



Canberra Bridge Club

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MINUTES – Tuesday, 7 February 2023, 5:00 pm

Attendance: Tim Mather, Mary Tough, Michele Grant, Jennifer Yeats, Bruce Crossman (until Item 9), Bruce Chapman, Nicole Finn, John Hempenstall, Patricia McDonald, Anne Fleming (from Item 3), Alison Russell-French (from Item 3)

Apologies: Roger Brake, Hilda R Hills, Margaret Kyburz

1. CONFLICTS OF INTEREST GIVEN TODAY'S AGENDA ITEMS

The following possible conflicts of interest were declared: Tim and BruceX are employed by CBC; Mary is employed by the ABF.

2. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF 15 DECEMBER 2022

MOTION: That the Minutes of 15 December 2022, with one amendment, be accepted as a true record of the meeting.

Moved: Patricia McDonald Seconded: Jennifer Yeats CARRIED

3. BUSINESS ARISING

The Committee discussed the status of action items from the previous meeting, including:

- Mary reported that Peter Cox has agreed to travel to Canberra to present a Club Management Workshop at CBC. The ABF has agreed to cover the cost of his travel expenses. The Committee agreed that Saturday 25 March would be an ideal date. It also agreed that BFACT representatives, and members from CBC and other local clubs should be invited. Mary will follow up.
- Jennifer outlined her consideration of payment of entry fees for CBC teams participating in ABF Club Knockout online events. The Committee noted that CBC participation would be limited to one team in each of the four categories under the event rules. The Committee agreed with Jennifer's recommendation that the Club pay the entry fees for these teams. BruceX will consider how the Club should choose which teams represent CBC.

4. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The Committee noted the President's Report. It agreed in principle that a dedicated email site be set up to facilitate communications between Committee members and help future committees in their operations.

On house matters, the Committee noted that Bev Crossman has volunteered to make new tablecloths for CBC. In the meantime, volunteers have been found to wash existing tablecloths.

MOTION: That the Committee agree that Bev Crossman be reimbursed for the cost of fabric and materials for new tablecloths for CBC bridge tables.

Moved: Mary Tough Seconded: Nicole Finn CARRIED

5. TREASURER'S REPORT

Jennifer tabled the Balance Sheet for the month ended 31 December 2022 and the Profit and Loss Statement for the six months ended 31 December 2022.

Jennifer reported that the Club's finances had broken even for this financial year, taking into account depreciation. Membership renewals were pleasing and table numbers were increasing, notably at face-to-face sessions.

6. MANAGERS' REPORT

The Committee noted the Managers' Report.

Last-minute Substitute/Player Table Money

The Committee considered the need for a consistent policy on when late substitute or house team players are free and when they are expected to pay table money.

MOTION: That the Committee agree, when a Director or Tournament Secretary requires a last-minute substitute or player/s to enable the smooth running of a session movement or competition event, the CBC will cover the cost of table money for those substitutes or players.

Moved: Anne Fleming Seconded: Jennifer Yeats CARRIED

Dealing Machine

The Committee noted that the Club's dealing machine was heavily used and required regularly servicing which presented the continual problem of finding a machine to use while it was undergoing service. Mary will investigate options for the purchase of an additional machine.

MOTION: That the Committee agree to the purchase of an additional dealing machine for the Club.

Moved: Tim Mather Seconded: John Hempenstall CARRIED

7. TOURNAMENT SECRETARY ITEMS

CBC Director Policy

The Committee agreed with the proposed CBC Director Policy presented by BruceX which outlines the directing approach to be followed by Directors at CBC. BruceX will discuss with the Directors.

Protecting Novice Players

The Committee agreed that the CBC adopt the two approaches included in the Protecting Novice Players proposal presented by BruceX designed to encourage new players to move into duplicate in a 'low risk' environment:

- (a) Declaring certain sessions as Green Sessions where there are restrictions on bidding systems conventions allowed; and
- (b) Providing Protected Status to players moving from supervised to normal duplicate for a period of 12 months.

The first Green Session will be the Friday morning session. BruceX will discuss with Directors and work on a communication plan for members.

Nationwide Pairs

The Committee agreed that the CBC participate again in the ABF Nationwide Pairs, once a month on a Friday afternoon, which provides an opportunity for members to earn Red masterpoints. BruceX will coordinate for a proposed start date in March.

8. FRIDAY NIGHT BRIDGE TRIAL

The Committee considered the proposal developed by BruceC for a trial reintroduction of Friday night sessions. The sessions will include bridge play of around 24 boards followed by a social gathering with a small additional charge to cover the cost of food. BruceX will consider Director availability for the trial sessions.

MOTION: That the Committee agree to a four-week trial of Friday night sessions to commence on 3 March 2023.

Moved: Bruce Chapman Seconded: Alison Russell-French CARRIED

9. EDUCATION

Short Lesson after Sessions

Tim reported that some members had expressed interest in a short (2-3 minute) lesson to be given by the Director after each session on an interesting hand played during that session. The Committee agreed that this would be a good addition to members' bridge experience at the Club. Tim will ask BruceX to discuss the possibility with Directors.

Teaching Day

The Committee agreed to Ian Robinson's offer to organise a teaching session hosted gratis by CBC representatives that were funded by the Barry Turner Fund to participate in the World Bridge Series held in Poland in August-September 2022. The date of Saturday 18 March has been proposed. Tim will follow up.

10. REFURBISHMENT OF OLIVE LOTT ROOM

The Committee discussed the possible refurbishment of the Olive Lott Room, including removing damaged chairs, painting/render of walls and expanding cupboard storage. Anne will investigate options and associated costs and report back to the Committee.

11. FIRST AID

The Committee considered correspondence received by Anne from St John Ambulance ACT detailing arrangements and costs for its one-day First Aid Course. Given the need to have the Managers and Directors trained in first aid, the Committee agreed that it should proceed to find a suitable date. Committee members may be included but need to pay for themselves. Anne will follow up.

MOTION: That St John Ambulance be engaged to provide a one-day course in First Aid for the Managers and Directors at a cost of \$180 per attendee.

Moved: Anne Fleming Seconded: Mary Tough CARRIED

12. CBC WEBSITE

The Committee agreed to discuss the Club's website at its next meeting.

13. SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS

Education

The Committee noted Morag Lokan's comprehensive report of 31 January 2023. Enrollments for the current beginner classes were high – 28 on Wednesday evenings and 25 on Friday mornings.

BFACT

The Committee noted the report of the BFACT Meeting held on 20 January 2023 and agreed with its plan to develop cooperation, coordination and communication between BFACT and Canberra region bridge clubs.

14. CORRESPONDENCE

The Committee noted the following correspondence:

- Letter from the President to John Spooner thanking him for his work as Director during the Summer Festival of Bridge period.

15. OTHER BUSINESS

COVID Plan - Bidding Boxes

The Committee considered a change in the management of bidding boxes. It agreed that the Club should return to the pre-COVID bidding box arrangements at face-to-face sessions, so East-West players will no longer use one bidding box for the full session carrying it from table to table. Tim will contact Deb to update the COVID Safety Plan.

MyABF

The Committee noted that Roger has agreed to be the ACT representative for rolling out MyABF, involving liaising with the ABF and other ACT clubs.

16. PROPOSED DATE FOR NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING

The next meeting will be held at 5:00 pm on Tuesday, 14 March 2023.

Meeting closed 6:54 pm