



MINUTES OF NEW ZEALAND BRIDGE BOARD MEETING

**Held at the Conference Centre Wellington Airport Thursday 15th
May 2014 commencing at 8.30am**

PARTICIPATING: Arie Geursen, Graham Wakefield (from 9.40am), Shirley Newton, Allan Joseph, Murray Wiggins, Alan Turner (until 3.35pm), & Allan Barclay (from 11am)

In Attendance: Alister Stuck, National Secretary & Richard Solomon, Bridge Development Officer

1. WELCOME

Arie welcomed all to the meeting.

2. APOLOGIES

Nil

3. PREVIOUS MINUTES

Copies of the following minutes were circulated prior to the meeting.

- Board Meeting Minutes 15 April 2014
- Board Meeting Minutes 17 April 2014

Moved confirmation of the Minutes of the Board Meetings held 15th & 17th April 2014.

CARRIED 34/2014

4. REGIONAL REPORTS & MEETING MINUTES

Minutes from 5 Regions were received and circulated prior to the Meeting, namely

- | | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. Wellington Region - | Minutes - 18 Feb & 20 March 2014 |
| 2. Central Districts Region - | Minutes – 11 April 2014 |
| 3. Auckland Northland Region - | Minutes – 13 April 2014 |
| 4. Otago Southland Region - | Minutes – 2 May 2014 |
| 5. Canterbury Region - | Minutes – 9 May 2014 |

Moved that the Minutes from the listed Regions be received.

CARRIED 35/2014

5. OUTSTANDING ITEMS

An updated list had been circulated.

- **Vacancy- Chief Director** – The Bulletin calling for expressions of interest in the role of Chief Director was finalised and it was agreed that Alister would circulate to all National Directors, Regional Committees and Clubs
- **Vacancy- CDD Committee** – Moved that Bryan Northcott be appointed to the Conduct Discipline and Disputes Committee.

CARRIED 36/2014

- **Agreement - NZ Bridge & Bridge NZ**

The draft Agreement was discussed further and it was agreed that Murray be authorised to execute on the Boards behalf subject to clause 5 being re-written to the Boards satisfaction.

It was also agreed that following the execution of the Agreement that Murray would prepare a suitable Bulletin for immediate release to all Clubs and Regional Committees advising them of the Boards decision to relinquish its rights to and ongoing involvement with Scorer.

- **Website Sponsor Escape Direct** – Moved that the Board agree in principle to an arrangement with Escapes Direct for an initial period of up to 2 years subject to a satisfactory contract being executed as set out in the proposal circulated. It was noted that the National Secretary be authorised to sign that contract in due course of behalf of the Board.
- **Rangiora Bridge Club** – Shirley advised that she had met with Club officials to discuss their concerns re the levy increase and reported that matters had now been resolved.

4. BOARD COMMITTEE MINUTES & REPORTS

Marketing, Membership & Media

Alan spoke to the Board paper that had been circulated prior to the meeting.

Moved that the report on Marketing, Membership and Media as circulated be received.

CARRIED 37/2014

Finance

Alan spoke briefly and presented the following Report.

- P & L Report to 30 April 2014
- Annual accounts to 31 March 2014 (first draft)

Moved that the P & L Report to 30 April 2014 and draft financial statements for the year to 30 March 2014 as circulated be received, and that the presentation of the initial draft of the Annual Accounts be adjusted in accordance with the discussion on this occasion.

CARRIED 38/2014

Bridge Development Officer Report

Richard spoke to his report which had been circulated prior to the meeting

Moved that the Bridge Development Officers Report as circulated be received.

CARRIED 39/2014

It was noted that there was a possibility of a clash of dates in 2015 with the National Congress and the WBF Bowl events. While unfortunate it was agreed after discussion that it would be inappropriate to reschedule the congress dates.

Moved that the 2014 Congress Capex budget be increased by \$8500.00

CARRIED 40/2014

5. GENERAL BUSINESS

Arie, Murray, Richard & Allan Joseph were not present when the first two items of General Business were dealt with.)

Incident at NI Teams Palmerston North

There was discussion regarding the email complaint to the Board from W Burrows the timing of which seemed to be reactive to information provided to him by the Board's Honorary Solicitor that there was further concern manifested regarding his conduct and behaviour at the above event on Sunday 27 April where he appeared to gratuitously involve some of the same persons as in the incidents at the National Bridge Congress the subject of the current appeal before the Bridge Appeal Tribunal against the Conduct, Discipline and Disputes Committee's finding of serious misconduct towards officials on that occasion.

Agreed that the circumstances around W Burrows complaint and any other formal complaint relating to the Palmerston North incident and the written statements/commentaries from other parties involved be more formally considered at a subsequent telephone meeting of those Board members eligible to participate to determine the Boards response, including whether a further referral to the Conduct, Discipline and Disputes Committee for enquiry and determination under Rule 27 is appropriate. Alister to convene in due course.

Update- Bridge Appeal Tribunal

Graham provided an update with respect to the current circumstances pertaining to the current Appeal by W Burrows. There was also discussion with regard to potential costs and a timeframe to progress. Agreed that Graham be the sole point of contact for the Board's Honorary Solicitor through the pre-hearing phase provided that any proposal for a settlement by the parties requires the prior approval of those members of the Board not directly conflicted.

Online Magazine

Arie congratulated those involved, in particular, Richard, Donna, Allan Barclay & Shirley, for the successful launch of the online Magazine for the April 2014 edition.

Interprovincial Representation

Graham tabled a request from the Central Districts Regional Committee seeking guidance regarding the eligibility of Sandy and Rod Dravitzki to trial in the CD Region. It was noted that the Dravitzkis were domiciled in Masterton (Wellington Region) but maintained secondary membership of Palmerston North. The request to allow them to trial was supported based on the specific information provided on this occasion.

NZ Bridge Committees

Moved that the Regulations, Administration and Events Committees be disestablished with immediate effect and replaced with "Project Teams" to be constituted from time to time and be led by a designated Board Member to undertake and complete the specific tasks assigned.

CARRIED 41/2014

NZ Bridge Foundation

Moved that Kay Nicholas be appointed as a Trustee of the NZ Bridge Foundation.

CARRIED 42/2014

Graham to advise both parties.

Issues Levy Invoices

Alister reported instances where Clubs have either disputed or short paid the levy invoice struck as at 31 March 2014. In all cases the discrepancies are due to the said Clubs not advising membership changes in time or in some instances seeking refunds for member's who have resigned since the levy invoice was issued.

Alister advised that the move to quarterly invoicing has added to his workload and the co-operation of all Clubs is necessary to ensure the process runs smoothly.

The Board was unanimous that a firm stance be taken with all Clubs who do not advise NZ Bridge of membership changes prior to the quarterly invoices being struck and issued. The amount due will be as originally invoiced and any shortfall not paid shall be carried over as an amount outstanding and included in subsequent invoices until paid in full.

A further bulletin regarding this matter will be drafted and sent to all Clubs and Regional Committees.

Regional Committee Nominations

Alister presented a list of nominations for Auckland Northland, Central Districts, Wellington, Canterbury and Otago Southland Regional Committees to be ratified. It was noted that as nominations in both the Waikato Bays and Top of the South Regions exceeded 6 elections are required. This process was now underway.

Moved that the following nominations be ratified to take office from 1st July 2014

Auckland Northland	Central Districts
1. Peter Bowyer	1. Les Gould
2. Susan Humphries	2. Bryan Green
3. Sue Brown	3. Mari Fitzsimons
4. Tony Morcom	4. Colin Carryer
5. Trevor Robb	5. Matthew Schumacher
6. Angela Royle	6. Michelle England
Wellington	Canterbury
1. Dinnie Hall	1. Michael Johnstone
2. Vivienne Cannell	2. Helen Good
3. Heather Jared	3. Judith Calder
4. Tony Sutich	4. Giles Hancock
5. Anna Herries	5. Fiona Temple
6. Alan Grant	6. Peter Van Leeuwen
Otago Southland	
1. Kay Wilson	
2. Kristen Collins	
3. Marilyn Jackson	
4. Frances Sheehy	
5. James Coutts	
6. Joan Scarlett	

CARRIED 43/2014

▪ **Confirmed Meeting Dates 2014**

Saturday 28 th June	Board Meeting Koru Lounge Wellington
Sunday 29 th June	Regional Conference / Miramar Golf Club
Saturday 27 th Sept	AGM Kingsgate Hotel Hamilton
Monday 20 th Oct	Wellington

Meeting Closed – 4.20pm