

NEWCASTLE BRIDGE CLUB

Special Committee Meeting

Date: 19th February 2014

Time: 8:30

Attendees: T Wagstaff, R Broughton, A Morris, P Peterson, P Robinson, E Sellers, A Stiller, B Webster, K Wilks and G Rummey

Apologies: J Hill

Minutes

Agenda item: Lesson Debrief and Lesson Policy. **Presenter:** E Sellers

Eileen tabled a report covering lessons given by Joan Butts and her recommendations for the direction of future teaching of bridge at the Club.

The lessons had been well received by over 40 participants and she felt the kudos of the Club had benefited as a result of holding those lessons.

Discussion: Rosalie proposed that the way forward would be via the efforts of a sub-committee to investigate and recommend a teaching programme and a method by which to integrate beginners into regular sessions of play. Ken seconded the proposal which was unanimously accepted.

Suggested members of the sub-committee were Janet (chairperson), Peter, Eileen and Anita with Roy Hardy to be included if willing. Peter, Eileen and Anita accepted the suggestion. Sub-committee to report to its findings before the next set of lessons expected in July 2014.

General vote of appreciation for all the efforts put in to running the lesson.

Conclusions: Have a sub-committee to recommend the way forward with these issues.

Action items	Person responsible	Deadline
✓ Confirm sub-committee members.	T Wagstaff	asap

Agenda item: Slow Play. **Presenter:** R Broughton

Discussion: Chris Williams had raised with committee her objection to its policy on times to play boards. Further, she had canvassed some members to support her views. Ken and Anita had researched the approach adopted by local clubs. Generally the Club's timings were in accord with common practice for club events. Times allocated for playing boards at congresses were a separate matter.

Chris' reasoning for needing a longer playing time was based upon taking more care and applying more thought to play of the cards.

Rosalie alluded to the efforts of Alan Charlesworth and herself in compiling a guide for directors to achieve membership wishes of playing the maximum number of boards within a set time frame. There have been no complaints from members concerning those schedules. That conclusion confirms the membership did not require more time and that their preference is to play more boards rather than use any spare time to socialise.

The manner by which Chris had contacted other members was considered unethical and that she should be advised as such.

Committee accepted by a majority decision to not change board playing times.

Conclusions: Completed.

Action items	Person responsible	Deadline
✓ Respond to Christine's e-mail.	G Rummey	asap

Agenda item: Extra Club events. **Presenter:** P Robinson

Discussion: Two extra events had been added to the 2014 programme to balance the

Discussion: Two extra events had been added to the 2014 programme to balance the amount of prize money against attendance numbers. Pam wanted that action ratified by committee rather than just to be introduced.
The two sessions are three week events on Saturdays (8/15 March, 5 April) and on Wednesdays (5/12/19 November).
Tony accepted the oversight on his part and asked for committee's acceptance of the two sessions. Committee agreed to the introduction of the events.

Conclusions: Completed.

Action items	Person responsible	Deadline
✓ Nil		

Agenda item: Substitute ruling. **Presenter:** K Wilks

Discussion: Ken had made a decision in consultation with Tony and Graham regarding the legitimacy of a pairing in the Monday afternoon February Pairs whereby a substitute player had been used when one player from the original unit had actually played in the session. That unit had been eliminated from the event combined result and the decision had been disputed.
The offenders had not realised they were doing anything contrary to the rules on substitutes. Committee felt that if players from the original unit were at the session then they should have remained together. Committee accepted the oversight and the players were returned to the event.

Conclusions: Review the rules on substitutes to avoid this situation recurring.

Action items	Person responsible	Deadline
✓ Rewrite the section on Substitutes with TD's concurrence.	G Rummey	asap

Date for the next general meeting to be 12th March 2014.

Meeting concluded at 9:30.

Confirmed to be a true record of the meeting.

Tony Wagstaff
12/03/2014