. HONORARY LIFE MEMBERSHIP NOMINATION

Peter Grant presented the case for awarding Honorary Life Membership to Pam Crichton:

- Pam has achieved considerable success as a bridge player, including with her late husband Ross;
- Pam has served as CBC President (2017 to 2020), Secretary (2012 to 2014), Club Recorder and National Recorder, joint Tournament Secretary for the 1979 Australian National Championships (ANC), and Secretary for the 2017 ANC;
- As President, Pam steered the Club through the challenges presented by the COVID pandemic, while also arranging the renovation of the Club's toilet facilities during the COVID closure of the Club;
- Pam's contributions - whether at working bees, visiting members in hospital or nursing homes, or supporting social activities at the Club - are undertaken "with no fuss or fanfare, she just does it".

Motion: That Honorary Life Membership of Canberra Bridge Club Inc be awarded to Pam Crichton.

Moved: Peter Grant Seconded: Elizabeth Van Der Hor CARRIED

Pam responded and thanked members.

13. OTHER BUSINESS - There was no other business.

Meeting closed at 6.25pm