



WEST AUSTRALIAN BRIDGE CLUB ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2021 MINUTES

DATE: 12 October 2021 commencing 4.30pm

VENUE: West Australian Bridge Club – Swanbourne, WA

PRESENT: Sheenagh Young, Jean Hill, Richard Basham, Kate North, Rhona Barton, Helen George, Michael George, Alison Rigg, Kitty George, John Rigg, Prue Hart, Jacqui Ecclestone, Janine Hughes, Jane Henderson, Carla Sullivan, Sheryl Every, Kate Nadebaum, Val Keevil, Peter Sumner, Ray Purdy, Margaret Tierney, Claudette Le Map, Deborah Greenway, Bernard Yates, Aruni Bandarage, John Bell, Anne-Marie Marias, Lyn Hughes, Peter Smith, Jeff Velling, Beverley Hunt, Jane Grove, Helen King, Vanessa Starcevich, Jocelyn Parry, Cynthia Mathews, Jill Mowson, Peta Fuhrmann, Judith Wilson, Helene Kolosz Shelley James, Eve Clarkson, Carol Pocock, Brian Embleton, Gloria Carlson, Tracy Kudelka, Sylvia Bray.

APOLOGIES: There were 35 Apologies recorded in the Attendance Record Book

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING:

The Minutes of the Meeting of 13 October 2020 were accepted.

Moved: Rhona Barton **Seconded:** Helen King **All agreed**

MATTERS ARISING: Nil

PRESIDENT'S 2021 REPORT

Good afternoon everyone and thank you for attending this AGM.

As you are aware, at the beginning of my term we were under many Covid-19 restrictions. We were able to hold our Christmas Congress, Christmas Party and prize presentations under these restrictions. It was after the party that we returned to providing the biscuits and cheese, to everyone's relief.

This year has been challenging. The main focus of the Management Committee was to improve the numbers playing at the club. We had two further brief lockdowns, one in early February and the other over the Anzac Day weekend, each lockdown affected our attendance numbers.

The Marketing Committee has come up with the novel idea of holding Super Saturdays and Fabulous Fridays. These have been extremely successful with record attendance. Our thanks to John Nelson and his team of Prue Hart and Jacqui Ecclestone with the added assistance of Sheenagh Young who designed the novel personal scorers. We have a sponsor for these events, Aspire2 Wealth, thanks to John Rigg.

Trumps Plus has made a welcome return and is published bi-monthly by John Nelson and the marketing team.

There have been many successful events held this year including our Winter Congress, organised by the Tournament Committee, convened by Kitty George and directed by David Burn, ably assisted by Peter Hicks. The catering was organised by Kerry Barns, assisted by Sylvia Bray and was appreciated by all.

Our Charity Day was another success despite having to be postponed a fortnight due to a lockdown. We raised \$4,000 for Zephyr Education. They subsequently provided a full report of where the money was used which was well received by our members. Our thanks to Jacqui Ecclestone, Prue Hart and Heather Bannerman who organised the collection of raffle goods that were kindly donated by the members.

Find a Partner Session was held in September and was a great success. This session was introduced as a way to improve our attendance as often people want to play but don't have a partner. We plan to run these sessions every term.

We installed handrails in the toilets, hoses have been fitted to the Zip taps to prevent overflow of hot water and we now have a credit card facility that has been hugely appreciated by the members. We also now have the long awaited directional arrows placed in the car park with a speed limit sign erected at the entrance.

As you are aware we have proposed new neighbours, the Perth Children's Hospice. In view of being neighbourly, we accepted their request to use our premises for the Hospice Foundation to run two information sessions, one for members of the public and one for a media presentation. It is proposed that the construction of this hospice will commence in February 2022. There will most likely be inconvenience to our members during this time, but we will be negotiating with the Foundation on any issues that arise.

Due to Covid-19 travel restrictions, Andy Hung was unable to hold any lessons last term. Thankfully he's back and lessons can now resume. Our members have been very patient waiting for Andy's return.

I would like to express my thanks to so many people who have contributed their services in making this wonderful club of ours function so smoothly. We have so many volunteers giving their time, in the library, the mentoring programme, book exchange, bar roster, Saturday cheese roster, tea rotation duty, gardening, duty partners, food donation and preparation – just too many to name, but thank you all. We have the Directors with the important role of supervision of play, the Recorders with their diplomacy with complaints, our patrons Helen George and Peter Smith, who are there for advice when needed, and our Honorary Auditor, Steve Ledger, who willingly provides us with his services. The Directors have been provided with T-shirts so they are easily recognisable.

Many thanks to the Tournament Committee who competently organise our tournaments and events, to the Finance Committee and Marketing Committee who have worked diligently throughout the year. Many thanks to our Executive Officer, Sheenagh Young who has provided support to me and the Management Committee members. Sheenagh runs the office with diligence and amazing efficiency which truly amazes me. Her knowledge of the history of the bridge club and bridge related matters prevents us from making errors.

Lastly, but not least, my thanks to the Management Committee who have provided me with such great support and advice when needed. This Committee has been a great team and I thank you all sincerely.

Finally, thank you for re-electing me as President for another year. I will do my best and hope that if you have any ideas that would improve the club that you will share them with me.

Kate North
President

TREASURER'S 2021 REPORT

I have pleasure in presenting the Club's audited Financial Statements for the Year ended 30 June 2021

It has been a year of recovery from the Covid shutdown. We have come out reasonably well with a net profit for the year of \$6,830.

We were fortunate that net investment income, before a capital loss of \$6,758, went from \$40,275 in 2020 to \$77,558 this year. The first time investment income was more than income from Members Subscriptions.

I am regularly asked how attendance at bridge sessions are going. The figures for the last three years for the first quarter of each year are:

Pre Covid	1 July to 30 September 2019	9,828
Post Covid	1 July to 30 September 2020	7,516
This Year	1 July to 30 September 2021	8,892

Our membership dropped about 10% over the Covid period so that probably explains why attendances are not back to pre Covid times.

On the balance sheet we invested approximately \$183,000 out of cash resources into investments. This, together with capital appreciation meant our risk profile was slightly amended but is still quite conservative. The market value of our investments at 30 June 2021 was \$1,578,682 and is \$121,292 over cost.

At balance date there was \$24,000 in unredeemed tokens.

Before taking questions I would like to thank Steve Ledger for carrying out the audit in an efficient and fairly painless manner and to Sheenagh for keeping the records in good shape.

Richard Basham
Treasurer.

AUDITOR'S REPORT 2021:

Our Auditor, Steve Ledger, reported that the accounts for 2021 had been examined and were a true and correct record, and assured members that the Club is in a good financial position. Steve thanked the Treasurer and Sheenagh Young for their assistance throughout the year.

NOTICES OF MOTION: No notices were registered

ELECTION OF HONORARY AUDITOR:

Steve Ledger, practising Chartered Accountant has agreed to undertake the audit for the coming year.

ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS:

Members of the 2021 Management Committee are as follows:

President:	Kate North
Secretary:	Sylvia Bray
Treasurer:	Richard Basham
Committee:	Brian Embleton
	Bernard Yates
	Jacqui Ecclestone
	Prue Hart
	Janine Hughes
	Eve Clarkson
	Carla Sullivan

Retiring members from the Management Committee are Heather Bannerman, Gloria Carlson and John Rigg. They were presented with a gift of appreciation for their services, and were unanimously applauded by members.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

- Jane Grove enquired whether the installation of solar panels had reduced our power bills. The Treasurer assured members that power bills had been reduced to approximately half. It will be a few more years before the investment pays for itself.
- Shelley James congratulated the Management Committee on undertaking the solar panel installation.
- Anne-Marie Marias suggested the possibility of introducing school children to bridge by incorporating bridge into their maths lessons, an idea which was being utilised in schools in other states.
- Claudette Le Map mentioned that there was an opportunity to offer bridge lessons to gifted students who are currently playing chess, and that many of these students are not aware of the game of bridge. The Treasurer asked Claudette to email details of this proposal, for consideration by the Management Committee.
- Kitty George informed members that WABC teams Inter-Club Divisions have performed very well, with A and B Divisions finishing first, and another first is likely in the Novice division.

PRESENTATION OF PATRON'S CUP: The Mabs McCulloch Trophy – 2021 winner

Peter Smith, and Helen George as Patrons, presented the 2021 winner, Kate North, with the trophy. Kate thanked members and the Committee.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 5.00 pm.

Signed: _____ Date: _____
President