

# Committee Meeting Summary

## **11th November 2015**

Committee meetings have been scheduled to occur on a two monthly basis starting from Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> December. If members feel they have an issue needing to be addressed please provide detail of the points to be considered to any committee member and an item will be included in the next agenda.

### **AGM Issues**

The items raised at this year's AGM were considered at the meeting.

- **Congress Prize Money**  
A schedule of prize moneys being offered at next year's congress was approved. That schedule considered member's comments regarding the perceived low return compared to the entry fee. In keeping with similar congresses, the Newcastle Pairs Events will be providing separate N/S and E/W pair prizes in the Open, Restricted and Novice categories. Doing so increases the prize money allocation and also spreads the prizes around.
- **Event Prize Money**  
Tony has yet to provide a response to the query raised as to why prize money awarded during the 2014/15 calendar year was lower than the previous year.  
In response as to why event prize monies could not at least match table entry fees, Committee would not be amending the schedule at least for the coming year.
- **Accumulated Funds**  
A long term maintenance and asset replacement schedule has been developed and after a review of the estimated costs that schedule will be available for the information of members. The schedule will indicate why accumulated funds are a necessary part of club management, and how it is anticipated those funds are to be expended.

### **Building Maintenance**

Painting the internal areas of the building has now been completed. Committee's thanks are extended to the membership for co-operating with the workmen during their time on site. All agreed that the company did an excellent job and in turn their employees worked in well with the Club's wishes. Any member looking for a good painting contractor would do well to approach *Instyle Painting Australia*.

The next item on the maintenance schedule is painting external surfaces but that will not be started before deciding whether or not to have the exposed brickwork rendered. Have you any views on that issue?

### **Session Attendance**

Concern has been expressed within committee that session numbers are in general falling away. There does not appear to be any clear-cut reason as to why attendance is declining hence there is no obvious solution to arresting that decline. Your opinions on this issue would be welcome, for instance should a fresh approach to the events in the annual programme be considered, should sessions be split into separate categories, should some sessions be curtailed all together? Have you any views on this issue?

### **Stand-by Players**

Following the good response to having a member attend sessions on Tuesday to pair up with anyone wanting to play, Ken has extended that concept to Friday sessions. Any member now wanting to play at a Friday session will be able to turn up and be assured of getting a game. That concept may help to maintain session attendance and could lead to the formation of some new and exciting permanent partnerships.

### **Promotion of the Game of Bridge**

Jeff is looking at innovative means by which bridge may be promoted and thereby encourage more people to attend Wayne's bridge lessons. Be prepared to help Jeff implement those means should you be approached.