

The Canberra Bridge Club Inc.

President Stephen Fischer
Secretary Pam Crichton
Treasurer Andrew Kettle
Manager Val Holbrook/Lesley Gunson

6 Duff Place
PO Box 9006
Deakin ACT 2600

Tel 02 6282 2382
Fax 02 6282 2382
email: manager@canberrabridgeclub.com.au

MINUTES

Monday 12 August 2013 at 5.30pm

Attendance: Stephen Fischer, Neil Garvey, Pam Crichton, Ann Pettigrew, Niek Van Vucht, Val Holbrook, Ruth Gallagher, Sebastian Yuen, Jodi Tutty, Lesley Gunson, Christy Geromboux.

Apologies: Andrew Kettle, Peter Giles, Di Hawke, Rowan Bergin .

1. 1. PREVIOUS MINUTES

MOTION: That the Minutes of 8 July 2013 be accepted as a true record of the meeting.

Moved Ann Pettigrew Seconded Stephen Fischer CARRIED

2. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MINUTES

Action item 1: Neil reported that the LED lights have been delivered. There has been a problem in installing 18 of the 80 we have, i.e. a problem with the fittings. An electrician is coming.

Action item 2: Earl, Jodi and Stephen have created an information pack for new players. It includes a welcoming letter aimed at people new to Canberra and new to this club, and information on session times. Something on cost needs to be added.

Action item 3: Requests to the club -- Di Hawke not present.

Action item 4: Car park: a grant application was made to the government. Two quotations were obtained for concreting 6 disabled car spaces (up from 3 currently). Both were \$7200 plus GST. We applied for half that amount as the club has to contribute equally. Neil and Tony will decide which quotation to accept after inspecting sites on which the two contractors have worked.

Henry Hudson has said that he will repair the holes elsewhere in the car park, but has not given a timeframe. Val noted that the state of the car park presents some safety concerns.

It was suggested that we approach the government about allocating disabled car parking spaces in the top car park after we hear about the grant.

MANAGERS' REPORT

A written report was circulated.

The committee agreed that the club should cover the costs for training to become a more senior director for anyone who is working as a director at the CBC.

TREASURER'S REPORT

A written report for the year was tabled.

Neil asked if there was a forecast budget with which to compare these figures. Stephen thought not on a line-by-line basis but will ask.

Neil enquired about the ACT government figure for the unimproved capital value of CBC land. Stephen will follow up.

The fall in evening numbers, albeit an Australia-wide trend, continues to be a concern. CBC would like to run more red point events during day sessions, which are doing well. It was agreed that a teams event should be run during day sessions next April/May, avoiding Easter.

MOTION that table fees for standard sessions at the Canberra Bridge Club Inc. for 2014 be:

\$9 for members;

\$8 for members holding a concession card;

\$5 for students;

\$12 for non-members

Moved Stephen Fischer seconded Jodi Tutty CARRIED

Sebastian noted the increase in ABF capitation fees.

MOTION that the committee recommend to the members at the annual general meeting that membership fees remain unchanged. Moved Stephen Fischer seconded Jodi Tutty CARRIED

5. SUB COMMITTEES

5.1 Membership and Promotion

Jodi met with Val Holbrook, Val Hopwood, Barb Toohey and Sean. A one-day Come n' Try event will be held at the CBC, probably next February. The Tasmanian Bridge Association had 72 players, of whom 50 are continuing, at such a session. The Victorian Bridge Association retained one-third of those who attended their Come n' Try, but other clubs in Melbourne have also gained from it.

It is proposed that Come n' Try be followed by sessions of supervised bridge of three hours duration (not two as currently). Teams of three could be held during these sessions to expose new players to teams events. Helpers will be needed.

These plans need to be marketed. Stephen will take the idea to BFACT to ask for an ABF marketing grant. CBC currently advertises beginners' lessons in the Canberra Times and the Chronicle. We could give flyers to U3A and shops and use online noticeboards and community radio and TV. We should ask other BFACT clubs to promote the Come n' Try day and we will advertise their sessions. If the date is known the day should be advertised at the Joan Butts weekend.

5.2 Tournament & Calendar

5.2.1 The draft 2014 calendar has been circulated. Niek is waiting for Sean to check it. CBC should ensure our congresses are placed on the NSWBA calendar for 2014.

5.2.2 The Australia wide pairs will be held on Friday 30 August 2013 at 1pm.

5.3 Employment & Contracts

nothing to report

5.4 House

5.4.1 The pest and building inspection was carried out by I.B.I.S. Integrated Building and Inspection Services. One recommendation was a cleanup outside the building to reduce termite risk. This should be added to the list for the next working bee.

5.4.2 Neil asked about progress on the energy audit of the club. The managers agreed to follow up on this matter.

5.4.3 The chairs in the playing area are dirty. The cost of steam cleaning is \$10 per chair (i.e. \$1000). MOTION that the chairs be steam cleaned. Moved Stephen Fischer seconded Tony Marker CARRIED.

5.4.4 Stephen proposed that Moccona coffee would now be offered free (instead of 20cents) but that the charge for biscuits rise to 40 cents per packet. It was suggested that placing the biscuits in the playing area rather than the kitchen might encourage better payment. The new arrangements should be advertised in the newsletter.

5.5 Congress and Social

5.5.1 Spring Congress: Karen needs help with the food on Sunday. Some likely candidates were suggested and Stephen will contact them. Christy has given information to Karen and gave a more formal written report to Stephen at the meeting. The Bridge Shop may give vouchers as prizes and Karen has ideas on other possible sponsors.

CBC should try to gain leverage from this year's Centenary Congress in October for our Spring Congress next year by advertising there, obtaining contact details for those who attend and asking what attracts them.

Possibly offers of billeting arrangements or cheaper hotel rates might help.

Other tourist attractions such as the night tours of the Gallery that are offered in January might help.

5.6 BFACT Representative

Despite a lot of work by the manager it has not been easy to promote interest in BFACT's inter-club teams event. Val Holbrook organised a team for the Seniors, with one of those players as captain, but there was less interest in the Restricted event. The players are often playing the same people that they meet in club sessions so the event lacks pizzazz. Val said that the format needs to change and suggested that playing over one weekend would be a better format.

If interest improves, appointing a captain to organise each team for the year may remove the inappropriate load on the managers. Stephen will report back to BFACT.

6. CORRESPONDENCE

In: nil

Out: nil

7. OTHER BUSINESS

7.1 By Laws: The proposed new bylaws have been circulated to the committee. Stephen will check on master points and the events that the club can run and report back. The new bylaws will be voted on at the next meeting.

7.2 Web redesign: Christy and Sebastian hope that this will be operational by the end of the year.

CBC will need a hosting provider who supports Joomla. Christy and Sebastian are looking; Henry Hudson has offered to help.

There are questions of loading content, training Lesley and Val and some technical issues. The site will have the functionality of the current website plus a blogging site, a calendar on the side and a Google maps function. An entry form facility may be added later. The issue of a members-only area for partnerships was raised.

7.3 The committee felt that Jim Stewart's idea of using part of our land for a veterinary hospital would not be possible. Lesley will let him know.

8. NEXT MEETING

Monday 9 September 2013 at 5.30pm in the Clubrooms.

Meeting closed at 7.05 pm.

ACTION ITEMS and Members responsible

Action item 1: installation of LED lights (Neil)

Action item 2: arrangements for bequests to CBC (Di)

Action item 3: chairs steam cleaned (Val/Lesley)

Action item 4: follow up on energy audit (Val/Lesley)

Action item 5: resurfacing of car park (Val/Jodi, Neil/Tony)

Action item 5: forecast budget and UCV of land (Stephen/Andrew)