

WAIKATO BAYS REGIONAL COMMITTEE

**Minutes of WBRC meeting 23rd February 2025,
held on Zoom at 5pm**



Attendees: Alan Dick, Greg Davenport, Gillian Corbett, Until 6.15pm: Kevin Whyte, Hugh McAlister, Nick Saunders

Minutes of December meeting: as circulated, Approved

Matters arising:

Welcome to Gillian.

Correspondence:

In:

A number of Tournament changes have been requested and sorted out
Mt Maunganui Bay Pairs is to be held the day after the Spa town teams but they seem to be happy to go ahead with this as indicated by Hugh.

From

Nick

Tournament confirmation has been received from the Waitomo club

From NZ Bridge re Lesson Books

Various correspondence has been received from the Tournament Review Group re the Dan Gifford Rubber bridge competition

Various posters for circulation have been received

NZ Bridge Board meeting minutes

Hamilton Swiss pairs Metropolitan tournament to be held in June

From Cambridge re the Interclub teams

Hamilton Waikato Bays region Swiss pairs re playing NS and EW

Regional committee terms of reference up date. Meeting last week. Nick cannot report back at this stage.

Online directing at Clubs course

Out:

Various tournament changes and confirmations to Tournament schedule

Hugh to Richard Solomon re the Directors' forum

Hugh to Marcus and Greg re Youth Bridge

Finance:

Last payment was to Ella Gray last year. [Kevin]

7th and 8th January business plans filed and sent out and complying with requirements.

Budget has been sent to NZ Bridge

Licence for Zoom to be reimbursed to Alan \$265.43.

Milan Website use [\$ 292] has been paid. We have hosted Katikati and Omokoroa who also have to pay for their share.

Email: secretarywbbc@gmail.com • Web: www.waikatobays.bridge-club.org



General Business

Spa Town Teams and Director and Scorers' Forum:

It was agreed that a Directors' day should be held the day after the Spa Town Teams event.

Alan agreed to contact Alan Joseph re the running of the Directors' forum. Hugh will not be available on the day but Alan Dick will cover for him as long as he is briefed by Hugh with a list of topics to be covered. Alan will contact Richard Solomon with regard to this arrangement and a cost sharing for the day.

There was much discussion about the Scorers education forum which it was agreed should be conducted simultaneously with the Directors' forum. Hugh and Nick as leaders of both forums agreed. Alan will contact Bob Fearn to see if he could Zoom in particularly in view of the New Compass system. A late afternoon slot would be useful.

The involvement of Mike Newton was regarded as important. Hugh will contact him for his inclusion. He could be very important for the audio visual presentation and could help Michael Neels in his presentation. An interactive session would be useful. Clubs to be contacted to see what subjects they would feel is relevant for the forum. Alan will also discuss this with Alan Joseph.

It was generally agreed that at the club level scoring can be problematic and that Michael Neels or Bob Fearn are frequently called upon for their expertise but that he cannot be expected always to be available. Nick has developed a screen shot program [40 pages] step by step for scorers. Scorers at Te Awamutu have been helped considerably by this program. Alan suggested that Nick make his system available on the website. He is agreeable to this happening. Kevin suggested that if there as a list of scorers Nick's guide could be channelled to them on the Website. Greg felt that it is a good idea to have interactive screens for scorers. Hugh pushed for a "teaching library" to be available for scorers on the website. On What's App people are wanting simple scoring sessions by Michael Neels on Zoom. Hugh suggested that Greg and Michael get together to plan such sessions.

It was agreed that it would be useful to have Nick's program presented at the Scorers forum.

Alan to contact Alan Joseph re the forum to get his input

Venue for the meeting: Matamata is too small to manage such a combined forum. Hamilton, Tauranga and Rotorua suggested. Alan to approach the Rotorua club in the first instance.

Tournament Director Request:

Hugh noted that it would be useful to have a list of directors who are prepared to be approached by other clubs for small tournaments eg 3Bs to 3As. These would be accredited Directors, not Tournament director level. Nick noted that there had been requests from Putāruru and Katikati. It was recognised that such tournaments could be valuable for newly qualified Directors. A list of such directors and willing to be approached by clubs outside their area could be sent out. There is also a list of Directors on the NZ bridge website. It was suggested that such directors could be approached via the What's App forum [Nick].



Rubber Bridge:

Nick Whitten is planning to run a Rubber Bridge event. He has requested funding assistance for two day events to discuss tactics in Morrinsville and BOP.

It was observed that interest in Rubber bridge is waning. Hugh recommended that it is pushed at the club level. It was agreed that this should go ahead. Alan will contact Nick to encourage the clubs to increase interest in Rubber Bridge.

Regional Championships:

There was general agreement that the Interprovincial Championships are worthwhile and should be continued. Most people feel that Congress is long enough without having the IPs tagged on. People in the Tauranga committee who had attended want it to continue face to face. It costs about \$60,000. NZ Bridge paid \$35,000

NZ bridge will make the decision.

This year it was scheduled for a Teams event. For pairs 10 pairs are needed. Generally Hugh favoured a teams trial, Alan, Kevin, Nick and Gillian favoured pairs. It was felt that entries should be encouraged at the club level as it was observed that there have been very few entrants recently. Gillian raised the possibility of the Women's, Seniors and Open trials being a combined event. It was felt that this is not ideal as bias may be introduced. Ideally with more entrants there could be a satisfactory pairs trial to select the teams. There was agreement from Kevin and Alan and Nick that it should be a pairs event. This would allow for more participants. Alan will send out for opinions by email.

Youth Bridge:

Greg is promoting this in Thames and has a good relationship with Thames High School. We will continue to seek feedback and provide support as required.

Regional Swiss Pairs:

There seemed general agreement that NS and EW split is preferable. Julie Atkinson is happy to run as separate NS and EW fields and NS and EW results

Mini Moos: Nick is restarting this as a way of getting beginners more involved. He runs playing and teaching sessions simultaneously on Sundays. Nick will discuss more at the next meeting.

Waikato Bays Interclub Competition:

Request from the Cambridge club for support from the WRBC so that the Waikato and WAPs be run from Cambridge. We are happy to support Clare Coles in her request for Cambridge to be the organising club. Alan will contact Clare offering our support but she will also need the agreement of the Waikato clubs



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Junior / Intermediate League:

Michael Neels suggested that these are advertised more vigorously to get more entries. We agree that this needs more advertising to raise awareness. Alan will send out a reminder in a Newsletter to clubs

Meeting ended at 6.30pm

A. A. Roth
Chairman

Secretary

17/3/25
Date of approval

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