



NEWCASTLE BRIDGE CLUB INC.

2018 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given that there will be a General Meeting of the Newcastle Bridge Club Incorporated. Details are as follows:

Date / Time:

Saturday 22nd September 2018 to commence at 11:00 am

Place:

Newcastle Bridge Club

AGENDA ITEMS:

1. Apologies
2. Proxies
3. Minutes of previous Annual General Meeting dated 23/9/2017
4. Business arising from the 2017 AGM Minutes
5. Treasurer's Report
6. Business arising from the Treasurer's Report
 - i) *Proposal re alternatives to Term Deposit*
7. Appointment of Auditors
8. Secretary's Report
9. Business arising from the Secretary's Report
10. President's Report
11. Business arising from the President's Report
12. General Business
 - i) *Member's proposal to change Bridgemates back to show results (refer below for background information). The letter from the member is also attached.*
13. Election of Office Bearers
14. Next Meeting
15. Close

Agenda Item 12.1

Members' proposal to change Bridgemates back to show results

Explanation:

At the 2016 Annual General Meeting on 24/09/2016, members voted in favour of a motion that ".....Bridgemate units should be restricted to showing only the percentage achieved....". This decision was subsequently challenged by a group of members by the calling of a special general meeting of members held on 16/12/2016. This matter was the only purpose of that meeting. The outcome of the September meeting (that only percentages be shown), was confirmed by a vote at the special general meeting. The change now proposed will **require** that all results for the board be again shown on the Bridgemate display.

Below is a summary of points *as recorded in the minutes of the December 2016 special general meeting:*

Case for the inclusion of full board results as well as percentages:

1. make full use of the information that the units could display;
2. noise level discussion about the results were no louder than when units were not used for scoring;
3. novice players gained advantage from seeing other contracts bid for specific boards.

Case against the inclusion of full board results:

1. the consequences of disclosing unauthorized information by players discussing board results and the detrimental effect it can have on members being able to enjoy their bridge;
2. as an example, a recent article in the November 2016 issue of "Australia Bridge" Magazine was quoted where the author had lost an important tournament by virtue of their team members receiving unauthorized information;
3. inadvertent entry of board numbers could lead to display of results for a board not yet played;
4. early results shown on the units are meaningless until a representative number have been entered;
5. the issues in point (1) would put an unnecessary onus on the Club's directors who are volunteers and wishing to enjoy their bridge and not be involved in handing out unpopular penalties.

Committee comment:

This matter has previously been dealt with at an AGM as well as at a special general meeting. Of the members who voted, there was a majority at both meetings who voted in favour of removing the board scores.

However, the majority of members did not vote and for this matter to be finally resolved, the Committee urges all members to have their say by voting either for or against.

Minutes of Meeting

Date and Time of Meeting: Saturday 22nd September 2018 at 11:00am

Attendees: See attached Schedule – “Attendees and Apologies”

Chairperson: Jeff Biddlecombe (President)

Jeff Biddlecombe declared the meeting open at 11:00am, thanked everyone for coming and confirmed that the criteria for a quorum had been met.

Agenda Items:

1. Apologies: See attached Schedule – “Attendees and Apologies”

2. Minutes of previous AGM dated 23rd September 2017:

Bruce Webster moved that the minutes be accepted. Fay Larkin seconded the motion which was unanimously accepted. Jeff Biddlecombe signed the minutes as a true record of proceedings.

3. Business arising from the 2017 AGM Minutes (separate sessions for lower ranked members):

Jeff reported that the Thursday morning session (restricted to players with less than 150MPs) continued to be very successful. However, the graded pairs competition that is included in the Friday session, would need to be addressed for the coming year.

4. Treasurer’s Report (Tony Wagstaff):

Tony presented his report (copy included at end of Minutes) and tabled the Profit and Loss Statement for the year (refer separate document “Income Statement Newcastle Bridge Club Inc for year ending 30 June 2018”). Tony noted that the P & L had been available on the website one week prior to the AGM.

Tony reported that the **profit** of \$15281 was 36% less than last year but was still satisfactory.

Increased expenses were the main reason for the lower profit – up by \$4992 (4.6%), due mainly to wages (full year of three sessions being run by a non-playing director). There were also increases in social activity expenditure, and Repairs and Maintenance (mostly due to updating fire protection equipment). Computer and software expenses was a new line this year, showing costs of scoring and administration systems. The increases were partly offset by a reduction in electricity expenditure (due to solar panels and LED’s).

Revenue decreased by 2.8% and while disappointing, it was acknowledged that the significant growth achieved in the previous year (8.4%) could not be expected every year. Table fees were down by \$1457 (1.5%), mainly due to the termination of Thursday night, but there was also reduced support for some of the other sessions. However, there was strong growth in the Thursday morning session.

Tony commented that as there are no significant outlays planned in the foreseeable future, it may be appropriate to review how available funds are invested. He flagged that he would gauge the views of members following the passing of his report.

Tony recommended that the report be accepted. Chris Dibley accepted the motion, Ken Wilks seconded the motion and the report was unanimously accepted.

5. Business arising from the Treasurer's Report

Tony noted that interest rates on term deposits are reducing and that it was worth considering the alternatives. Tony outlined options, possibilities and considerations. One option was to appoint an external adviser to suggest alternatives such as low-cost managed funds. Lambourne Partners have given an indicative quote of \$1500 to do this. Another option was to appoint a sub-committee of members with financial experience to make a recommendation to the Committee. Tony then sought feedback from members.

Margaret Thorn commented that if we were to pay for financial advice, we would end up giving any increment in earnings to the adviser. Margaret added that we should have enough collective brains to work out what to do. There was general applause at this statement.

Ailsa Kearney queried that if a sub-committee were to be appointed, would it have the power only to make a recommendation to the Committee. Tony confirmed this to be correct.

Tony di Stefano thanked Tony for his work as Treasurer and for responding quickly to queries. He commented that higher returns on investment mean higher risk and that the Committee should first and foremost protect the Club's funds and look at low/no risk options.

Bernie Adcock commented that an extra 1% does not make a lot of difference, and that a low return is better than losing money.

The overall sentiment appeared to be that most members were satisfied with term deposits and did not see the need to set up a sub-committee or pay an external adviser to investigate alternatives. A show of hands was requested – 8 members favoured the setting up of a sub-committee, the remainder wanted the status quo to remain.

Decision: Continue to use term deposits. No further action required.

6. Appointment of Auditors

Tony proposed the Club continue to use Lambourne Partners to review its financial records. Jeff Biddlecombe supported the proposal, Ken Wilks seconded it and the proposal was unanimously accepted.

7. Secretary's Report (Julie Butel)

Julie presented her report for the year (copy included at end of Minutes) and thanked those who had provided guidance and support throughout the year, Graham Rummey for his coaching and written procedures. Mention was made of a slight increase in the number of financial members and of the 36 new members, 24 were newcomers to Bridge, mainly via Wayne's lessons. Julie noted the challenge to continually find ways to retain new members.

8. Business Arising from the Secretary's Report

The question was asked if there was any information about members who had left the Club and how many members are active. There is some information available on the database. Julie agreed to follow this up.

9. President's Report (Jeff Biddlecombe)

Jeff presented his report for the year (copy included at end of Minutes).

Jeff commented that it had been an easier year than last year and that he is still enjoying the role. He noted the popularity of the combined Thursday morning restricted and supervised sessions, and that it is now the second biggest session.

Jeff acknowledged those who had volunteered for Tuesday night supervised session (replacing the Wednesday night session); also, the reluctant cancellation of the Thursday evening session due to dwindling numbers.

Jeff encouraged members to volunteer as stand by players on Wednesday and Saturday sessions as there as still insufficient volunteers for rosters on these days.

Jeff commented on the recent 50th anniversary luncheon for the Club, noting the importance of such events to celebrate the long history of the Club. He acknowledged the incredible contribution made by those early members.

Jeff also congratulated Tony Wagstaff on his Life Membership award.

Jeff finished by thanking all those who had assisted the Club's operations by volunteering in various roles. He also thanked the Committee, and individually thanked the three members who were leaving / had left the Committee (Ruth Balmer, David Puddicombe, June Boyd) for their assistance.

The President's report was accepted.

10. Business Arising from the President's Report

There was no business arising from the President's report

11. General Business – Member's proposal to change Bridgemates back to show results

Jeff introduced the motion and noted that this was the third time that the matter had been taken to a vote. Jeff added he was concerned that the issue had caused stress and angst and proposed that it be taken straight to a vote without further discussion to avoid any more conflict. However, members began to request to address the meeting re the issue.

Some key comments:

- *What exactly is the motion? Response: "No" – no change;" Yes" – change Bridgemates to display results, contract, and %.*
- *Colleen Wilson: There's a lot of people unhappy with the current situation; that's why I brought it up. Showing the results would help to quickly identify entry errors*
- *Helen Johnson: Central Coast displays more information that we've ever had. Not everyone has computers and some who do, don't know how to use them*
- *Vincia Martin: The case against argued that showing the results encourages too much discussion; but observation is that showing just percentages encourages a lot of discussion. Beginners need the information to learn. The risk of overhearing only refers to tournaments, not club play*
- *Paul McGrath: Crucial point – discussion of results, if overheard at an adjacent table, must involve the director and the table then must take an average; the offending table should also incur a penalty, which makes it difficult for directors. Vote no to protect players and directors.*

A few members claimed that there had been coercion and bullying to get the "no" vote up. Jeff disagreed with this statement and said that while he had encouraged people to vote, he had not taken sides. He also added that he had guided the members who had raised the issue on how to progress it.

The Vote: The vote was then taken:

Votes: "YES" – 28; "NO" – 17, Abstained – 8 (including 3 members who had voted by proxy)

Proxies: "YES"- 22; "NO" – 87

TOTAL: "YES" – 50; "NO" - 104

The motion was defeated.

Stewart Roach thanked Colleen Wilson for all the work she had done to prepare the motion.

12. Election of Office Bearers

Jeff advised that the nominations for the various positions on the committee had been received. As no positions were being contested the following members were duly elected to serve as the next Committee:

President:	Jeff Biddlecombe	Ordinary Members:	
Vice President:	Vincia Martin	Howard Bridgman, Rosalie Broughton,	
Treasurer:	Tony Wagstaff	Carolyn Carey, Ailsa Kearney	
Secretary:	Julie Butel		

Masterpoint Secretary and Tournament Director will be confirmed at the first committee meeting. Additional individual responsibilities will also be assigned at that meeting.

13. Next AGM

The date for the next AGM will be left for the incoming committee to determine.

14. Close

The meeting closed at 12 noon

Kay Rich thanked the committee and members for their efforts throughout the year.

Confirmed to be a true record of the meeting

Signed by Jeff Biddlecombe at the 2019 AGM 14/9/2019

Attendees and Apologies

Attendees - 53 total

Jeff Biddlecombe	Julie Butel	Ken Wilks	Wendy Lake	Margaret Corney
David Corney	Bernard Adcock	Tony Wagstaff	B Webster	Helen Johnson
Giles Martin	Vincia Martin	June Boyd	Roy Hardy	Maureen Reeves
Honor Chaplin	Joan Wansey	Ailsa Kearney	Stewart Roach	E Di Stefano
E Roach	P McGrath	T Di Stefano	M Thorn	C Wilson
Kay Rich	Kay Baguley	Bruce Baguley	Caroline Carey	Susan Reading
Rosalie Broughton	Arthur Anlezark	Jan Davidson	Frank Douglas	Chris Williams
F Larkin	James Hart	Chris Dibley	B Kuegler	P Robinson
Janet Hill	Alison Lea	G Brouwer	Judy Halliday	Wayne Morgan
Alison Reid	Patsy Norris	Una Lewis	George Lewis	Jan Nicol
Lorraine Forward	J Blenkey	Margaret Sylow		

Apologies - 20 total (plus Proxies)

Kevin Burrows	Jocelyn Savage	Kate Cafe	Bernie Atkins	Judy Atkins
C Bowen-Thomas	L Bowen-Thomas	A Hemmingway	Peter Peterson	Di McArtney
Di Bradbury	Jennie Koster	Sue Donahue	Michael Seldon	T Thiruchelvam
Christina La Ponder	Michael Simes	Alison Morris	Sandra Morris	Joan Hewson

Newcastle Bridge Club
2018 Annual General Meeting
Treasurer's Report

Our profit for 2018 was lower by 36% coming in at \$15,281 for the year. Despite the reduction from the previous year, this is still a satisfactory result, although the lack of growth in revenue was disappointing. However, the previous year saw revenue growth of 8.4% and we should not expect that sort of increase every year.

Increased expenses are the main reason for the lower profit, but looking at revenue first we saw a decrease of 2.8% for the year. Table fee income was lower by \$1,457 or 1.5%. This can be accounted for by the termination of Thursday night during the year, but we also saw reduced support for some of our other time slots, offset by strong growth in the relatively new Thursday morning restricted session.

Expenses were increased by \$4,992 or 4.6%. Wages were up reflecting a full year of three sessions being run by a non-playing director. Social activity expenditure was increased, and repairs & maintenance was higher largely due to updating our fire protection equipment. This year a new expense line for computer & software expenses shows our costs of scoring and administration systems. It is pleasing to note that electricity cost reduced substantially from last year, reflecting the solar and LED lighting investments.

Our balance sheet is little changed over the year, although we see an increase in funds due to the profit for the year. As there are no significant outlays planned, it is appropriate to consider how these funds should be invested. Following the passing of this report, I will make a short presentation to gauge the view of members to alternatives that may be considered

I recommend this report to members.

Tony Wagstaff
Treasurer
15 September 2018

Secretary's Report for 2018 AGM

Welcome to this year's AGM everyone – my first as Secretary.

As a newcomer to both the Club and the world of Bridge, it's been a challenging year for me! A big leap of faith from both the Committee and members to entrust the role to me!

My very limited knowledge certainly presented some hurdles when I started the process to prepare the annual program shortly after stepping into the role. But with a lot of help and support from those who knew much, I managed to get the booklets to the printer in time for them to be ready before Christmas. I must admit I was dreading the news of any oversights or errors but expected it would probably happen. So, imagine my horror when I received not one but 3 emails in short succession from someone (who shall remain nameless!) shortly after the booklets were ready, with advice of some errors in dates – the first at 10:31am, then 10:38am, then 10:43am. Finally, at 10:46am: "please ignore all the comments – I was looking at this year's program book. Sorry to give you a heart attack".

Jokes aside, I was fortunate to have had Graham Rummey as a coach and mentor especially in those first few months. If you were at last year's AGM, you may recall Graham talking about the procedures he had written so that his successor wouldn't have to start from scratch like he did back in 2001. Thanks Graham – not only for what you documented but also for all your help and encouragement.

A key aspect of the role of secretary is to ensure that members are kept up to date with what's happening – primarily via minutes of meetings, but also via other updates from time to time as needed. In the 12 months since the last AGM, there's been 10 Committee meetings – one every month except for January and this month. I've set myself the objective to display a copy of the Committee meeting minutes on the notice board within a week of the meeting, as well as a summary of the key points from the meeting on the website. The minutes are posted on the website once they've been formally accepted by the Committee at the next meeting. On a few occasions I missed these deadlines – fortunately there's a few members who keep me on my toes if that happens!

The other key objective of the role is to inform members on things such as program or format changes, deleted or additional Bridge sessions, upcoming competitions and social events. While most of these things are the result of decisions made at a Committee meeting (and therefore included in the minutes), it's sometimes important to provide the details in a separate notice – hence the occasional emails. Pianola has been a big help in this regard. Not only has it simplified the management of our database, it's also made it so much easier to get information out to all members, or a specific group of members, quickly. And of course, it provides timely information on how you're going at Bridge. I'd encourage everyone to check it out.....and it's free!

The club has had a small increase in memberships since the last AGM – 357 compared with 350 last year. That figure includes 36 new members, of which approximately 24 were newcomers to Bridge, mainly from Wayne's lessons. So new members, particularly those who are just starting on their Bridge journey, are a key factor in the sustainability of the club. Important therefore that we continually search for ways to not only attract new members but to make sure they keep on coming to Bridge sessions.

In closing, I'd like to sincerely thank the Committee, especially Jeff and Tony; and Ken, Rosalie and Graham for all your help and support during the last year – and for never making me feel that I'd just asked another stupid question! And thanks also to you the members for your words of encouragement – while the Committee is here to serve the interests of the members, some feedback is always welcome! Thank you for your attention.

Julie Butel

Newcastle Bridge Club

Annual General Meeting 2018

Presidents Report

Being President this year was a lot easier than my first year (no disputes or special meetings) and as I am still enjoying it, I have put my hand up for another year.

We are currently running 8 sessions a week with the Tuesday supervised session and the combined Thursday restricted and supervised sessions proving very popular, with the Thursday morning being our second biggest session.. This is helped out by the continual use of a Non Playing Director for Tuesday, Thursday and Friday morning sessions. At this point, I would like to especially acknowledge the following person who are volunteering/have volunteered for the Tuesday night (formerly Wednesday) Supervised sessions: Directors Ken Wilks, Graham Rummey, Janet Hill, Bernie Adcock and the Stand-by players Alan Hemmingway, Vincea Martin, Kerrie Norris. These people give up their free time at the evening times and do so all through the year.

It is with some reluctance that we cancelled the Thursday evening session at the request of some of the players because of dwindling numbers and the effort required to get people to attend. If we can enough willing players to make it worthwhile, there is no reason why we cannot resurrect it.

The first Friday in the month A and B competition is once again being run and the Club has maintained the prize money contribution \$7:50 for each \$5:00 entry fee. There has been a drop off of numbers for this event this year and last year and I would urge all members to support this initiative for the whole duration of the competition.

The standby roster is still being well supported with volunteers and this is helping attendance at the sessions where it is utilised. We still are unable to get enough volunteers for rosters on Wednesday and Saturday sessions and I would encourage members to help out in volunteering for Stand.by on those two extra session.. The Club thanks those volunteers who keep this going.

Wayne Morgan has held /is holding another 2 sessions this year and while the numbers are not as high as previous years, they are holding up and, at the end of the lessons, the Club (& other clubs) may have some more new members with more people enjoying the great game of Bridge. The new people are feeding into Tuesday night and Thursday morning supervised sessions. As well, there are some who are venturing into the other sessions and every effort should be made to make their bridge experience an enjoyable one.

Wayne's last session for this year is an evening one only as there was not enough numbers to hold both a morning and evening session so any ideas for publicity for these lessons will be gratefully accepted.

Improvement initiatives undertaken over the year include:

- As the carpet cleaning proved to be unsuccessful, the Club has now new carpeting

- The Club had its 50th Anniversary this year and a special luncheon was held to celebrate it (89 people accepted but on the day 4 people were not able to attend)
- On a personal achievement, Tony Wagstaff obtained a thoroughly deserved. Life Membership,

Our Treasurer has presented our financial results for the year. You will note that the Club remains in a sound financial position and should continue to do so. Thank you, Tony, for keeping us on such an even keel.

. On behalf of our members, I thank all of those that have carried out tasks voluntarily within our Club, with particular mention for our volunteer directors, scorers, dealers, standby persons and kitchen volunteers. Special thanks to those who assisted at our congress, especially as there were a lot of new members being involved in the set-up work, the cooking of the slices, cakes, savouries, flower arrangements and special dealing.

To all of those people above, well done and I hope you continue in this vein as you are vital to the successful and efficient running of the club.

Thank you also to my committee this year. We have 3 people leaving/left the committee this year and I would like to thank each separately:

Ruth Balmer for preparing our Power Point presentations

Dave Puddicombe, our Vice-President, for his contributions to overseeing of maintenance requirements, special BBQ's, Conference assistance and other helpful duties

June Boyd who has had a tumultuous personal year and has stood down with the view of returning in the future when she can devote more time to the committee.

Last but not least, I would like to thank our Committee for the effort that they put in voluntarily Ken Wilks (Masterpoints Secretary), Peter Peterson (Tournament Director), Tony Wagstaff (Treasurer), Ailsa Kearney (Sending out of empathy cards when required).

I would like to make a special acknowledgement for our secretary, Julie Butel. Julie had some big shoes to fill when Graham Rommey left and she has done an admirable job, not only in the secretarial duties but filling in for Ken's banking in his absence, her co-work on the Conference, her preparation of the yearly programme book and generally her devotion to the Club in many unrelated activities. Thanks very much, Julie!.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

9th August 2018

Ms Julie Butel
Secretary
Newcastle Bridge Club
12 Young St
Broadmeadow NSW 2292

Dear Julie

Re: Proposal to take vote to restore the display of results on Bridgemate at upcoming AGM. Proposed wording 'Change the Bridgemate back to show results - Vote yes to make this change, vote no to make no change.'

As you know, it was previously decided by the Club to stop displaying results on Bridgemate and nearly two years has passed since this decision. I am proposing that this decision be reconsidered due to many members feeling a high degree of frustration at the withholding of timely feedback and general consternation at the way the vote was conducted in the first place, with many members not understanding the implications or wording of the motion being considered.

The primary benefits and issues of reversing the decision and allowing the display of Bridgemate results are summarised below.

- 1) Bridgemate provides timely and detailed feedback which allows players to learn from the hand just completed whilst it is fresh in their minds and thereby can continually improve their game.
- 2) Our Club is not only the biggest club in the area but, importantly, the biggest teaching club. It is essential for the beginners to see their results and understand how they could improve their bidding and play in real time. All members of the Club benefit from the ongoing improvement of each and every player as the general standard of play is thereby raised at all levels.
- 3) The fact that most large clubs in the area (North Sydney, Central Coast Club, Hawkes Nest, Maitland, Quick Trix) choose to display Bridgemate results shows that there is a general consensus that the benefits outweigh the drawbacks and any problems arising are resolvable. If there are specific concerns it would be possible to reach out to these clubs to see how they overcome them. Being the only major club not benefitting from Bridgemate feedback puts us at a disadvantage regionally.
- 4) Since the Bridgemate results have been withheld, I feel there has been more discussion with less resolution after games as members try to figure out why they

received poor scores when they thought they bid well. Discussion is prolonged as they try to work out what they should have bid. When we had the Bridgemate results, there was more clarity and discussion could be more succinct and beneficial.

- 5) In general, there was concern that releasing the Bridgemate results caused extended discussion and slow play. However it has been years since the results have been withheld and clearly discussion and slow play continues for an array of reasons not attributable to this aspect of play structure. The issues of extended discussion or slow play should be addressed directly if seem fit by the Committee, regardless of the underlying cause.

As the change to withhold Bridgemate result display has been in place for nearly two years there has been adequate time for members to assess the impact on their Club experience. It is my belief that many members are deeply unhappy with the change and continue to fret that they don't have the benefit of the feedback they would receive at other clubs. Furthermore, the members who misunderstood the vote previously would like to have the opportunity to vote again on a clearly worded motion. The proxy voting changes that have been made since the last vote would also encourage active members who cannot attend the meeting to participate in the vote. In summary, it would be timely to address an issue which is detrimentally impacting the experience of so many members of the Club.

Yours sincerely



Colleen Wilson

In order that members are clear about the issues involved in the matter of Bridgemate information, I believe it is important that both sides of the argument be distributed to members before the AGM. For that reason I would ask that the following response to Colleen's letter be circulated. The response is preceded by "the case against the resolution" extracted from an earlier General Meeting of the Club which addressed this same issue

The case against the resolution.

- 4.1 the consequences of disclosing unauthorised information by players discussing board results and the detrimental effect it can have on members being able to enjoy their bridge;
- 4.2 for example see the article in the November 2016 Issue of Australia Bridge Magazine where the author had lost an important tournament by virtue of their team members receiving unauthorised information;
- 4.3 inadvertent entry of board numbers could lead to display of results for a board not yet played;
- 4.4 early results shown on the units are meaningless until a representative number have been entered;
- 4.5 the issues in 4.1 would put an unnecessary onus on the Club's directors who are volunteers and wishing to enjoy their bridge and not be involved in handing out unpopular penalties.

In response to Colleen's letter:-

"general consternation at the way the vote was conducted in the first place, with many members not understanding the implications or wording of the motion being considered".

The vote was conducted in a true and proper manner as per the Club's Constitution with all members having the opportunity to vote either at the meeting or by appointing a proxy.

Furthermore, the issue was raised at a Special General Meeting of the Club devoted specifically to this one matter, where the status quo was soundly supported. There has been ample opportunity for discussion and clarification.

"Bridgemate provides timely and detailed feedback which allows players to learn from the hand just completed whilst it is fresh in their minds and thereby can continually improve their game"

The feedback is really meaningless until well into the session when there is a good sample of results.

"It is essential for the beginners to see their results and understand how they could improve their bidding and play in real time. "

Players, especially beginners, don't have the time to really understand and assimilate the information that might be forthcoming from the results shown. Any attempt to try to get them to understand at that point in time delays playing of the next board and contravenes bridge etiquette there be no teaching at the table and no discussion of boards.

A much better way of improving is to look at the analysis of the results provided by Conpscore2 where one can see what everyone did on each board. At the same time one can also see the hand records which makes it much easier to study it in depth at leisure. Pianola also provides an analysis.

“The fact that most large clubs in the area (North Sydney, Central Coast Club, Hawkes Nest, Maitland, Quick Trix) choose to display Bridgemate results”

Hawks Nest and Quick Tricks can hardly be considered large clubs and what’s more Hawks Nest have removed the results from the bridgemates – here is an extract from an email from a member of Hawks nest:

“I advise that quite recently, my home Bridge Club, Hawks Nest Bridge Club took all the information away from the machines. Now after the data has been entered and a member has pressed the ‘accept’ button, all that is shown now is something along the lines of ‘game over’. This was done to stop members comparing each other’s information, to hasten slow players and generally, make sure people didn’t talk at the table regarding comparisons and percentages, sometimes loudly and therefore listened to by other members at other tables.

Most Members prefer the new way and I have to say, it has worked very well and I don’t think we will go back to having any other information on the machines.”

It should be noted that at congresses run by the ABF and Congresses run under the auspices of the NSWBA neither results or percentages are displayed on the bridgemates.

“not benefitting from the Bridgemate feedback”

It is a point of view as whether there is any benefit from bridgemate feedback.

‘ When we had the Bridgemate results, there was more clarity and discussion could be more succinct and beneficial. ‘

The point is that there should be no discussion succinct or otherwise. If players at another table overhear details of a board they are about to play they are ethically required not to play the board and penalties can be applied to the offending table.

“that they don't have the benefit of the feedback they would receive at other clubs”

The feedback is available in a much more detailed and useful form from the results posted on the web page where one can see exactly what everyone bid (and who bid it) and the number of tricks made, what was led to the first trick and the matchpoints won by each pair for the board.

Each pair can also see who they played against on each board and exactly how they performed with the contract, lead, result, score, matchpoints and percentage being displayed.

“Furthermore, the members who misunderstood the vote previously would like to have the opportunity to vote again on a clearly worded motion”

I fail to see how anyone could have misunderstood the vote as it was perfectly clear what the vote was about – Display the results on the bridgemates or don’t display the results on the bridgemates!

“is detrimentally impacting the experience of so many members of the Club”

How is it detrimentally impacting the experience of so many members of the club? What evidence is there of “detrimental impact” or how many club members consider themselves to be detrimentally impacted.

Peter Peterson
Tournament Director

Income Statement

NEWCASTLE BRIDGE CLUB INCORPORATED For the year ended 30 June 2018

	NOTES	2018	2017
Income			
Interest Received		1,889	1,975
Congresses		14,230	15,590
Country & Interclub Team Fees		1,208	980
Subscriptions		11,290	11,325
Sundry Receipts		1,944	2,625
Table Fees	2	97,650	99,107
Profit on Sale of Non-Current Assets		-	337
Total Income		128,211	131,939
Total Income		128,211	131,939
Expenses			
Advertising		41	-
Affiliation Fees & Levies		7,360	7,317
Audit Fees		1,700	1,700
Cleaning		9,962	9,763
Competitions		4,173	4,887
Computer/Software Expenses		1,011	-
Congresses		12,546	13,112
Depreciation		7,767	7,081
Donations		248	192
Electricity		3,307	4,537
Insurance		2,406	2,309
Loss on Sale of Non-Current Assets		764	25
Printing & Stationery		4,515	4,732
Prizes		6,033	6,844
Rates & Taxes		10,762	10,632
Refreshments & Consumables		9,467	7,787
Repairs and Maintenance	3	5,647	5,143
Socials		3,301	1,480
Staff Training & Welfare		235	240
Subscriptions		95	44
Superannuation		1,660	1,448
Telephone		1,312	1,893
Wages & Salaries	4	18,621	16,774
Total Expenses		112,930	107,938
Profit/(Loss) before Taxation		15,281	24,001
Net Profit After Tax		15,281	24,001
Net Profit After Dividends Paid		15,281	24,001

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements. These statements should be read in conjunction with the attached compilation report.

Balance Sheet

NEWCASTLE BRIDGE CLUB INCORPORATED

As at 30 June 2018

	NOTES	30 JUN 2018	30 JUN 2017
Assets			
Current Assets			
Bank accounts	5	130,367	120,131
Petty Cash		200	350
Trade Debtors		1,158	-
Total Current Assets		131,725	120,481
Non-Current Assets			
Property, plant and equipment	6	332,154	327,487
Total Non-Current Assets		332,154	327,487
Total Assets		463,880	447,968
Liabilities			
Current Liabilities			
Prepaid prize money		360	380
Prepaid Table Fes		4,620	4,200
Trade Creditors		3,153	2,922
Total Current Liabilities		8,133	7,502
Total Liabilities		8,133	7,502
Net Assets		455,747	440,466
Equity			
Retained Earnings (Accumulated Losses)			
Current Year Earnings (Losses)		15,281	24,001
Retained Earnings (Accumulated Losses)		440,466	416,465
Total Retained Earnings (Accumulated Losses)		455,747	440,466
Total Equity		455,747	440,466

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements. These statements should be read in conjunction with the attached compilation report.

Notes to the Financial Statements

NEWCASTLE BRIDGE CLUB INCORPORATED For the year ended 30 June 2018

1. Statement of Significant Accounting Policies

The financial statements are special purpose report prepared for use by directors and members. The directors have determined that the company is not a reporting entity.

The statements are prepared on an accruals basis. They are based on historic costs and do not take into account changing money values or, except where specifically stated, current valuations of non-current assets.

No Australian Accounting Standards, Australian Accounting Interpretations Views or other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board have been intentionally applied.

	2018	2017
2. Table Fees		
Monday	15,807	16,667
Tuesday	22,016	21,067
Wednesday	17,982	21,444
Thursday	16,685	12,804
Friday	14,418	15,738
Saturday	10,742	11,387
Total Table Fees	97,650	99,107
	2018	2017
3. Repairs & Maintenance		
Repairs & Maintenance	1,757	1,486
Grounds	802	465
Building	3,089	3,192
Total Repairs & Maintenance	5,647	5,143
	2018	2017
4. Wages		
Wages	17,471	15,602
Volunteer Reimbursements	1,150	1,172
Total Wages	18,621	16,774
	2018	2017
5. Cash At Bank		
ANZ Online Saver	32,457	32,303
ANZ Term Deposit	85,701	83,966
Cash At Bank	12,209	3,862
Total Cash At Bank	130,367	120,131

These notes should be read in conjunction with the attached compilation report.

2018 2017

6. Property Plant and Equipment

Buildings at cost

Buildings at cost

Club premises - 12 Young Road, Broadmeadow (At Cost)	39,229	39,229
Renovations (At Cost)	235,186	235,186
Total Buildings at cost	274,415	274,415

Total Buildings at cost	274,415	274,415
--------------------------------	----------------	----------------

Plant and Equipment

Plant and equipment at cost	123,238	115,578
Accumulated depreciation of plant and equipment	(65,498)	(62,506)
Total Plant and Equipment	57,740	53,072

Total Property Plant and Equipment	332,154	327,487
---	----------------	----------------

These notes should be read in conjunction with the attached compilation report.