



Gold Coast Bridge Club

ABN 75 009 877 749

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Minutes of 2016 Annual General Meeting

Held on Saturday 19th September 2016 at 11:00 am.

Welcome by the Chair

The President Dianne Hodges chaired the meeting, thanked club members for showing their support and interest in our club by attending the 52nd AGM and noted a quorum was present.

Confirmation of the Minutes of the last Annual General Meeting;

The Chair noted the minutes of the 2015 AGM had been affixed to the notice board for some time. The following motion was moved by Valerie Reuter-Buck and seconded by Bernie Nightingale and put to the vote: "*That the Minutes of the 2015 AGM be confirmed*".

The Chair declared the motion carried on the voices.

Annual Report of the Board

The President Dianne Hodges stated she is happy and honoured to deliver the Annual Report of the Board and also to be continuing in the role of President for the next year. Dianne promised to work together with all the other board members to keep the club running smoothly and efficiently and to keep this club a happy and friendly place to come and play bridge.

The President asked the assembly to join her in a round of applause to say thank you to our wonderful Board members, Paul Brake, Valerie Reuter-Buck, Neil Raward, Krystyna Homik, Tony Berger, Philip Roberts, Julie Wicks, Grace Henry, Jane Swanson and Lynley Jenkins. The board has worked very hard during the last year and we thank them all most sincerely for the time they have so willingly given our club. Thanks also to all our other wonderful volunteers who work behind the scenes in so many ways - our office volunteers, our dealers, our Membership and Masterpoint secretaries, our directors, and the many other members who help in all sorts of ways. It is amazing the number of different roles in a bridge club and the number of people needed to keep it running. We are all so lucky to belong to a club where so many people give freely and willingly of their time. Don't forget though, that none of us are getting any younger and if anyone has the time and energy to volunteer we will always find something for you to do. Thanks also to Chris Smith and Carole Millar who do a wonderful job in the kitchen, working hard and doing way more than what we pay them for.

This last year has again seen a lot of improvements to our building. Tony Berger has capably managed all the renovations keeping costs down and continues to make an amazing contribution to the Gold Coast Bridge Club. The renovations to both ladies and men's toilets were big jobs. We are sure you will all agree the new modern facilities are a great improvement. The ladies toilet was partly funded by the \$35,000 grant the club received from the Gaming Fund to build the dealer's room and disabled toilet, but the male toilet renovation was totally funded by the club. We also installed new flooring in the toilets, the front of the kitchen area and inside the kitchen, which as well as looking bright and modern is much safer as it is non-slip.

We also applied for a grant from the Federal Government (many thanks to Valerie who does a great job with our Grant Applications), through Steve Ciobo's office. It was a dollar for dollar grant of \$10,000 which we have used to upgrade technology in the club as well as setting up a new bridge library. This is nearly ready to be used - housed in the new shelving Tony has put up between the dealer's room door and the door of the disabled toilet. It will be great for members to be able to access up-to-date bridge books and programs. Tony is also busy converting the old bar area into a teaching and library desk. This will have a pull-down shutter matching the new electronic shutter we have installed in the kitchen during the year. We have installed new hot-water heaters for tea and coffee during the year and replaced the members' drinks fridge.

The new smart TV also bought with the Federal Grant and linked to our new Directors laptop means that at future congresses and Honour Board events, results will be displayed on the TV instead of on paper on the notice board, making it much easier for everyone to read. The new TV can also be used as a teaching resource as well as for regular viewing.

Our biggest expenditure was replacing the air-conditioning system. The board made the decision in January after repairs on the 20 year old unit, that we would not spend any more money on the old unit. Tony negotiated a great deal on our new air-conditioner, \$20,000 less than some of the quotes and had it replaced during winter. As you have probably all noticed it is extremely efficient and will cost a lot less to run. Tony is also gradually replacing the fluorescent tubes in the club with LED lighting, again to keep our power costs down. We also worked with Vision Stream to make sure power to the club was not compromised ever again by power to the Telstra Tower.

We are also in the process of replacing our security system in the club and installing more flood-lighting to keep the building safer. Unfortunately the area around us has changed and we need to make sure the club and our members are secure at all times.

The dealing team - John Glennie, Peter Staines, Ruth Young and our latest recruit Jeff Wicks - has done a sterling job all year and as well have also replaced many of our boards and playing cards and we thank them for their hard work.

Tony also organised for new line marking in our car park which was also swept and cleaned. We had some landscaping done in the car park and we now have a regular gardener to keep the outside of the club tidy. Our next project - for which Valerie has applied for a grant from the Gaming Fund is to build an awning over our entrance ramp to make it easier for all-weather drop-offs.

Thanks to Cecily Critchley and Lynley Jenkins, our lessons have again been very successful with nearly 100% of all students joining the club and playing regularly. By providing follow-up to lessons with Help-With-Play sessions our rookies are into regular club bridge in no time. Thank you Cecily for chairing our IT Committee to look at the club's IT needs and for coordinating the spending of the Federal Grant money. We have also appointed outside computer expertise using a firm called Hi-Tec.

Our numbers are a little up on last year with 394 members but our playing numbers have significantly increased with Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday attracting very good numbers. In fact we are presently trialling non-playing directors on those days to keep play moving smoothly and quickly.

We also set up an Events Committee, a first for our club, to look at events in the club prior to the 2017 Diary being completed and many thanks to Neil Raward, Cecily Critchley, Michael Aitkin and Odette Hall, for their contributions to this important job.

Once again Paul Brake ably assisted by Marlene Dwyer, Cheryl Hensel and Cheryl Millar have done a great job of managing the club's finances and we thank Paul very much for the time he puts into the Treasurer's role.

Valerie Reuter-Buck has been a fantastic club secretary for the past two years and has also taken on many other roles. She has now written 25 procedures and kept them updated for every role in the club which puts us in an absolutely unique position. We don't think there would be another bridge club in the country with this resource. It means everyone can step into a position when needed, but as well as this we have worked very hard during the last year to have back up people learn the important jobs in the club, in case of illness or for when our volunteers are away. Valerie has also handled club advertising, leading to great support for our lessons as well as bringing in new members. She has also revamped all our club forms - about 40 forms and they are now online ready to be run off when needed.

Neil Raward has once again been an amazing Vice-President and Chairman of our Tournament Committee among his other roles. In spite of his fight with cancer this year he still reviewed the Rules and Regulations and produced new By-Laws and a new Code of Conduct with Paul Brake. He also continues to produce the Monthly Newsletter which he has been doing for 10 years. We are all so grateful and happy that he is in remission from his throat cancer. He will continue on the Board but is stepping down as Vice-President and will be replaced in this role by Philip Roberts.

Krystyna Homik has continued to find new sponsors for the club including the Eye and Laser Centre and Heritage Funeral Directors as well as new sponsorships from club members. Kystyna will continue to look after club sponsorships. We would like to thank all our wonderful sponsors and remind members to support them when possible. Thank you also to Grace Henry, Philip Roberts our legal eagle on the board, Julie Wicks (who is taking over the Secretary's role) and Jane Swanson for their contributions during the year.

Again the Gold Coast Bridge Club has continued the proud tradition of having State and Australian players in our club. We are so proud of Jessica Brake who represented Australia in the Under 25 Women's Team which won a silver medal in Italy recently. Jessica has also represented Queensland during the year and is our newest Director in the club. We have had five members represent the club this year at national and international bridge events.

We are continuing to create more Red Point and Super-Green point events for all members to make sure that all sections of our club have the opportunity to play and gain points in these events. We are also holding a new Inter-Club event with Twin Towns Bridge Club and also held a very successful Teams of 3 Event during the year. We continue to look at new ways we can promote this great game. We would like to thank Margaret Pisko, Tom Strong and Ruth Young who have been our club representatives on the Zone Committee.

We continue to promote the Gold Coast Bridge Club wherever possible; on radio, in our free Gold Coast papers and we also for the first time promoted the club this year at a Seniors' Expo at Runaway Bay. The President also gave a talk at Robina Library in March.

That's nearly all but we would like to thank most sincerely Valerie Reuter-Buck, Grace Henry and Krystyna Homik who are stepping down from the board. They have all played significant roles on the board and we thank them for their hard work and dedication. We are happy to welcome Lesley Sutherland, Odette Hall and Margaret Williamson to the Board for the next year and we know the club will value their ideas and input.

The President concluded by saying that once again it has been a busy and productive year for our club and she feels justly proud of all that we have achieved this year. We have a wonderful club with friendly members and great camaraderie and of course the main reason for our existence, the fascinating and addictive game of bridge.

Statement of Accounts for the year ending 30th June 2016

Paul Brake presented the audited accounts, and reported that the club had made an accounting profit of \$43,000 for the year. He noted the club currently seeks to operate on a broad "not for profit" basis and at the moment the Board did not consider it necessary to raise playing fees. However, the position would continue to be monitored and there was always a possibility that the incoming Board would need to increase playing fees.

The following motion was moved by Rhonda Peachey, seconded by Margaret Day and put to the vote:
"That the Statement of Accounts for the year ending 30 June 2016 be received".

The Chair declared the motion carried on the voices.

Discussing and voting upon motions proposed by the Board

Motion 1

The following motion was moved by Paul Brake, seconded by Yvonne Wain and put to the vote:

"That the term for which Dianne Hodges can hold office as President be extended by one further term".

The Chair declared the motion carried as a special resolution. For the sake of completeness, it was noted that no votes were cast against such motion.

Motion 2

The following motion was moved by Paul Brake, seconded by Valerie Reuter-Buck and put to the vote:

"That Cecily Critchley be granted Life Membership of the Club".

The Chair declared the motion carried on the voices.

Motion 3

The following motion was moved by Bernard Nightingale, seconded by Saftica Popa and put to the vote:

"That Lynley Jenkins be granted Life Membership of the Club"

The Chair declared the motion carried on the voices.

Motion 4

The following motion was moved by Dianne Hodges, seconded by Saftica Popa and put to the vote:

"That this meeting notes the club's existing delegates to the Gold Coast Zone established by the Queensland Bridge Association are Margaret Pisko, Tom Strong and Ruth Young and endorses the Board's decision to continue such appointments."

The Chair declared the motion carried on the voices.

Election of Directors/Board Members

The Chair

- noted that the club was, in law, a Corporation under the Corporations Act, and Board Members were Directors of the Corporation
- noted all existing Directors/Board Members retire at this AGM, but were, subject to the Corporations Act, eligible for re-election
- noted that the number of candidates standing for election did not exceed the number of positions available
- thanked all Members who were standing for election and introduced the proposed incoming Directors/Board Members.

Director/Board Member & President	Di Hodges
Director/Board Member & Vice-President	Philip Roberts
Director/Board Member & Treasurer	Paul Brake
Director/Board Member & Secretary	Julie Wicks
Director/Board Member	Neil Raward
Director/Board Member	Tony Berger
Director/Board Member	Lynley Jenkins
Director/Board Member	Odette Hall
Director/Board Member	Leslie Sutherland
Director/Board Member	Margaret Williamson
Director/Board Member	Jane Swanson

The Chair noted it seemed simpler that one resolution be put to the meeting to elect all candidates.

The following motion was moved by Sue Herse, seconded by Lorraine Twyford and put to the vote:

"That the appointments or confirmations of Board Members may be voted on together".

The Chair declared the motion carried on the voices. For the sake of completeness it was noted no votes were cast against such motion.

The following motion was moved by Sue Herse, seconded by Lorraine Twyford and put to the vote:

"That each of the candidates to the Board be elected".

The Chair declared the motion carried on the voices.

Appointment of the Club's Auditor

The Treasurer noted that the club's current auditor was Paul Teefy Accountants Pty Ltd, and it was envisaged that such arrangements continue.

The following motion was moved by Paul Brake, seconded by Bernie Nightingale and put to the vote:

"That Paul Teefy Accountants Pty Ltd be appointed the club's auditor for the financial year ending 30 June 2017."

The Chair declared the motion carried on the voices.

Discussing and voting upon members motions

The Chair advised that no motions had been received from members.

General discussion

Items of general interest were discussed for improving club services and a possible increase of fees. The Secretary advised that Queensland Bridge Association will be raising membership fees in 2017.

Close of meeting

The Chair closed the meeting at 11:50 am.

Chair of AGM 2016

Date

Chair of AGM 2017

Date