



## WEST AUSTRALIAN BRIDGE CLUB ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

**DATE:** 15 October 2019 commencing 4.35pm

**VENUE:** West Australian Bridge Club – Swanbourne, WA

**PRESENT:** Dee Sinton, Sheenagh Young, Richard Basham, Helene Kolozs, Peter Sumner, Kitty George, Chris Bagley, Patricia Rosser, Val Fleay, Margaret King, Carol Pocock, Ross Duberal, Patrick Cooney, Jay Medhat, Helen George, Michael George, Jay Wongphasukhot, Kate North, Sylvia Bray, Geoff Yeo, Ravi Soin, Gloria Carlson, Pauline Kelly, Ursula Maitland, John Nelson, Claudette Le Map, Jill Mowson, Ray Purdy, Marg Tierney, Jane Henderson, Sue Broad, Deana Wilson, Kai Ping Chen, Mike McGlone, Sue Madsen, Bernard Yates, Deborah Greenway, Jane Grove, Ruth Harris, Leith Fenbury, Helen King, Margaret Shaw, Dymphna Elsey, Faye Cullen, Richard Elsey, Peggy Hogan, John Hogan, Peta Fuhrmann, Kate Nadebaum, Jan McNab, Susan Clements.

**APOLOGIES:** 104 Apologies recorded in the Attendance Record Book

### MINUTES OF PREVIOUS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING:

The Minutes of the Meeting of 2 October 2018 were accepted.

**Moved:** Jill Mowson      **Seconded:** Pauline Kelly      **All in favour**

### MATTERS ARISING:

The feasibility of changing from china to bio-degradable cups was researched, however, no suitable alternative to the china cups was available. Subsequently, the dishwashing machine has been upgraded to ensure cups are being hygienically cleaned.

### PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Good afternoon everyone.

Having now completed a year as President I would firstly like to thank those who have been so helpful and supportive during this time. I won't attempt to name all individuals singularly as these have been so numerous that I am sure there is a chance I may neglect to mention someone.

The Management Committee made up of a team of people with such diversified talents has been a delight to work with and their efforts have often been beyond the call of duty. The

Tournament Committee have worked so very quietly and efficiently in organising and ensuring the smooth running of so many events. The Finance Committee have so diligently overseen our money matters and let's not forget the Library Committee who spend so many hours up-keeping our superb library. My special thanks go to our Executive Officer Sheenagh Young who has been my tower of strength with her amazing management skills and knowledge of all things bridge and at times her even more amazing patience with me.

Importantly there are also so many volunteers who work behind the scenes, to mention just a few, our garden guardian, the book exchange ladies, the Saturday cheese roster people, those on bar duty, those who have organised catering for events, those who have donated food, those who have willingly participated in the monthly roster of clearing up the tea stations and those who quietly help clean cups and so on.

Of course what would we do without our Directors and those who oversee the supervised sessions, the mentors and the Recorders with their sometimes unenviable task, our Partnership Coordinator, the producers of our Focus magazine and so many more.

Thanks also to our Patrons Helen George and Peter Smith who are always there when needed and to our Honorary Auditor Bill Chambers so willingly giving of his services.

All these people make it possible to successfully run this Club which is so important in the lives of so many of us.

This year has been a busy one with one of the most noticeable changes being the retirement of Peter Smith our esteemed teacher for over thirty years. Thanks to Peter's cooperation the handover to his successor Andy Hung has taken place remarkably smoothly. Andy has now settled in and proven himself with his teaching skills and easy-going personality.

There have been many successful events held during this past year including our Winter Super Congress, organised by the Tournament Committee, convened by Sheenagh Young, directed by Matt McManus and complimented by superb catering headed up by Robin Paterson and Kerry Barns. The sponsorship of TBIB, Broadway Travel, Ross Harper, John Beddow, Richard Basham and others was much appreciated.

Our Charity Day was also a great success raising over \$4,000.00 for donation to the Angel Hands organisation. Our thanks to Sylvia Bray and Pauline Kelly who played a major part in organising the raffle of goods so kindly donated by our members.

This year has also seen the finalisation of the renewal of our lease from the Nedlands Council the current term now expiring in June 2026. This certainly is reassuring to say the least.

The installation of solar panels was completed in February and as a result we are already experiencing remarkable savings in our electricity costs.

Unfortunately after eleven years our building has required some major repairs including the replacement of all toilet pedestals and cisterns and the renewal of the floor covering to the bar and kitchen areas. These repairs have been completed with minimal inconvenience to

members although proving to be a rather expensive exercise. No doubt Richard will make mention of this in his Treasurer's report.

On a happier note, you would all have noticed the facelift to the playing area with the replacement of the table cloths so skilfully made by our Management Committee member Kate North.

Although our membership still remains at over 1000, at the instigation of Richard Basham with the cooperation of John Nelson, it is envisaged that a Strategic Plan and Marketing Program be established in the near future to ensure the ongoing success and stability of the Club.

Also on the agenda is the establishment of a credit card facility and the ability to prepay table monies.

In addition, as a result of the recent theft of 90 metres of metal cabling, which thankfully has been covered by our insurance, it is obvious that it will be necessary to install a more secure meter box and to upgrade the security of the Club building and surrounds probably with CCTV, security lighting etc. It is hoped that an approach made to the Nedlands Council will result in their willingness to share in some of this expense.

Finally, thank you for re-electing me as President for a further year. I can only promise to do my best and would appreciate any suggestions you might have to assist me in so doing.

Dee Sinton  
President.

### **TREASURER'S REPORT 2019:**

Ladies and gentlemen;

This year our surplus decreased from \$20,442 in 2018 to \$4,288

The major reasons were; firstly, writing off the unamortised cost of the toilets and kitchen floor of \$8,000 which were replaced, and secondly a decrease in net income from investments of \$8,000 being equally split between realised losses on sale of investments and less in distributions from managed funds.

The good news on investments is at 30 June the market value of our investments was \$51,520 above the cost of those investments. As of today the market value is now \$64,000 above cost. The portfolio still remains reasonably defensive with about 48 % in equities and 52% in fixed interest investments.

During the year we placed a further \$127,000 into our investment account, spent \$18,000 on new toilets and kitchen floor, and \$26,000 on our solar power installation. Our current electricity bills are approximately 50% of the previous year, which is better than the expected 37%.

Looking at next year. We have increased directors' fees for the first time in 4 years. This will increase costs by approximately \$12,000. We are also reviewing other salaries within the Club. The building is now 12 years old and we recognise that costs of maintenance will rise. There will be a cost of making

secure the power box by Odern Rd. Assuming the new lease is signed this may result in a lower cost of amortization of leasehold improvements.

My thanks to Sheenagh and Bill for their help during the year

In conclusion, the Club is in sound financial position.

Richard Basham

Treasurer.

The Library Report for 2019 was tabled by the President.

## **LIBRARY REPORT 2019**

The library has continued its success as an integral part of our bridge community. The library committee has worked hard to maintain the excellent service it provides to the bridge members. There have been some internal changes to the committee during the year, we thank Zinni Browne and Gary Wood for their assistance and work on the committee.

During the year we have welcomed Jacqui Ecclestone to the group and her background in libraries is recognised. Jacqui has already become a welcome member to our group. The other members of the committee have continued with their roles and are very efficient, in all regards. Specifically, this includes:

Alison Rigg – cataloguer

June Fox – acquisitions and treasurer

Jan Cain – periodicals

Dorothy Cain – loans

Mal Clark – library committee Jacqui Ecclestone – library committee

The allocated budget has allowed the successful running of the library and supported its relevance within the club community. June, as Treasurer, has submitted her report separately to the Management Committee. Expenditure has included the purchase of new resources, processing and maintenance of the materials, and the replacement of items identified as missing, and worthy of being replaced. Members have been asked to pay for lost books, in line with usual library practice. The usual activities for the bridge committee have included the daily running of loans and returns; the purchasing of new materials, as requested by our patrons through the suggestion box, or as identified by our committee members; the processing of the items – cataloguing and general preparing of them for the shelf and for them then to be available for borrowing is undertaken by the team. At all times, our committee is happy to answer questions about our borrowing procedures, and general assistance with locating items.

The annual stocktake was also an integral part of the library's activities and drew together the team to work on checking the collection in its entirety - included the checking of the periodicals and binding. Few items were deemed missing, and there is hope for their return. As the library, for the most part relies on an honour system, books being in places other than where they should be, happens from time to time.

As in previous years, many generous donations have been made – these are a valuable addition to our collection, although each item needs to be weighed up and identified as complementing our existing items.

The club is fortunate to have such a great group of volunteers offering their services each week, and I personally would like to acknowledge their efforts in continuing to support the library in all its

aspects, thus ensuring that the members of the club have the opportunity to source appropriate materials on the range of topics suitable to each.

Val Baird  
WABC Librarian

**AUDITOR'S REPORT 2019:**

Our Auditor, Bill Chambers, reported that the accounts had been examined and were a true and correct record.

**NOTICES OF MOTION:** No notices were registered

**ELECTION OF HONORARY AUDITOR:**

Bill Chambers was elected unanimously to continue as Honorary Auditor.

**ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS:**

President:	Dee Sinton
Secretary:	Sylvia Bray
Treasurer:	Richard Basham
Committee:	Kate North
	David Burn
	Robin Paterson
	Kate Nadebaum
	Jan McNab
	Gloria Carlson
	John Rigg

**GENERAL BUSINESS:** Nil

**PRESENTATION OF PATRON'S CUP: The Mabs McCulloch Trophy – 2019 winner**

The Patron, Helen George, presented Kate North with the trophy.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 4.55pm.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
**President**