

Ballarat Bridge Club Inc

Minutes: Annual General Meeting 2023-2024

Held at Ballarat Bridge Club 12.00 pm, Thursday 12th October 2023

Attendance: Anne Beck, Kaye McFarlane, Colleen Ludbrook, Clare Beer, Peter Wells, Margaret Whitefield, Kath Connors, Ian Gunn, Janet Dale, Ray Beacham, Leigh Dunne, Cheryl Mason, Maureen Christopher, Rhondra Lyons, Helen Dolan, Robert Scott, Mary Oswell, Geoff Dwyer, Bruce Morley, Richard Giles, James Childs, Graham Fosse, Lynne Taylor, Barb Ross, Vicki Bennett, Anne Woods, Richard Chivell.

Apologies: Brian Hassett, Elizabeth Hastie, Pat Fiskin, Annette Pearce, Lyn Martin, Barbara Pummeroy, Marilyn Bradford, Trish Farney, Helen Hill, John Hill, Di Varvel, Anne Agni, Julie Sewell, Jenny Hoskin,

Minutes of the Previous AGM: Anne Beck moved that minutes be accepted, 2nd Kath Connors. Carried

Matters Arising from the Minutes: nil

President's Report: Anne Beck

The Committee year has seen a glimpse of normality with no Covid lockdowns and table numbers consistent. An average of 9 for a Thursday and 6 on a Saturday. Supervised play on a Tuesday also being well supported.

Two new members were elected to Committee, Leigh Dunne and Margaret Whitefield, welcome additions to our team.

Our first function was Cup Day which saw 20 very enthusiastic members enjoy a chicken and salad lunch, pavlova and champagne, as well as bridge playing punctuated with Cup Sweeps. It is on the calendar again this year. The Christmas lunch was held at The Grand with 25 members in attendance. Friday pizza nights also well attended during daylight saving.

BBC currently has 97 members that includes 4 associate members. Of that membership, there are currently 52 active members, 14 inactive, 31 members who play occasionally. On-line bridge playing has had an dire influence on player numbers in face-to-face play.

2023 saw the passing of Marjorie Sargeant a long-time member of our Club, and ill health is a factor for some other members, we wish them well.

The Lease with the City of Ballarat expired in 2021 and after some negotiations a new Lease has been secured for 15 years (3x5) which now includes a maintenance agreement, plus a reduction in the annual rental. The EGV have also signed a new Lease.

The City of Ballarat is planning to upgrade our toilet facilities with new plans drawn up. Upgraded facilities will service the needs of the Croquet Club well as the Ballarat Bridge Club.

It is anticipated that if Government funding is allocated to the project that work will commence 2024/25.

Aims for 2023 were to improve the quality of bridge playing and to develop a better understanding of bridge rules. Martin Willcox has conducted 4 workshops and a further 2 are scheduled.

Clare and I held bridge lessons earlier in the year, these proved very successful with 14 participants, most of whom have joined the Club and play on a Tuesday. The next session begins on Saturday October 21st. Members are asked to promote this.

Financially the Club is in an enviable position.

Members have been given a “free day” once a month. The Club financially supports Nationwide Pairs (now played twice a month); Supervised Play on Tuesday; the six Martin Willcox workshops; refreshments after play Thursday and Saturday; the Christmas Luncheon and other social events. With the reintroduction of daylight saving the Friday night Pizza nights can now resume.

The next 12 months will see vinyl floor coverings replaced and the painting of the EGV room, hall area and storerooms (these were not painted when the main room was). Also planned is the removal of the stove in the kitchen and the installation of a smaller electric domestic appliance. The chairs and tablecloths in the main playing room are also due for replacement.

An ageing membership and fewer player numbers will add to the financial costs incurred in the general running of the bridge Club in the future.

Although we have a new Lease agreement with the City of Ballarat, that does not guarantee permanent tenure of the facility. Funds must be held in reserve should such an occurrence manifest itself.

Many members volunteered to contribute to the innumerable list of ongoing tasks that keep the Club functioning smoothly. My thanks go to: Vicki Bennett (assists with the board dealing), the Directors- Peter Wells, John Campbell, Diane Bulman and Anne Fennell. Anne Woods (a new member) who is responsible for the updating of information on the website, Geoff Dwyer always ready to deal with any minor maintenance issues, as well as being employed as the BBC cleaner. Kath Connors and Pat Fiskén have been mentors to the new players on a Tuesday.

We have enjoyed the results of work done on the garden and surrounds. Pat Fiskén being director and motivator with the assistance of Nick our paid gardener; and Geoff Dwyer for upgrading and repainting the Ballarat Bridge Club sign – a time consuming and arduous job.

As President my role would be more challenging if I didn't have the support from the Committee.

Trish Farney - Treasurer Trish has had a particularly difficult year juggling the illness of her husband (he passed away on September 15th) and the role of Treasurer. However, the reports and financial aspects were on time, concise and clear for all.

Kaye McFarlane - Secretary Kaye is responsible for the dealing of the boards, a time-consuming exercise without which the Club could not function. Kaye is responsible for the dissemination of correspondence, email and postal, minutes and documents for meetings, queries from the public and members, updating of the data base. The most complex of Committee roles.

Bruce Morley - Vice President Bruce as Director is responsible for keeping up to date the results of play, uploading information to the ABF and Bridge Victoria, keeping abreast of any upgrades to Compscore 3. He has also been instrumental in the success of Supervised Play on Tuesdays and assisting with the lessons and new players.

General Committee -

Ian Gunn Ian assists on Thursday and is responsible for the purchase of member badges and other general tasks such as assisting with the Tuesday Supervised Play.

Mary Oswell Mary has been integral to the registration and greeting of members on game days, recording attendances and payments (made easier with the Club vouchers). Mary is retiring from the Committee, and I wish her well.

Margaret Whitefield Margaret handles the welfare aspects of members, sending the appropriate cards, kitchen duties and assisting Kaye with the dealing of the cards.

Colleen Ludbrook Colleen is part of the registration and greeting team, she has assisted with lessons and mentoring on Tuesdays. Colleen is retiring from Committee, I thank her for her commitment.

Leigh Dunne Leigh has been an asset to the team: particularly OH&S compliance; council liaison; support for Supervised Play on Tuesdays; and always available when required for setting up and "putting back" after Club events.

Clare Beer My right hand, my bridge partner without whom I would be lost. Clare is a tireless worker for this Club. Clare is kitchen manager, and coordinator of supplies and alcohol with Annette. Clare and I together have given the bridge lessons for the past 3 years and also mentor the new members each Tuesday.

Annette Pearce Annette has responsibility with Clare for kitchen duties which include the huge task - the purchase of supplies for member and Club events. She is a qualified Safe Food Handler and holds a current RSA qualification. Annette also helps coordinate the social functions.

Brian Hassett As Club Mediator is a valuable addition to Committee as is his medical advice when received.

There were 3 events held at the BBC this year. Ballarat/Bendigo Ashes, Western Region Friendly Pairs and BBC Congress. Very successful events with positive feedback from the attendees BUT there was little interest from Ballarat members.

The Committee is looking at the viability of intra Club competition for 2024, particularly the Congress.

The sustainability of hosting these events is questionable.

I am standing for the Presidency for another year, it will be my 5th and 8th year on Committee. I look forward to your support for myself and the Committee.

Anne Beck moved that her report be accepted, 2nd Janet Dale. Carried

Treasurer's Report: Trish Farney

RECONCILIATION OF CASH FLOWS- 30 June2023

Opening Balance

July1st 2022	\$	17,654.50
Plus Reciepts	\$	32,786.31
Less Payments	\$	28,219.71
Total	\$	<u>22,221.10</u>

Balance of Bank Statement 30/6/2023	\$	<u>22,221.10</u>
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July1st 2021	Term deposit	\$	64,724.85
Plus Interest July 2022-June 2023		\$	151.79
Plus transfers from Cheque account		\$	-

Balance of Bank Statement 30/6/2022	\$	<u>64,876.64</u>
Invested @ 3.0% till 14 Nov 2023		

Signed.....*Anne Beck*..... Date.....*22 04 23*.....

President

Signed.....*Trish Farney*..... Date.....*22/4/2023*.....

Treasurer

Total in Bank a/a 30th June 2023	\$	87,097.74
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Net Profit July 2022-June2023	\$	4,718.39
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Anne Beck for Trish Farney moved that the Treasurer's Report be accepted, 2nd Geoff Dwyer. Carried

Election of Office Bearers: Peter Wells was nominated by Anne Beck and accepted by members to act as Chairperson.

Peter Wells declared all positions comprising the previous committee vacant.

Peter Wells announced Anne Beck as incoming President 2023-2024 being the sole nomination.

Anne Beck resumed role as Chairperson. She declared the sole nominations for the positions of Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer for the term 2023-2024 (see table below)

Confirmation of Number of Ordinary Members of the Committee:

Anne Beck confirmed that the number of Ordinary Members of the Committee be seven.

Election of Committee Members: the seven nominations were declared for the term 2023-2024 (see table below)

POSITION	Member Nominated	Proposer	Seconders
President	Anne Beck	Bruce Morley	Kaye McFarlane
Vice-President	Bruce Morley	Anne Beck	Annette Pearce
Secretary	Kaye McFarlane	Helen Dolan	Elizabeth Molesworth
Treasurer	Trish Farney	Anne Beck	Kaye McFarlane
General Committee	Clare Beer	Annette Pearce	Colleen Ludbrook
	Leigh Dunne	Bruce Morley	Clare Beer
	Ian Gunn	Clare Beer	Bruce Morley
	Geoff Dwyer	Anne Beck	Clare Beer
	Anne Woods	Clare Beer	Peter Weste
	Annette Pearce	Clare Beer	Bruce Morley
	Marg Whitefield	Kath Connors	Leigh Dunne

Confirmation of the Annual Subscription:

Anne Beck confirmed that the Annual Subscription will remain as \$35.00 for the term 2023-2024

Meeting was declared closed 12.25 pm