

Minutes Otago Southland Regional Committee Monday 12 June via Zoom at 9am

Present: Judith Lawton, Philip Noye, Lynne Fegan, Sonya Adams and Carole Bee

Apologies: Nil

Minutes of the previous meeting:

“That the minutes of the meeting held on 10 April 2023 be taken as read and moved as being a true and accurate record.”

Moved Carole/Lynne– Carried

Matters Arising:

1. Full time NZ Bridge Marketing and Communication position due to be appointed this week.
2. Skilled contractors for clubs no update available.

Correspondence:

INWARDS:

As per emails:

1. Email Greg Buzzard – IP Trial format.
2. Chris Marshall – Notes on SI Pairs running online.
3. Anne Somerville- IP Trials Feedback
4. Wanaka Club re 2024 Provincial pairs and teams- financial queries.
5. Oamaru re 2024 OS Congress – Declining 2024 OS Congress
6. Alexandra re 2023 OS Conference – Agreeing to host

OUTWARDS:

1. Minutes previous meeting to NZ Bridge Secretary.

Motion: “That the Correspondence be accepted as dealt with.”

Moved Carole/Phil- carried

Financial Report:

Lynne circulated the financial report. Closing balance at \$12679.00 as at 31 May 2023. Two expenses in April related to promotions.

Motion: “That the financial report be received.” moved Lynne/ Phil-carried

Noted that we will change our report to align the spending with our business plan. Lynne will set this up.

Regional Directions:

1. Sonya presented a comprehensive report on promotional activities which will be circulated to clubs by Sonya. Main point:
 - Over 80 players added to Otago Southland Region in this round of promotion/lessons. Otago club fared very well.
 - Word of mouth most effective at getting people to lessons. FB raises awareness but less follow through.
 - Sonya can share banner design for clubs to use.
 - A&P shows okay again awareness and unsure of the follow through by club once the names were passed on.
 - Need one more banner spot preferable North of Dunedin.
 - 3 and 1 tournaments (three learners and 1 gun) are big up north trying to get them going here. Harder as online not as strong here.
2. King's Birthday Provincial Pairs and Teams in Queenstown very successful with increased participation. Some feedback about prizes (not going low enough down the list) and the physical space (noise from other users) but it was a very positive event and very friendly.

Queenstown club did a great job. Trophies are away being engraved. Need to repurpose an unused trophy for the Teams event.

A suggestion that maybe the Monday could be used for a Swiss Pairs comp to make the most of the weekend.
3. Teaching and Learning Think Tank – Phil
Underway and meet weekly. 2 key objectives:
 - Review the website material currently provided.
 - Consider the best way to present online learning without depreciating what is currently available face to face.

We need to find a way to provide a playing online forum to support lessons and allow learners to practise what they are learning between lessons.

Possible reintroduction of an annual Teachers Conference.
4. SI Pairs online 26 August
Phil drafted a possible budget but concerns that cost structure increasing. Top players prefer the teams format over pairs. We need a considerable bank of reserve players to step in as players often have technical issues without warning.
 - Carole to Email Murray Wiggins (cc Alan and Alister) to request Director and Scorer be appointed urgently so we can convene a match committee and get advertising underway.
 - Poster: once we have the info Sonya will make this.
 - \$45 entry fee per person.

- Playing 2-3 session per day over two days.
5. Inter Provincial Trials. Went well. Thank you Phil for your superb organisation again. Some feedback but mostly preferences rather than complaints. Unable to do anything about most as we have small numbers of trialists and some eligible and trialling in multiple categories. We were a pilot for Real Bridge scoring against a datum. We didn't know where the hands came from or what level/standard of play but Phil found it hard to see how our plyers would have go to some of the contracts that the datum included. Also a bit of a possibility of a statistical bias against or for those with a bye in a round. Results were very close. Seems to be some support for what some other regions do where the 1st and 2nd pair in the division that are selected by the region then get to choose their 3rd pair. Next year will be Face to Face National Final so we need to let Murray Wiggins know by Jan 2024 what format we are using but highly recommend Face to Face. Timing of finals to be confirmed.
 6. Budget update. Thank you Phil for reformatting to align with NZBridge requested format. Phil will forward to Sue Brown via Alister.
 7. Rubber Bridge: Finals to be played by end of June well on track. NZ Bridge pays travel to National Final. OS Regional Committee will offer accommodation subsidy of \$300 per pair.
 8. Wellington Regional Conference. Judith will email committee a summary. Alister will distribute minutes to clubs. Items of interest to us, we cannot budget to subsidise any tournament held on our behalf. Clubs to make entry fee appropriate to costs. Open Face to Face events struggling except in OS Region.
 9. Our Conference: Sunday 19 November in Alexandra. We will pay for catering of morning and afternoon tea. Subway Lunch also for all. Sonya will mention on her forthcoming road trip. Allan Morris; Alister Stuck (Interactions he needs from clubs) and Anna Barrowclough (Governance and Privacy act) from NZ Bridge. Also need to address the issues the clubs identified.
 10. Carole will draft a form to go to our tournament Directors regarding their availability going forward into 2024 that standardises the information a bit.
 11. Lynne to try and get Mary some more directing experience within the tournaments left in the region currently.
 12. Hamilton Plate (Cromwell, Alexandra, Wanaka and Queenstown) and TWIG (Te Anau, Winton, Invercargill and Gore) Interclub teams competitions planning underway with dates set and invites out to clubs (Lynne and Judith respectively).

13. 2024 OS Congress Carole to offer to Invercargill and Otago Clubs.

Meeting Closed 11:30am

Next meeting 9:30am 7 Aug 2023