

THE TARADALE BRIDGE CLUB INCORPORATED

R U L E S

1 NAME

The name of the Club shall be “The Taradale Bridge Club Incorporated”

2 OBJECTS

The objects of the Club are:

- (a) To establish and carry on a Contract Bridge Club and to provide encouragement and facilities for the playing of contract bridge: and to promote tournaments and matches.
- (b) To affiliate with the Central Districts Bridge Centre Incorporated and to abide by the rules of that body.
- (c) To use the funds of the Club as may be considered necessary or proper in payment of the costs and expenses or further in advancing or carrying out the objects of the Club including the employment of such agents and servants as shall appear expedient.

3 MEMBERSHIP

Membership of the Club shall consist of the following several classes:

(a) Ordinary Members:

These shall consist of such members, as the committee for the time being shall decide.

(b) Absentee Member:

The committee shall have the power at its discretion, to place on, and remove from, the absentee list the names of ordinary members who may be absent from Taradale for a period of not less than twelve months.

(c) Honorary Member:

Any member ceasing to play regularly after long membership may apply for Honorary Membership.

This class of membership does not allow for registration with the New Zealand Contract Bridge Association Incorporated

(No “C” points shall accrue)

The committee shall have the power at any time to revoke the membership of any honorary member.

(d) Life Member:

Shall comprise those persons the Club desires to honour and shall be elected in accordance with “Rule 9”

(e) Associate Member:

Associate Membership may be extended to members of other bridge clubs within the 30 km. limit on a reciprocal arrangement.

(f) Foundation Member:

Members of The Taradale Bridge Club Incorporated who became members of The Taradale Bridge Club Incorporated at its Inaugural Meeting together with such persons attending or tendering apologies to the Inaugural Meeting shall be considered Foundation Members.

Each new member shall be entitled to receive a copy of the rules.

Only classes (a) and (d) are eligible to vote at any meeting of the Club.

4 ELECTION OF ORDINARY MEMBERS

The election of ordinary members shall be governed by the following regulations:

- (a) Every candidate shall be proposed by one member and seconded on a form approved by the committee.
- (b) The nomination form shall if the nomination is approved by the committee, be posted in the Club for a period of not less than 14 days, or the candidates name communicated orally to members at two consecutive club nights.
- (c) The committee shall consider all applications for membership and may accept, defer, or reject any

application without having to give reasons for its decision. The decision of the committee shall be final for that year, but any candidate who is rejected may make application again in the next club year. The committee may at any time in its uncontrolled discretion close the membership list for such period as it thinks fit.

- (d) Every new member shall immediately after election be notified thereof by the Secretary, and shall on election be bound by the Rules and by-laws of the Club.

5 RESIGNATION OF MEMBERS

A member may resign by giving notice to that effect to the Secretary, but such a member so resigning shall be liable for all subscription and levies due by him/her for the financial year in which such resignation takes effect.

6 EXPULSION OF MEMBERS

The committee shall have power upon receipt of any complaint and after hearing the explanation of any member concerning the matter of the complaint, to reprimand, suspend or expel any member.

Any member suspended or expelled in accordance with this rule may appeal to a General Meeting or Special Meeting of the Club whose decision shall be final, and pending the holding of such General Meeting such member shall abide by the decision of the committee.

7 ENTRANCE FEE

All persons becoming members of the Taradale Bridge Club Incorporated and not belonging to any other bridge club affiliated to the New Zealand Bridge Association, shall pay an entrance fee of such sums as the Club shall decide or alter at any General Meeting.

8 ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS

Annual subscriptions shall be decided at the Annual General Meeting and shall apply to the playing year January 1st to December 31st.

- (a) The committee may, on such grounds as it thinks fit, remit wholly or in part any fee, subscription, levies or penalties due or grant time for payment or part payment thereof.
- (b) Subscriptions shall be due on 31st January and shall be subject to a penalty if not paid by this date
- (c) Any member whose subscription is outstanding at the commencement of any prize series forfeits the right to winning.
- (d) Subscriptions and entrance fees shall be payable within one month of election to the Club. An ordinary member elected after the first month of the playing year shall pay a first subscription calculated on a pro-rata monthly basis for each month or part of month remaining of the Club's playing year.
- (e) Subject to any remission allowed under sub-paragraph 8a of this rule, any member (other than an absentee member) whose subscription remains unpaid by January 31ST each year automatically be suspended from membership and from privileges of the Club until such subscription has been paid.
- (f) Financial year: the financial year of the Club shall end on the 30th day of September.

9 LIFE MEMBERS

- (a) The committee may recommend for election as a Life Member of the Club at a General Meeting any member who in the opinion of the committee has rendered signal service to the Club.
- (b) A resolution for the election of a Life Member must be carried by a majority of two thirds of the members present and who are entitled to vote.
- (c) A Life Member shall be exempt from the payment of annual subscriptions.

10 OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE

- (a) The Officers of the Club shall be:

A President

A Vice-President or two Vice-Presidents

An Honorary Secretary

An Honorary Treasurer

Or Honorary Secretary/Treasurer

These shall form the Executive of the Club

- (b) The committee shall comprise the officers referred to in 10a the Immediate Past President and five or more other members, the number to be decided at any Annual Meeting.
- (c) The officers and other members of the committee must be ordinary, financial or life members and be elected at the Annual General Meeting from nominations (proposed and seconded) which have been entered on a nomination sheet displayed on the Club notice board for at least 14 days before the Annual General Meeting. Unsuccessful candidates for position of Officers are automatically candidates for the General Committee, if they so wish.
- (d) The affairs of the Club shall be managed by the committee, notwithstanding any vacancy in its body. The committee shall have the power to co-opt members for a specific purpose and to appoint sub-committees, including persons not members of the committee, and to delegate thereto such powers as the committee sees fit. None of the officers of the Club shall hold the same position for more than two consecutive years, except the Honorary Secretary and Honorary Treasurer, whose terms may be extended for up to five years.
- (e) The committee is empowered to vote honorarium to the Hon. Secretary and Hon. Treasurer, but acceptance of these honorarium does not debar such officers from voting at committee or General Meetings. The committee may at any time engage the services of a paid Secretary and or Treasurer, but such employees shall not have voting

powers. The committee may appoint delegates by proxy to the Annual General Meeting of the Central Districts Bridge Centre who shall not necessarily be members of the Club.

➔**N.B. Refer to rule 14 (e) and 14 (f)**

11 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

- (a) The Annual General Meeting of the Club shall be held in the month of November in each year, at a time and place to be notified by advertisement in a daily paper circulating in Hawke's Bay; or by notice in writing, such advertisement or notice to be given not less than seven days prior to the date when such a meeting shall be held.
- (b) Notices of motion, duly proposed and seconded, shall be in the hands of the Hon. Secretary twenty-eight days before any Annual General Meeting or Special General Meeting
- (c) When an election is needed for the committee, members are not obliged to vote for the full number of vacancies.
- (d) At the Annual General Meeting The President shall call for the nomination of three scrutineers, who shall not hold office or be candidates for office. On the completion of elections, the President shall put to the meeting a motion calling for the destruction of ballot papers.

12 SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING

The committee may at any time, and shall on a requisition of six financial members, or on the requisition of a person expelled or suspended from the Club under Rule 6 hereof, call a Special General Meeting and such Special General Meeting shall be called in the same manner as an Annual General Meeting and the notice convening the meeting shall specify the particulars of the business to be transacted thereat, and no business other than that of which particulars have been so specified shall be transacted at such meeting.

13 QUORUM

The quorum for the Annual General Meeting or a Special Meeting shall be 25 ordinary members of the Club, but if at the time and place called for the holding of such meeting a quorum is not present the meeting shall be adjourned to the same place and time if possible in the following week and members present at such adjourned meeting shall be deemed to be a quorum.

The committee shall be empowered to make its own rules relating to a quorum at a meeting of committee.

14 PROCEDURES AND VOTING AT MEETINGS

Meetings shall be conducted in accordance with the recognised rules of debate and canons of conduct.

The voting on any resolution or matter shall in the first place be by a show of hands, but if six members support a demand for a poll, a poll shall be taken in a manner decided by the meeting.

NO PROXIES SHALL BE ALLOWED

- (a) The President or Vice-President of the Club shall act as Chairman of all meetings and the Chairman of the meeting shall have a casting, as well as a deliberative vote. In the absence of the President or Vice-President a meeting may elect its own Chairman.
- (b) The committee between General Meetings of the Club shall have power to carry out all the powers of the club contained in these rules or authorised by any Annual or Special General Meeting of the Club.
- (c) The Secretary shall keep the minutes of all meetings, which shall be confirmed or otherwise at the next meeting: and shall keep all necessary records of the Club's activities, including a Register of Members and he/she shall act under the directions of the committee.
- (d) The Treasurer shall keep true records of all monies received and expended and shall at the Annual General

Meeting and whenever called upon to do so by the committee, produce an audited statement of accounts. The Treasurer shall pay all monies received by him/her on behalf of the club to the credit of the Club's account at a bank to be selected from time to time by the committee and shall not disburse any money exceeding the amount laid down by the current By-Laws without the authority of the committee. The Club's money in such bank account may be drawn upon by a cheque signed by the Treasurer and one of the other members of the committee authorised by the committee for the purpose.

- (e) No member of the Club or any person associated with a member shall participate in or materially influence any decision made by the Club in respect of the payment to or on behalf of that member or associated person of any income, benefit, or advantage whatsoever.
- (f) Any such income paid shall be reasonable and relative to that which would be paid in an arm's length transaction (being the open market value). The provisions and effect of this clause shall not be removed from this document, and shall be included and implied into any document replacing this document

15 COMMON SEAL

The Club shall have a Common Seal: which shall be controlled by the committee and shall be affixed to such documents, as the committee shall direct in the presence of two members of the committee.

16 POWERS OF THE CLUB

The Club shall have the express power to acquire land and chattels by purchase, lease or otherwise and to borrow money upon the security of any of its property or without security and to execute any mortgage, debenture charge, chattel security, promissory note, bill of exchange or other negotiable instrument.

The funds of the Club shall be controlled and may be invested, as the committee shall decide.

17 RULES AND MANNER OF PLAY

- (a) Play will be conducted under the bridge laws as laid down by New Zealand Contract Bridge Association.
- (b) The play activities and operations of the Club shall be organised, managed and directed by the committee which shall make and enforce all such rules therefore as it shall deem most advantageous to the interests of the Club and its members.

18 VISITING PLAYERS

Subject to such rules and restrictions as the committee may from time to time impose:

- (a) Members of other affiliated clubs shall be entitled to play at the Club, and after one visit in any one year shall be required to pay current table money in accordance with the by-laws.
- (b) Any member may invite a non-member or non-members to play at the Club on payment of appropriate table money, but no member shall exercise such right on more than four occasions in one year.

19 USE OF CLUB PREMISES AND ASSETS

Non- Club use of any of the club's premises may be permitted by the committee when not harmful to the interests of the club and its members and then upon such terms as the committee shall decide.

20 ALTERATIONS OF RULES

- (a) Subject always to the provisions of The Incorporated Societies Act 1908, or any act in substitution thereof any of these rules may be altered, added to or rescinded by resolution of a General Meeting or Special Meeting of the Club convened in accordance with these rules provided that the notice convening such meeting sets out clearly the

nature of the alterations proposed and provided that such alterations are approved by a majority of three-fourths of the members present at that meeting and voting thereon.

- (b) No addition to or alteration of the non-profit aims, personal benefit clause or the winding up clause shall be approved without the approval of Inland Revenue.
- (c) The provisions and effect of this clause shall not be removed from this document and shall be included and implied into any document replacing this document.

21 INTERPRETATION OF THE RULES

The decision of the committee on the interpretation of any of these rules shall be binding on all members until revoked at a General Meeting of the Club. The notice calling such a General Meeting shall clearly set out the subject matters the interpretation of which is to be challenged.

22 BY-LAWS

The committee shall have power to make by-laws (provided that they be not inconsistent with these rules) and to settle any question which may arise, and which is not specifically provided for in these rules.

23 NOTICES

Any notice required to be sent, to any member shall be deemed to have been delivered in due course if sent by post in a prepaid envelope addressed to such a member at the address appearing in the club's list of members or if delivered personally. Notice to committee members of an impending committee meeting may be given orally or otherwise.

24 FUNDS

- (a) The assets of the Club shall be under the control and management of the committee.

- (b) The committee at its first meeting after each Annual Meeting shall appoint or re-appoint three of its members, including either the Secretary or Treasurer (or if the same person – that person) as a sub-committee to manage the Club's banking and bank accounts. Any two of those three members shall sign cheques.
- (c) The committee shall provide from time to time the Club's bank with a certified copy of each such resolution and shall execute such bank authorities as are usual and from time to time required.
- (d) Any document approved by the whole committee as binding on the Club shall be attested by two officers of the Club (refer clause on common seal)

25 WINDING UP

The club may be wound up or dissolved by a resolution passed by a majority of the members present at a General Meeting called in accordance with the Rules to consider such winding up or dissolution.

Such resolution shall also provide as follows:

The net assets of the Club other than trophies and Honours Boards shall be converted into cash and transferred to New Zealand Contract Bridge Association Incorporated to be held in trust and to be made available to any newly formed Contract Bridge Club providing it is recognised by the Association and is situated within 3 kilometres of the Taradale Memorial Clock Tower.

In the event of no such club being formed and recognised within five calendar years of the winding up resolution, the trust monies shall be paid to such charitable trust named in the winding up resolution and the Club Trophies and Honour Boards shall be handed over to the members last winning them.