

NEW SOUTH WALES BRIDGE ASSOCIATION (ACN 000 438 648)

56th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Held at Rush Espresso Bar terrace, 162 Goulburn Street, Sydney

Wednesday 12 December 2018

MINUTES

1. Opening

The Secretary of the NSWBA declared that a quorum was present. The Chairman of Council took the chair and declared the meeting open at 5.32pm.

2. Apologies

Apologies were noted from Warren Lazer, John McIlrath, Bob Sebesfi and George Finikiotis.

3. Confirmation of Minutes of Annual General Meeting 20 December 2017

Motion (Richard Douglas/Agnes Levine.) *That, with one small amendment, the circulated minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting held on Wednesday 20 December 2017 be accepted as a true and accurate record of the proceedings of the meeting.*

Motion carried.

4. Business arising from the Minutes

There was no business arising from the minutes.

5. Correspondence

There was no correspondence to report.

6. Annual Report and Financial Statements

The 2018 Annual Report had been circulated. The report included separate statements from the Chairman, Treasurer, Tournament Committee Chairman and Club Operations.

The Treasurer noted that the profit for the year ended 30 September 2018 was \$16,157 down from \$51,239 the previous year. The reduced profit was due to the high travel subsidy requirements for State teams, with the Australian National Championships held in Hobart this year. The grant expected next year in Melbourne will be less.

In respect of income there has been little change from the previous year. Increases in expenditure were mainly due to Rozelle increased rent.

The segmented financials represent the hybrid nature of NSWBA being comprised of membership by affiliated clubs as one set of stakeholders, tournament level players another and the third group being Sydney Bridge Centre session players and workshop attendees.

NEW SOUTH WALES BRIDGE ASSOCIATION (ACN 000 438 648)

56th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Discussion ensued in relation to the costs of the NSWBA owned Goulburn Street premises. The key fact is that Goulburn Street is underutilised and expensive to operate. The Council will need to explore further options to generate more income from the use of the premises.

The Chairman spoke of the ongoing concerns regarding the financial viability of the Goulburn Street premises. He referred to last year's AGM where the issue of selling the premises came up. He explained that running bridge here is not financially easy. He acknowledged John Scudder's services as volunteer manager of the club during the year noting that this won't continue. The next Council must have a look at how it can either use the premises more efficiently, lease them out or run more bridge. A debt free asset does not mean a viable operation indefinitely. The Chairman noted the new Council made up of some members for whom this is their home club and have a passion for this club. The Chairman advised that he will not be spending a great deal of time from now on in Sydney and is stepping aside from the position.

The Chairman expressed his thanks to Council, particularly John Scudder and Warren Lazer who have worked for many, many years to make the club viable and successful. He acknowledged Dave Weston's huge contribution as NSW State Masterpoint Secretary; Pauline Gumby as Webmaster and Wing Roberts for her efforts in her role. He acknowledged the contribution of Julian Foster as the acting Treasurer and would address more about him later in the meeting.

He wished the new council all the best for 2019.

The Tournament Committee Report and Club Operations Report were tabled.

Motion (Agnes Levine / David Weston) *That the Annual Report be accepted.*

Motion carried

7. Special Business—

7.1 Motion to amend Constitution

Notice had been given of a motion by Agnes Levine, seconded by Rob Ward to amend the Constitution in relation to a proposed addition to the Constitution of a new subclause under clause 15 headed "17 a." as follows:

Notwithstanding any other provision contained in this Constitution, it is expressly declared and acknowledged that if the Council shall delegate any of its powers to a committee entitled "NSWBA Congress Disciplinary & Ethics Committee" where such committee is charged with the supervision and enforcement of an authorised "Code of Conduct" and / or "Ethics" pursuant to relevant New South Wales Bridge Association Limited Tournament Regulations, it will not be necessary for such committee's chairman or its acting chairman or any member of such committee, to be a member of Council.

NEW SOUTH WALES BRIDGE ASSOCIATION (ACN 000 438 648)

56th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

After the Explanatory Memorandum was read the Chairman noted that the CD&EC had been established, borrowing from the Victorian model, to address issues specifically related to conduct at congresses statewide. The NSWBA affiliated clubs had been consulted and the establishment of the Committee had been welcomed. All players at Congresses agree to abide by NSWBA Tournament Regulations.

Maeve Doyle spoke against the Motion expressing concerns that the Committee should only be making recommendations to the Council enabling Council to make decisions. She was of the view that the amendment provides too much power to the Committee.

Discussion ensued and the Chairman called for a vote resulting in 26 voting for the motion and 2 against.

Motion carried with a 75% majority.

7.2 Life Membership

The Chairman spoke of Julian Foster's enormous contribution to the Council over the past sixteen years as Councillor, Chairman and Treasurer. He praised his dedication, efficiency, knowledge and his being "a great person to work with."

Motion (Richard Douglas / Fraser Rew)

In accordance with clause 12(4) of the NSWBA Constitution, the Council recommends that Julian Foster be voted a Life Member at this meeting

Motion carried unanimously.

8. Election of Council Chairman, Treasurer and Councillors

8.1 Chairman

A nomination had been received in respect of John Scudder. There were no other nominations and he was declared elected.

8.2 Treasurer

A nomination had been received in respect of Richard Lock. There were no other nominations and he was declared elected.

8.3 Six Ordinary Councillors

Six nominations had been received for the six positions.

The nominees were Catherine Chaffey, Phillip Halloran, Warren Lazer, Agnes Levine, Mick McAuliffe and Rob Ward and they were declared elected.

NEW SOUTH WALES BRIDGE ASSOCIATION (ACN 000 438 648)

56th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

8.4 Zonal Councillors

Nominations had been received as follows:

Southern & Western Zone Kaye Hart

Metropolitan Zone Carol Sheldrake

Outer Metropolitan Zone Alan Bustany

Kaye Hart, Carol Sheldrake and Alan Bustany were declared appointed.

No nomination was received from Northern Zone. In accordance with the constitution, this position will be filled by Council.

9. Appointment of Honorary Solicitor

One nomination had been received for the position of Honorary Solicitor, that of Warren Robinson. Warren Robinson was declared elected.

10. Appointment of Auditor

Motion (Richard Lock/Julian Foster) *That CBC Partners be appointed Auditor of New South Wales Bridge Association Limited for 2018-2019.*

Motion carried.

11. General Business

There was no general business.

12. Closure

The meeting was declared closed at 6.13pm.