

Minutes Otago Southland Regional Committee Monday 13 October 2025 via Zoom at 9:00am

Present: Judith Lawton, Carole Bee, Hamish McDonald and Phil Noye

Apologies: Nil

Minutes of the previous meeting:

“That the minutes of the meeting held on 8 September 2025 at 9am be taken as read and moved as being a true and accurate record.”

Moved Carole/Hamish– Carried

Matters Arising: Nil

Correspondence:

INWARDS:

As per emails:

1. **Inward:** Various inward tournament posters for distribution.
2. Secretary NZBridge 3/9: Vacancy Youth Co-ordinator NZBridge
3. Secretary NZBridge 3/9: Online intermediate lessons in September info
4. Secretary NZBridge 3/9: Teachers Conference update
5. Tournament NZBridge 3/9: End of 3A tournaments all being converted to 8B
6. Secretary NZBridge 9/9: Tournament director assessment details.
7. Tournament NZBridge 9/9: Further clarification of new tournament change process.
8. Secretary NZBridge 10/9: Board Minutes
9. Grant Jarvis Auckland Northland Region 10/9: Copy of newsletter with further explanation of tournament changes.
10. Hamish McDonald Qntown 10/9: request to move Open tournament to 28th March 2026 (Actioned) and add a Junior Intermediate tournament 26 September 2026. Need to know if it graded or two separate sections? 5B? 8B?
11. Jane Whitmore Balclutha 17/9: Booking confirmation for Teaching conference seeking support. Airfares and Accommodation.
12. Jocelyn van Hees 23/9: Copy of Canterbury's incentive for Junior players
13. Phil Noye Otago 29/9: Request for Swiss pairs to be 11 July 2026. Actioned
14. Tournament NZBridge 27/9: Re consolation 3A events cannot be upgraded to 5A
15. Tournament NZBridge 30/9: Response to Alan Grant email to regions re tournament scheduling again.
16. Secretary NZBridge 01/10: Masterpoint Report Update
17. Stewart Strang Director 05/10:
18. Deborah Huang 5/10: Request for support for entry to Taieri Junior Pairs ?\$30
19. Secretary NZBridge 7/10: Board Election Cycle
20. Secretary NZBridge 8/10: Reminder of increase in Player Levies from 31 March 2026
21. Secretary NZBridge 9/10: Newsletter No 5

22. Secretary NZBridge 9/10: Request for 2026 budget and business plan by end Nov

Outward:

1. Secretary NZBridge 9/9: Ratified April Minutes
2. Tournament NZBridge 11/9: Queenstown change of date for Open Pairs 2026
3. Tournament NZBridge 26/9: Move Otago Swiss pairs to 11 July 2026
4. Bridget Hannaway 3/10: South Island Pairs confirmed at Otago Club F2F

Matters Arising: Nil outside of what will be dealt with in General Business.

Motion: "That the Correspondence be accepted as dealt with."

Moved Phil/Carole- Carried

Financial Report:

Balance at 30 September 2025 \$2540.40. Judith still submit her expenses for Conference and C'd'M for Regional Challenge at Congress. Balclutha also still to be paid for advertising on facebook. Carole has been reimbursed for Zoom Subscription this month.

Motion: "That we reimburse clubs \$250 each to each club if they have an attendee(s) that they are supporting to the Teaching and Learning Conference in 2025."

Moved Phil/Hamish - Carried

Motion: "That the financial report be received."

Moved Hamish/Phil -Carried

Strategic Plan:

1. Hamish to draft a 2026 budget and circulate to committee before the next meeting. We allocated a similar budget to last year. More emphasis on development of players and retention as this is the NZBridge focus going forward.
2. Regional conference in Cromwell 22 February 2026 confirmed and possible topics include:
 - NZ Bridge website resources, what is there and where to find it.
 - Learnings from the teaching and learning conference.
 - Hearing from NZBridge directly.
 - Head Director session.
 - Junior incentive scheme.

- Tournament gradings and how to best serve our membership demographic.

Carole to Email clubs a save the date and request for any topics.

3. Deborah Huang request for support as a youth player. Noted the conflict between the NZBridge website youth support info and the latest guidelines for budget expenditure. Carole to request clarification from NZBridge.

Motion: "That we reimburse Deborah Huang's Taieri Junior Tournament entry fee".

Carole/Hamish - Carried

4. **Motion: "That we forward Stewart Strang's report to NZBridge for their consideration."**

Phil/Hamish- Carried

5. 8B Restricted tournaments. Any club can seek permission to regrade a tournament to 8B restricted by approaching the regional committee. It is a balancing act between encouraging intermediate players to enter open tournaments and providing our top players with sufficient high quality field events. It was noted that there is an option to run an ALL GRADES tournament where prizes can be awarded to the top JNR/JNR or INT/INT(or JNR) and OPEN/OPEN (or JNR INT) pairing.

6. **Motion: "That we ratify the application of the Otago Club to move their 2026 Open Swiss Pairs to 11 July and the Queenstown Open Pairs to 28 March 2026. Also the addition of a Queenstown Junior 3B and Intermediate 5B tournament on 26 September 2026."**

Phil/Judith- Carried

7. Regional Challenge teams for 2026 need to have been named by the first weekend in May 2026 so we will need to call for entries for teams by the end of the year. Trials if held will be online as the first rounds of the competition will be online next year. Carole to email clubs with the information re this.
8. Junior Tournament incentive scheme to be remodelled next year to focus more on participation along the lines of the Canterbury scheme. To be discussed at OS conference potentially.
9. Hamish formulating our response re regrading of players but there was an acknowledgement from our committee that the whole grading of players and how that affects tournament entries is a large topic.

Meeting Closed 10:40am.

Next meeting 24 November 9am Zoom