



The Taieri Bridge Club

Rules

As at November 2016

Rules of the Taieri Bridge Club (Inc)

1) NAME:

THE Club shall be registered according to the Incorporated Society Act 1908.

The name of the Club shall be THE TAIERI BRIDGE CLUB INCORPORATED "the Club".

2) REGISTERED OFFICE:

THE registered office of the Club shall be at:-

The Taieri Bridge Club Incorporated
10 Wickliffe Street, Mosgiel.

Or such other place as the Committee may from time to time determine. Notice of any change in the situation of the registered office shall be given to the Registrar of Incorporated Societies.

3) OBJECTS:

The objects of the Club are:-

- (a) TO establish and carry on a bridge club, to promote and foster the playing of the game of contract bridge in all or any of its forms and to organise and conduct contract bridge matches, competitions and tournaments and social gatherings in connection therewith, without intention of pecuniary gain.
- (b) TO affiliate with NZ Bridge
- (c) TO adopt as part of the Rules of the Club the International laws approved for the playing of the game.

4) SEAL:

The Seal of the Club shall consist of the name of the Club inscribed in a circle and shall not be affixed to any instrument except by a resolution of the Committee and in the presence of the Secretary and one other member of the Committee. The Seal shall be kept in the custody of the Secretary.

5) MEMBERSHIP:

THE membership of the Club shall consist of the following classes all of whom shall be entitled to all privileges of membership:-

- (a) Ordinary Members
- (b) Country Members whose usual place of resident must be more than 25 kilometres in a direct line from the Club Rooms.
- (c) Honorary Life Members, being members who, having rendered special service to the Club or to NZ Bridge, are elected by the Club in a General Meeting on the recommendation of the Committee. The number of Honorary Life members shall be limited to four (4) at any one time.

6) NOMINATION:

ALL candidates for election as ordinary or country members shall be nominated by being proposed by one member and seconded by another member on a form approved by the Committee and every such candidate shall sign the form consenting to nomination.

7) ELECTION:

ORDINARY and country members shall be elected by the Committee which shall have power from time to time to limit the number of any class of member. The name of every candidate for membership shall be posted on the Club's notice board for 14 days before the application is dealt with and any member wishing to object to any candidate must advise the secretary for such objection. The Committee may accept, defer or reject any application. No member shall disclose to anyone the reason for any decision of the Committee relating to an application for membership. The Secretary will notify the new member as soon as possible after election.

8) BOUND BY RULES:

EVERY new member on election shall be bound by the Rules and By-laws of the Club and the payment of entrance fees or annual subscription shall be conclusive evidence of such agreement.

9) CHANGE OF MEMBERSHIP:

ANY ordinary member may with the consent of the Committee become a country member and vice versa. Rule 7 shall have no application to any change of membership.

10) CHANGE OF ADDRESS:

ANY member changing address shall as soon as possible notify the Secretary in writing of the change.

11) GRADING OF MEMBERS:

THE Committee shall have power to classify members into grades and to set aside days or evenings on which play is restricted to members in one grade.

12) RESIGNATION:

ANY member may at any time by notice in writing to the Secretary resign their membership of the Club and such resignation shall take effect upon receipt of such notice by the Secretary.

13) SUSPENSION AND TERMINATION:

(a) Any member may have their membership of the Club terminated or suspended if the committee, after reasonable enquiry, considers the member has:

- i. Been guilty of conduct unbecoming of a member of the Club, or detrimental to the interests of the Club.
- ii. Defaulted in any fee due and owing to the Club.
- iii. Failed to comply with a reasonable decision of the Committee, its constitution or regulations.

(b) Before any final decision is made under this rule, the Committee shall:

- i. Give the member 14 day's notice at their last known address of the proposal to suspend or terminate the membership and the reasons for such proposal.

- ii. Inform the member that they have the right to be present, make submissions and be heard at the meeting in which the proposal to suspend or terminate is to be considered.
- (c) On making such a decision to suspend or terminate membership of the Club, the Secretary shall immediately inform the member.

14) VISITORS AND GUESTS:

- (a) VISITORS: Any person whose usual place of residence is more than 25 kilometres in a direct line from the Club Rooms may be proposed as a visitor entitled to the privileges of membership for a period not exceeding 2 weeks without liability for subscription. The Committee in its discretion may extend the period of such membership in any case to a total period not exceeding 16 weeks.
- (b) GUESTS: Any member shall be entitled to invite a guest (no matter where resident) to play at the Club on any occasion provided that no person who is not a member or a visitor shall play more than three occasions in any one financial year of the Club unless authorised by a resolution of the Committee.

Guests and visitors shall be liable to pay the usual table money.

15) SUBSCRIPTIONS:

SUBJECT to Rule 17 the annual subscriptions for the ensuing year shall be as set by the Annual General Meeting. Honorary Life Members shall not be liable to pay any annual subscriptions.

16) TABLE MONEY:

IN addition to the annual subscription members shall pay a fee (called "table money") for each night on which they play. The Committee shall have power to fix the amount of table money payable by each member and may vary the amount as between different classes of play.

17) REMISSIONS:

THE Committee shall have power in its absolute discretion to refund, dispense with or make reductions in the subscription paid or payable by any member.

18) DUE DATE:

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS shall be due and payable as follows:

- (a) For new members: Within 2 months after notification of election.
- (b) In all other cases: Immediately after the 1st January of the year following the Annual General Meeting.

19) DEFAULT:

IF any member's subscription remains unpaid more than three months after the due date, the Treasurer will notify the member in writing of the default. If the amount due is not paid within one month after the posting of such notice the member shall no longer be entitled to exercise any of the privileges of membership and their membership may be terminated by the Committee at its discretion. Any member whose membership has been so terminated may at the discretion of the Committee be re-elected upon payment of all sums due to the Club.

20) COMMITTEE:

THE Committee shall consist of a President, the Immediate Past President, a Vice-President, a Secretary and a Treasurer or a Secretary-Treasurer, and a minimum of five (5) general Committee members.

THE Vice-President shall assume the office and powers of the President when the President is unavailable, but is not an automatic candidate for President at subsequent elections.

21) ELECTION OF COMMITTEE:

- (a) THE Immediate Past President shall ex officio be a member of the Committee. The other members of the Committee shall be elected each year at the Annual General Meeting. All members of the Committee shall hold office until the conclusion of the meeting at which their successors are appointed. Except in the case of the retiring President nominations for any office on the Committee may be made in writing signed by a proposer and seconder delivered to the Secretary 14 days before the time for the commencement of the Annual Meeting and posted by the Secretary on the notice board as soon as possible after receipt.
- (b) IN the event of the written nominations being insufficient further nominations may be made at the meeting by a proposer and seconder. If the nominations for any office on the Committee exceed the required number the members at the meeting shall select the officer or officers by ballot as directed by the Chairperson. In the event of an equality of votes selection shall be by lot drawn as directed by the Chairperson.

22) COMMITTEE VACANCIES:

- (a) ANY vacancy on the Committee may be filled by the Committee but any member so chosen shall retain office only for such period as shall be determined by the Committee on appointment and not in any event for a period extending beyond the next Annual General Meeting.
- (b) THE Committee may appoint an Acting Treasurer to act during any period when the Treasurer is not available to sign cheques or other documents or to perform their duties for any reason. During his or her appointment the Acting Treasurer shall have and may exercise all the powers and authorities conferred on the Treasurer.
- (c) THE Committee may appoint an Acting Secretary to act during any period when the Secretary is not available to perform his or her duties through absence or illness or from any other cause. During

their appointment the Acting Secretary shall have and may exercise all the powers and authorities conferred on the Secretary.

23) AUDITOR:

AN Auditor who shall be a member of a recognised accountancy body and who may be a member of the Club shall be elected at each Annual General Meeting. If in any year the Auditor shall be unable to audit the Club's accounts, the Committee may appoint another Auditor to audit the accounts, for that year.

24) POWERS OF COMMITTEE:

THE management and control of the affairs of the Club shall be vested in the Committee who may exercise all powers and do all acts and things which may be exercised or done by the Club and which are not expressly directed or required to be done by the Club in General Meeting. These powers include but are not limited to:

- (a) Purchase, take on lease or, in exchange or otherwise, acquire any real or personal property and rights and privileges which the Club may think necessary for the purposes of the Club and to sell, exchange or otherwise deal with such property.
- (b) Let, lease or hire any of the real or personal property of the Club.
- (c) Borrow any money required for the purposes of the Club with or without securities and to execute mortgages and other securities over any of the real or personal property of the Club or to issue bonds and debentures as securities for the payment of any such monies.
- (d) Erect buildings upon any land acquired by the Club and to alter, add or pull down any buildings acquired by the Club.
- (e) Enter into any arrangements for the hire or tenancy of any rooms or premises for the purposes of the Club.

- (f) Invest and lend monies of the Club not immediately required upon such investments as are from time to time authorised by law for the investment of trust funds and as authorised by Rule 27(a).

PROVIDED HOWEVER that the Committee shall not purchase, lease or otherwise acquire any freehold or leasehold land without the authority of a General Meeting of the Club.

25) MEETINGS OF COMMITTEE:

THE Committee shall meet at least once in every month except in December and January and in addition as required. Meetings may be summoned by the President or the Secretary. Any three members of the Committee may sign and serve on the President a requisition for a Committee meeting. If such meeting is not summoned and held within 14 days after service of the requisition the requisitionists shall be entitled to summon such meeting. If any member shall be absent from three consecutive meetings without good reason sustained by the Committee they shall cease to be a member thereof and the Committee may fill the vacancy as provided in Rule 22.

26) SUB-COMMITTEES:

THE Committee may appoint such sub-committees as it thinks fit and may appoint thereto persons who are not members of the Committee and may delegate any of its powers to any such sub-committees. The President may ex-officio be a member of any of such sub-committees.

27) CONTROL AND INVESTMENT OF FUNDS:

- (a) ALL monies received by the Club shall be paid within seven (7) days of receipt thereof by the Treasurer into the account of the Club at its bank. All payments out of the funds of the Club shall be made by the authority of the Committee. The account of the Club at its bank shall be operated upon by the Treasurer and one other member of the Committee or by such persons as the bills of exchange, promissory

notes and other negotiable instruments may be endorsed by the Secretary or Treasurer or any member of the Committee duly authorised by resolution of the Committee. All funds of the Club not required immediately for the ordinary purposes of the Club may be deposited by the Committee in the Club's bank or invested in the name of the Club or such other authorised investment as the Committee may think fit. The Treasurer may pay petty accounts not exceeding \$200.00 in amount or \$300.00 in total per month between meetings of the Committee.

- (b) THE Committee may invest any of the available funds of the Club upon such forms of investment as it shall in its sole discretion decide may assist with the furtherance or promotion of the playing of contract bridge notwithstanding that such investment may be unsecured and may not be authorised by law for the investment of trust funds.

28) BORROWING POWERS:

THE Committee may from time to time raise or borrow such sums of money as it may think necessary or expedient. The Committee may secure the payment of such sums by mortgage or sub-mortgage of any real or personal property of the Club or by bonds, debentures or other negotiable instruments. Such mortgages or other securities may contain such covenant powers and obligations as the Committee may think proper. PROVIDED THAT no sum exceeding 25% (twenty five per cent) of the previous year's gross income may be borrowed under the provisions of this clause without the previous authority of a resolution of the members passed at an Annual General Meeting or a Special General Meeting called for that purpose. However, the Committee may without such authority renew any existing mortgage or debenture or borrow for the purpose of replacing any existing mortgage or debenture.

29) HONORARIA:

THE Club may pay such honoraria for the ensuing year as the members in Annual General Meeting, on the recommendation of the Committee, approve.

30) BY LAWS:

THE Committee may make, repeal and amend such regulations or by-laws not repugnant to these Rules as they may from time to time consider necessary for the well being of the Club but any such regulations or by-laws may be set aside by a General Meeting of the Club. A copy of any such regulation or by-laws or of any alterations thereto shall be posted on the Club notice board or sent to members as soon as convenient after the making thereof.

31) FINANCIAL YEAR

THE financial year of the Club shall end on the last day of August in each year.

32) ANNUAL REPORT AND BALANCE SHEET:

THE Committee shall present at each Annual Meeting of the Club a report and an audited Balance Sheet and Income and Expenditure Account of the preceding financial year. A copy of the Annual Report, Balance Sheet and Income and Expenditure Account shall be made available to each member at least seven (7) days prior to the Annual General Meeting.

33) ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING:

THE Annual General Meeting of the Club shall be held each year not later than 30 November.

34) SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING:

- (a) THE Secretary shall call a Special General meeting of the Club on the instructions of the Committee.
- (b) TEN or more members entitled to vote may sign and deliver to the Secretary a request for the calling of a Special General Meeting of the Club stating the object of the meeting and within seven (7) days

from the receipt of any such request by him or her the Secretary shall call a Special General Meeting of the Club for a date not more than four (4) weeks from the date of receipt of such request. If the Secretary refuses or fails to summon a meeting within such period of seven days the members signing the request may themselves summon such meeting.

35) PLACE AND TIME OF MEETINGS:

SUBJECT to Rule 33 all General Meetings shall be held at such time and place as the Committee shall determine.

36) NOTICE OF MEETINGS:

AT least seven (7) clear days before any General Meeting of the Club the Secretary shall give notice to members entitled to vote the nature of the business to be transacted and the day, place and hour of the meeting.

37) QUORUM:

AT any General Meeting of the Club fifteen (15) and at any Committee Meeting 50% plus 1 of members entitled to vote shall form a quorum. Any General Meeting of the Club or Committee Meeting at which a quorum is not present may be adjourned by the attending members to another day within one month.

38) CHAIRPERSON:

AT all General Meetings of the Club the Chairperson shall be the President in his or her absence, the Vice President, or if neither of them be present some other member selected by the meeting.

39) VOTING:

AT all General Meetings of the Club the Chairperson shall ascertain the decision of the meeting on any question, by voices or by a show of

hands or by taking a division in such other manner as they shall deem to be the most convenient. Every member present at a General meeting shall be entitled to one vote and in the event of equality of votes the Chairperson shall (except on the election of Committee members) be entitled to a second or casting vote.

40) INDEMNITY:

THE Committee and other officers of the Club shall be indemnified by the Club against expenses, liabilities and losses incurred by them in or about the discharge of their duties except such as happens from their own wilful act, neglect or default.

41) PERSONAL GAIN:

NO person shall be entitled to derive or otherwise receive any income, benefit or advantage from the Club where that person is able to determine or materially influence the amount or nature of that income, benefit or advantage. Provided that any person who renders professional services to the Club shall be entitled to be paid all usual and reasonable professional business and trade charges at the open market value for work done for the Club.

42) WINDING UP:

IN the event of the winding up, or dissolution of the Club, the funds and assets of the Club remaining after payment and satisfaction of its debts and liabilities and the costs and expenses of the winding up, or dissolution, shall be distributed by the Club in General Meeting to NZ Bridge or a body which is established primarily for the purpose of promoting the game of Contract Bridge, provided that it is amateur and conducted for the recreation and benefit or entertainment of the general public and no assets of the Club are available to be used for the pecuniary profit of any member.

43) ALTERATION OF RULES:

NO rule of the Club shall be repealed or amended and no new rules shall be made save by a two-thirds majority of the members present and voting at a General Meeting of the Club. Except where an alteration in the Rules is proposed by the Committee notice of the intention to propose the repeal or amendment of any rule or the making of any new rule shall be given to the secretary by the member proposing same at least one calendar month before the meeting at which such member intends to bring forward the proposal.

44) MATTERS NOT PROVIDED FOR:

IN the event of any question arising which is not provided for in these rules the question shall, subject to the provisions of the Incorporated Societies Act 1908, be decided by the Committee whose decision shall be final and binding upon all members.

45) DATE OF COMING INTO FORCE:

THESE rules shall come into operation from 1 November 2015 from which date the previous rules of the Club shall be repealed and cease to have effect provided however that all appointments and elections made, things done, and powers exercised under the previous rules shall ensue for the purposes of these rules as fully and effectually as if made, done or exercised under the corresponding clauses of these rules.

WE HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE ABOVE RULES INCORPORATE THE ALTERATIONS APPROVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE CLUB AT THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON 7th NOVEMBER 2016.

Eve Beardsmore
President



Barbara Wilkes
Secretary



Christine Samson
Committee Member

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Christine Samson', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Dated: 15th November 2016