

## **HOWICK BRIDGE CLUB 55th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**22nd NOVEMBER 2020**

The minutes of the 55th Annual General Meeting held at the clubrooms on Sunday 22nd November 2020 at 1:00pm.

**PRESENT:** The meeting was chaired by the President Pat Williams. 39 members attended.

**APOLOGIES:** Neil Beckett, Gillian Goodall, Jacque Kilpatrick, Joan King, See-Lin Lee, Susan McKinnon, Prem Soundranayagam, Barbara Taylor, James Thompson, Joy Zeng.

**Moved** that apologies be accepted - Netty De Gruyter / Nat Natarajan / carried

### **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 25/11/2018**

The minutes of the 54th Annual General Meeting having been circulated and will be taken as read.

**Moved** that previous minutes be approved - Pat William / Brian Craig / carried

**MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:** nil

### **PRESIDENT'S REPORT 2020:**

The President's report has been posted on the notice board, posted online and made available in hard copy at the clubhouse to all members.

I am happy to present the 55<sup>th</sup> President's Annual Report.

2020 has not exactly gone to plan but like everyone we have worked with what was available to us.

First, I would like to acknowledge and thank NZ Bridge for their invaluable guidance and follow-ups to clubs re the Covid-19 requirements and their advice regarding our responsibilities to members at this time. Their updates were invaluable.

Raising the membership has been an ongoing issue for committees over recent years, it is not a new issue. However, your current committee have recognised this fact and feel we have reached 'crunch time'. We have to seriously commit our efforts to increase community interest in playing Bridge. The decline of an aging membership is outstripping the enrolment of new members.

In recent years Cheryl and Richard have been very proactive in taking up the mantle of teaching bridge and securing new members and I thank you both for your generosity of time and effort. I hope they will continue to teach the game of Bridge and enlist the help of experienced players to assist when required.

### **We will put in place a Mission.**

With this in mind we have secured a free community notice board for a period of 4 weeks to advertise our 2021 Bridge lessons in an effort to make a bigger visual impact on the community, obviously with

a view to attracting interest. Our advertising sign will be on the community notice board at Lloyd Elsmore Park on Pakuranga Highway from 25 January until 22 February 2021. We are extremely grateful for the donation of our sign by sign writer Roger Rose (Lorraine Rose's son) and thank him for his generosity.

The purpose of our club is to play bridge. We will make Howick Bridge Club an attractive experience for both new and experienced players, we will develop a new era of membership and technology growth.

### **We will put in place a Vision**

In the process of increasing and retaining membership, all players of all abilities should feel that Howick Bridge Club gives them the best experience by providing a welcoming, friendly, tolerant and respectful environment.

### **We will put in place a rule of Values**

Our sincere thanks to Bryan Travers who has generously offered his time and experience to coach your committee and volunteer members with 'future planning' your Bridge club. We will combine the skills of committee and volunteers to make Howick Bridge Club the best it can be.

My sincere thanks to the committee who work cohesively. They willingly commit their time and effort to make decisions towards the smooth running and development of Howick Bridge Club. I especially want to acknowledge our Treasurer, Jean, whose fiscal expertise has successfully managed an extremely challenging 2020 financial year. Thank you, Jean. And as well a huge thank you from me to Lenice. Lenice quietly and successfully works away gaining rental income from the downstairs room. Huge thanks to outgoing committee member and Secretary Anne Ridenton, your work has been greatly appreciated.

The contribution of club members who volunteer have a significant impact on the smooth running of the club. I sincerely offer my thanks to: the card dealers, partnership officers, tournament caterers, maintenance repairers, members who liaise on our behalf with authorities, players who assist beginners, players who partner beginners on Tuesday evenings, tournament stand-in partners who show up 'just in case', and the running of Sunday Bridge.

I acknowledge and thank stalwarts Peter and Nicki Bowyer who willingly took on the extra Director duties this year when required. To all Howick Directors, my thanks, you show up every week, directing play and making decisions when asked, we cannot do without you.

Our continued thanks to our sponsors Ryman Health Care, New World and Tina Gao, who have stood by our club in 2020; a year when all businesses have been exposed to huge losses, we appreciate your contribution and continued support.

As President, thank you for your support and positive comments; I hope I have contributed in some small way to Howick Bridge Club.

So, Howick Bridge players, a reminder and challenge for you all - our membership is dwindling, support your club like never before with future initiatives suggested and introduced by your committee.

Let's make 2021 the start of a new beginning for Howick Bridge Club.

Merry Christmas, Happy New Year, and happy holidays to you all.

**Pat Williams**  
**President**  
**October 2020**

**Moved** that the President's report be accepted      Pat Williams / Lorraine Rose / carried

### **ANNUAL ACCOUNTS:**

The Treasurer's Report and the set of Accounts for the year ended 30<sup>th</sup> September 2020 have posted on the notice board, posted online and made available in hard copy at the clubhouse to all members.

### **TREASURERS REPORT 2020**

2020 has certainly been an eventful year for our members. With NZ in a nationwide lockdown, commencing 26th March the club closed until 14th June, a period of 11 weeks, and then again closed from 12th August to 28th September, a period of nearly 7 weeks. This has obviously had a financial effect on our club. We were fortunate that the Government's wage subsidy schemes helped us minimise our loss to just \$9,413.

Our Accounting programme became obsolete this year and we were required to upgrade our system. We were fortunate to be able to take up an offer made in conjunction with NZ Bridge for the MYOB Essentials Programme.

Cheryl and Richard have had great success with our Beginner's Lessons this year with 14 people from the lessons taking up membership with the club.

Lenice has again done a great job with our tenants adding several new fitness groups who make good use of the facilities. Our thanks go to Lenice for all the time and effort she puts into keeping the tenants happy.

The accounts reflect the disruptions of Covid-19 and you will see reductions in most of the Income receipts with losses in Table Money, Tournaments and Rental.

Again, due to the events of the year, our expenses were down in many areas: Tournament expenses, prizes, cleaning, kitchen, and power.

Our Compliance costs increase includes the Fire Doors between upstairs and downstairs and Council Fees for the Code of Compliance Certificate. Repair and Maintenance Costs include a new door for the Committee Room, to enable the panic bar to be fitted as required for the Club's Fire System and repairs to the Rheem Hot Water unit.

Wage expenses are up this year with an amount paid out in sick pay and a holiday payment made earlier than usual so that it falls into this financial year.

The Club's lease agreement with Auckland Council is up for renewal on 30 November 2020 and an application for renewal was prepared and forwarded to them 20th February 2020. We were advised in August that it is on this years' community leases work programme. The lease continues to roll-over on existing terms and conditions on a month by month basis. A meeting was held with the Council onsite recently and it is expected that we will have the renewal confirmed early next year. As a result of communications with the Council the committee is taking note of their suggestion to value our cultural diversity within the club.

The Committee has decided to keep our Subscriptions and Table Money the same for the fourth year in a row. The Subscriptions for 2021 will be proposed as: Ordinary Membership \$100; Secondary Membership \$77; Associate Membership \$40; Youth Membership \$20. Under the Constitution if any subscriptions remain unpaid at 31st January the membership is suspended.

**Jean Heath**  
**Treasurer**  
**October 2020**

**Moved** that the Annual Accounts and Treasurer's report be accepted      Pat Williams /  
Nicki Bowyer / carried

#### **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE TREASURERS REPORT:**

Nat Natarajan asked why sick leave was paid. Jean Heath explained.

Nat Natarajan asked about cultural diversity. Pat Williams responded that the Club had responsibilities to honour the Treaty of Waitangi as a condition of our lease. We are now using diverse greetings in our newsletter. The Committee has agreed to name a Sunday tournament as Matariki. Annette Brown stated that the Club welcomes people of all diversity.

#### **FEES – SUBSCRIPTIONS:**

The committee have made the decision to keep our subscriptions and table money the same as 2017, 2018, 2019 and 2020.

##### **Subscriptions for 2021 will be**

Annual subscription \$100      Secondary membership \$77

Associate membership \$40      Youth membership \$20

**Moved** that the subscriptions be approved      Jean Heath / Sue Osborne / carried

### **HONARARIA:**

The honorarium for the Secretary remain the same at \$4000 and the honorarium for Treasurer remain the same at \$5000 each per annum.

**Moved**

Pat Williams / Susan Rowe / carried

### **REMIT: Clause 15:**

Remit from the Committee of Howick Bridge Club.

That the Constitution of Howick Bridge Club be amended as follows:

That Clause 15 be deleted and be replaced by the amended Clause shown below, namely:

### **Current Clause:**

#### **15. Notices**

Notices calling General Meetings, setting forth the nature of the business of the meeting shall be posted to each Member at least fourteen days prior to the Meeting

### **To be replaced by amended Clause 15**

#### **15. Notices**

Notices calling General Meetings, setting forth the nature of the business of the meeting shall be posted on the notice board and online, advised in the weekly newsletter and verbally advised at the Club's Sessions, at least fourteen days prior to the Meeting.

***This is to allow for current communication by email, website and verbal advice of the any General Meeting.***

**Moved** that clause 15 be amended

Pat Williams / Nat Natarajan / carried

### **REMIT: Clause 17:**

Remit from the Committee of Howick Bridge Club.

That Clause 17 be deleted.

#### **17 Common Seal**

The Seal of the Club shall be kept in the custody of the Secretary. It shall not be affixed to any instrument except in pursuance of a resolution of the Executive in the presence of the Secretary and two Members of the Executive.

**Use of the Common Seal has become obsolete.**

These changes were put to the meeting and lost following a vote. No change will be made.

### **ELECTION OF OFFICERS:**

Nominations received for the 2021 committee were:

<b>President</b>	Pat Williams - proposed by Jean Heath seconded Sue Osborne
<b>Vice President</b>	Leo Sim - proposed Sue Osborne seconded Richard Andrew
<b>Secretary</b>	Wayne Oakley- proposed Pat Williams seconded Jean Heath
<b>Treasurer</b>	Jean Heath - proposed Sue Osborne seconded Richard Andrew
<b>Club captain</b>	Cheryl Winsor - proposed Sue Osborne seconded Jean Heath

### **Committee members:**

Richard Andrew - proposed Leo Sim seconded Sue Osborne

Lenice Clarkson - proposed Leo Sim seconded Richard Andrew

Rosemary Isherwood - proposed Peter Bowyer seconded Chris Tinkler

Sue McKinnon - proposed Pat Williams seconded Sue Osborne

Sue Osborne - proposed Pat Williams seconded Jean Heath

Mary Wood - proposed Sue Osborne seconded Leo Sim

Pat announced that as the nominations match the vacancies under the constitution (10b), these people are declared elected.

### **ELECTION OF AUDITOR:**

**Moved** that Jolly, Duncan & Wells be appointed for a further year.

Jean Heath / Nicki Bowyer / carried

### **GENERAL BUSINESS:**

Chris Tinkler proposed that the Club purchase more boards so the a director has 32 or 32 boards available to use. After some discussion, the matter was referred to the Committee to be discussed at its December meeting.

**PRESENTATIONS:**

Richard Andrew

Nicki Bowyer

John Gaiser

Bill Leach

Judy Mitchell

Anne Ridenton

Lorraine Rose

Chris Tinkler

Mary Wood

President.....

Date.....

There being no further business the meeting closed at 2:00pm.