MINUTES OF MEETING OF OAMARU BRIDGE CLUB INCORPORATED
HELD AT CLUBROOMS STEWARD STREET OAMARU
6 December 2023 at 7pm

PRESENT:

Liz Drew[1]	Junelle Edmonds	Alison Brown	Graham Mills	
Bev Conlan	Lyn Dunlop	Peter Simpson	Louise Whitelock	

The President welcomed the 2024 Committee and in particular the new member Bev Conlan. She thanked the outgoing member, Julia Knight, for her service as a Committee member over a number of years.

1. Apologies

Margie Baird, Theo Jordens, Peter McLellan, and Derick van Basten

Moved: GM Seconded: PS- carried.

2. Minutes

Minutes of the meeting of 8 November 2023 were circulated.

Moved: LW Seconded: LynD- carried.

3. Matters Arising

Health and Safety Subcommittee

LynD presented a draft Health & Safety Policy for consideration. AB to format and recirculate for adoption at the Jan 2024 meeting. LynD to set up and maintain a Hazards Register.

New Timer for Committee Room

Item still under action.

Otago-Southland Regional Conference

A report back from AB/JE had been circulated prior to the meeting. It was noted that the Bridgemate system had been cancelled by NZB and that our day to day contact on the Otago-Southland Regional Committee is Philip Nove.

AB noted that useful information had been provided about the revisions needed for constitutions to meet the new regulations under the Incorporated Societies Act 2022 and that she would be redrafting the Club's Constitution over the Xmas break.

Recorders 2024

E. Mitchell, G. Muldrew and C. Scott confirmed at the recorders for 2024. After discussion it was agreed that LD should discuss a general report back by the recorders as to how often they are used and the nature of the matters referred to them to help the Committee understand if there are any underlying issues that require further attention. It was stressed that this report would not contain names nor any details that would allow users of the recorders' services to be identified.

[1] Liz Drew abbreviated to LD; Lyn Dunlop to LynD

2024 Programme
AB noted that moving the printing to Oamaru Print & Copy had resulted in a $360 saving in printing costs. LD thanked AB/TJ for putting the Programme together and AB/JE for organising the printing.

It was agreed that a subcommittee (TJ/AB/MB/BC) should be set up to consider and recommend changes, if any proposed, to the 2025 Programme.

4. Correspondence
D. Appleby had, by letter, raised a number of issues for consideration by the Committee:

Hope & Associates Competition
The 2023 Programme had mistakenly listed 7 rounds for this competition instead of 6 (and the Oamaru IT Pairs had 5 listed instead of 6). While the error was corrected so that 6 rounds were played for each competition, the ladder in Scorer for the Hope & Associates competition continued to work on 7 nights not 6 leading to an incorrect result for the winners. With correction, the off the stick winners remained the same, but the handicap winners were in fact Lester Rowlands & Wayne Grant (not Peter Mountain & Alison Brown). We will make this correction known in the next Newsletter.

Friday Competitions and C Points
The Committee agrees that pairs should follow the rules of the various Friday competitions and to the extent practicable this should be enforced. We will remind members to adhere to the rules. C points are sent off immediately to NZB on calculation of the results and any changes have to be done by the Secretary of NZB manually.

Life Membership
The recommendation by the Committee to propose Frances Sheehy as a Honorary Life Member was made in accordance with the Guidelines for Honorary Life Membership adopted by the Committee in August 2023 (and are posted on the noticeboard and on the website). Further the recommendation was recorded in the Minutes of 11 Oct 2023 (also posted on the noticeboard and on the website) and explicitly as a proposed resolution in the Agenda for the AGM - which was also posted on the noticeboard.

The Constitution provides that Life Members are approved of by a majority of the votes cast at an AGM (Rule 6(b)) and voting is on the voices or by a show of hands as decided by the Chair of the meeting (Rule 20(g)). An overwhelming number of members voted for the resolution.

Daytime Bridge
This has been tried before with limited success. At this stage the additional work required (dealing, directing etc) and costs (additional cleaning, power) outweigh the possible benefits, however the Committee will keep this suggestion in mind.

Handicaps
With the move to reporting our results on the Scorer/Bridge NZ website from Jan 2024 we will return to having different handicaps for each player depending on what night/day they are playing in. No-one can doubt the boost it gives to players to hear their names being read out in the results.

AB to draft response for LD.

Moved: AB Seconded: GM- carried.

5. Treasurer's Report

GM presented the financial reports. He noted additional reimbursements to LD ($73) and JE ($76.86 for drum and toner). LD noted a stick vacuum cleaner has been purchased for $25 from St Johns.

The accounts/invoices presented for ratification and authorisation were approved.

Moved: GM Seconded: LynD - carried.

GM also noted that payments for Dec 2023 and Jan 2024 would need to be approved in advance given the next meeting is not until 31 Jan 2024. It was agreed that all usual payments should be made during this period and a list of those made presented to the next meeting.

Moved: GM Seconded: AB - carried.

GM then sought approval to put an additional $5,000 on a one year deposit to get the benefit of the higher interest rates. He noted that given the staggering of investments monies would come off deposit every second month allowing us to meet unexpected expenses, if necessary.

Moved: GM Seconded: LW - carried.

Dick Cottier has agreed to examine the Club's accounts for the 2024 financial year (and it was agreed to pay him $120 plus GST, if any).

6. Committee Duties for 2024

After discussion these were agreed as follows:

DUTIES 2024

Committee	*Position*	*Additional Duties*
Liz Drew	*President* *Tournament Secretary*	*Member Educational Subcommittee* *Honours Boards, cups & engraving*
Junelle Edmonds	*Immediate Past President*	*Computer, calendar, tablets; Scorer* *Assistant Directors list; Prize List*
Margie Baird	*Vice President*	*Chair Educational Subcommittee*
Graham Mills	*Treasurer*	*Annual Return; updating info to Charities Commission*
Alison Brown	*Secretary*	*Programme; Constitution; Newsletters*
Theo Jordens	*Match Secretary*	*Website; result and ladders; Scorer Directors List; Prize List; Programme; Maintenance of results on back wall*
Derick van Basten		*Maintenance*
Bev Conlan		*Chair Catering*
Lyn Dunlop		*Supper List; Bidding Pads & Pencils* *Health & Safety Co-ordinator*
Peter McLellan		*Maintenance, Rubbish disposal* *Assistant Bar Manager*
Peter Simpson		*Asst Treasurer*

		Banking of cash
Louise Whitelock		*Educational Subcommittee Assistance with learners; Assistance Dealing*
Outside of Committee		
Julia Knight		*Bar Manager*
Jan Davidson		*Learners Classes* *Educational Subcommittee*
Janie Milan *Mary Bear*		*Tournament Catering*
Roz Armstrong		*Maintenance of kitchen and bathroom supplies*
Raylene Nuttall		*Dealing; dealing list*
Peter Mountain		*Club Captain*
Jean Tisdall *Linda Colquhoun*		*Archives and Record Keeping*

Moved: AB Seconded: GM - carried.

7. Committee Meeting Dates 2024

The following dates were agreed:

31 Jan - subcommittee (TJ/AB/MB/BC) to work on Programme changes	14 Aug
13 Mar	11 Sep
10 Apr	9 Oct - consider table money and subs for 2025/ confirm changes to Programme (if any)
8 May - Report back from Bdg SubCttee (GM/TJ/JE)	13 Nov - promotions to Silver
12 Jun	AGM 28 Nov
10 Jul	4 Dec

Moved: AB Seconded: GM - carried.

8. Guidelines for Promotion to Silver

The promotion guidelines were considered again by the Committee given the issues that had arisen over the 2023 Bronze promotions and also in response to a request to do so from the floor at the AGM.

AB noted the history behind removing the automatic right to promotion for the winners of the Bronze Champ Pairs. In previous years some winners of the Bronze Champ Pairs had refused promotion to Silver, but kept on winning the Bronze Champ Pairs. This was seen as unfair and as "blocking" promotion for others. This led to a change in the rules as to who could win the Bronze Champ Pairs with previous winners (and their partners) disqualified. However in its turn this led to the situation where a pair that might have come second, third or fourth etc off the stick nevertheless became the winners (as those above them in the results were disqualified) and thus entitled to automatic promotion.

The Committee became concerned that players might be being automatically promoted who in fact were weaker players than others in the Bronze division and who might struggle in Silver (and thus become discouraged and leave). It was seen as fairer to all that everyone promoted should have met the same basic standard of play and thus the automatic right of promotion was dropped but the current guidelines were reconfirmed as the trigger for a Bronze player to be considered for promotion.

A thorough discussion was held and it was agreed that the current guidelines should remain but that a cutoff date be added.

The Committee therefore confirmed the following as the Guidelines for Promotion to Silver:

Promotion to the Silver Division is at the invitation of the Committee. The following guidelines are used by the Committee:
Bronze players must have over the whole year (Mondays nights only):
(i) achieved an average score of 55.00 or more as worked out by the Scorer Programme; and
(ii) played on at least 10 nights (excluding Teams competitions); and
(iii) played with 5 or more different partners.

The assessment date is at 31 October or after the last Championship Pairs round, whichever is later.

Moved: AB Seconded: LynD - carried.

9. Learners, Continuing Education and Directors

LD to follow up with Jan Davidson re the learners programme for 2024.

10. Maintenance
LD noted the end wall has now been painted.

LD organising the updating of the various honour boards and cup engraving.

11. General Business
- LD noted the Club had made $126.88 profit from the NZ Wide Pairs

Next meeting -31 Jan 2024 at 7pm

Signed as true and correct:

Liz Drew
President

Dated: 31 Jan 2024