

MINUTES OF THE HOWICK BRIDGE CLUB MEETING 16 JULY 2024

PRESENT: Leo Sim, Rose Isherwood, Jane Thomlinson, Pat Williams, Richard Andrew, Alan Sheath, Peter McLean, Heather Green, Dave Christian, Mary Wood, Lenice Clarkson

MINUTES of the previous meeting held 9 June 2024

Moved and seconded the minutes be accepted

Pat /Alan

MATTERS ARISING

Dave has set up answerphone (Secretary details if no one at club).

CORRESPONDENCE

Circulated and discussed. All upcoming tournament info displayed in club.

Pat to email Annie Pruit re too many paid links.

MEMBERSHIP (Jane) as emailed to all committee.

- 188 members (increase of 2 on last month)
- 1 returning member.
- 1 transfer from a SI club having moved to Howick.

FINANCIAL REPORT (Jane) as emailed to all committee.

We're on the homeward stretch now towards the end of the financial year.

June was a pretty ordinary month with only three things to highlight:

- Totara Hospice Day raised \$4,594.50, with the last of the donations going into the account early July.
- 3A/5B Tournament was very successful, making a profit of \$638.99.
- New signage invoice for \$1,000 will show in July's R&M.

YTD Key Results:

- Income is on budget at \$81,189 (excluding Hospice Donation).
- Expenditure is \$81,987, over budget due to R&M costs.
- Interest earned on Term Deposits is \$1,087 more than expected.
- Net Profit of \$2,090 - a good result considering the unplanned R&M expenses.

Discussion points

- As the cost of bidding pads has risen it was agreed we would now charge members \$3 for purchase (Rose will check with other club where they purchase and cost)
- Committee approved donation payment to Hospice of \$4600 – Mary has arranged presentation at Friday 26th July session.
- Donation for Bob Fearn confirmed at \$450.

Moved and seconded the Financial Statement be accepted

Jane / Rose

CLUB EVENTS (Dave)

- 8B Tournament 27 July, bookings very slow. Pizza tournament will be held in September.
- Pleasing to have made a profit on 3A/8B tournament – full house, excellent day
- Replacement directors arranged to cover Chris’s absence – Lysandra will do Tuesday nights, Dave Thursday mornings, with Richard doing Thursday 26 September only (Dave absent).
- Ultra-Tournament – Dave will email Franklin with names and bridge numbers and will let players know Franklin payment arrangements.
- It was noted the Papakura leg had many novices which resulted in very slow play
- Howick leg (28 July) Chris will direct and score, helpers available (Pat/Rose?) “Get out of Jail Free” cards ,novice only, single use and for bidding only.
- Heather will do afternoon tea, Peter bar.

PUBLICITY (Lessons)

- Pat and Chris attending as TDs for Howick members attending the Sunday sessions of NZB supported free online practice games for new players. Held every Sunday 4-5:30pm.
- A wonderful platform for new players to further learn and we should all take heart that there have been 30 odd tables.
- Advertising boards at Council sites to be removed 22 July.
- Flyers, digital, noticeboards and Facebook. The response from Facebook has been great.

(New Players)

- Rose continues to email all new players with info - retention all important
- Leo will talk to Douglas Russell (North Shore Club) at Orewa Hui (11/9) re retention.
- (Alan) new players will only ‘speed up’ their play by joining in beginner sessions and being able to have assistance from Chris (and others). And all important, they need a measure of success, ie handicaps (see General Business).
- Continue ‘buddy’ system and mentoring.

HEALTH & SAFETY (Heather)

- Fire alarms monitored monthly – carried out 18/6 and 16/7
- First Aid and locks all checked.

RENTALS (Lenice)

- Confirm all OK.
- Pat to add Fire Safety Requirements to draft Rental Agreement.

GENERAL BUSINESS

1. (Leo) Signwriter cannot match gold leaf, Carina also checked with no success. Richard will check with past contractor and Rose will check with Papakura.
2. (Dave) Will email members to gauge numbers, commencing 11 August 10:30-12pm gold coin donation (Chris, Pat and others).

3. (Alan) Manual emailed to committee 7 July – says (process) **what** we do but not (procedure) **how** we do it. Leo suggested Alan sit down with Richard and document procedure for running a ‘hybrid’ session. Dave will also document what Richard does at Tournaments. Jane suggested too much information, ie over documented with Dave stating only document that really matters is “Committee Responsibilities” 5.4.1 with 2 columns indicating key roles and backup. Discussion followed.
4. (Dave) re-introducing handicaps to some sessions on Monday evenings.
 - (a) Monday Restricted – is null and void because it really does not apply.
 - (b) Will provide a route for players to move from Tuesday and Thursday sessions to Monday.
 - (c) Other clubs run handicap sessions.
 - (d) Fair formula on Xclub
 - (e) Players new to Bridge need to measure their success on Monday sessions
 - (f) Suggest all Monday evening MP become Handicap competitions, plus Restricted Pairs to be handicapped.
 - (g) NZB also looking at using handicap system.
 - (Committee agreed with Dave’s outline of Handicaps and to be re-introduced for Monday sessions into new Programme of Events book 2025)
5. Question raised re difficulty in running hybrid sessions on Thursday. Richard advised running is easy, difficulty is scoring and merging the two results. Dave publishes RB links and Richard does both RB and Compass results. Ongoing.
6. (Dave) 2025 Programme of Events Book
 - (a) List school holidays
 - (b) Monday handicap sessions
 - (c) Larger print (tournaments)
 - (d) Availability of some blank pages would be helpful.
 - (e) Sponsors advertising
7. (Peter) Sponsorship. Pat will prepare appropriate letter for Peter.
8. (Dave) Constitution – further fine tuning as suggested by Dave, discussed, and accepted by committee.

Meeting closed at 9:50pm. Next meeting Sunday 11 August at 3pm