



**NEWCASTLEBRIDGE**

The Newcastle Bridge Club Inc ABN 16 405 302 022

## **Minutes of Annual General Meeting held Saturday 23/09/2023**

## 2023 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

<b>Location:</b>	THE Newcastle Bridge Club 12 Young Road Broadmeadow NSW	<b>Date:</b>	23/09/2023
<b>Chair:</b>	Jeff Biddlecombe	<b>Time:</b>	11:30 am

### AGENDA

1. Apologies
2. Minutes of previous Annual General Meeting dated 19/11/2022
3. Business arising from the 2022 AGM Minutes
4. President's Report
5. Business arising from the President's Report
6. Treasurer's Report for FY ending 30/06/2023
7. Business arising from the Treasurer's Report
8. Appointment of Lambourne Partners as accountants
9. General Business
10. Election of Office Bearers
11. Next Meeting
12. Close

## **Schedule 1: ATTENDEES AND APOLOGIES**

### **ATTENDEES - 32**

Colleen Wilson	Ailsa Kearney	Judy Halliday
Alison Lea	Trish Gleeson	Phillip Halliday
Norma Keith	Marion Smith	Craig Roberts-Thomson
Julie Butel	Cheryl Pletz	Lee Roberts-Thomson
Margaret Vale	Brigitta Kuegler	Bernard Adcock
Cynthia Roberts	Stewart Roach	Enza Di Stefano
Les Brien	Allan Charlesworth	Tony Di Stefano
Jeff Biddlecombe	Mary Williams	Peter Wheatley
Peter Peterson	Ian van Altena	Chris Dibley
Vincia Martin	Janet Hill	Gabriel Felkai
Giles Martin	Pamela Robinson	

### **APOLOGIES - 59**

Wendy Baker	Paul McGrath	June Boyd
E Legovich	Michael Seldon	Monica Peters
Philip Robinson	Graham Woods	Joan Bale
Anne Robinson	Margaret Moulston	Sue McConnell
Pauline Priest	Anne Barr	Henry Wellsmore
Denny Dunsterville	Margaret Stevenson	Trevor Brown
Patsy Morris	Gordon Watkins	Anne Corcoran
Sandra Morris	Pam Dibb	Margaret Pearson
Jan Maddern	Christine Chandler	Tess Oehm
David Puddicombe	Kay Deacon	Graham Rummey
David Corney	Michael Deacon	George Hatherall
Margaret Corney	Kath Daniel	Jennifer Fowler
Alan Hemingway	Peter Stanmore	John Fowler
Jill Achurch	Rocco Galluci	Tess Lewis
Jan Davidson	Delys Brady	Meg Wilson
Rosemary Reid	Livio Faidiga	Angela Jeffs
Effie Roach	David Chapman	Ken Wilks
Jill Cattell	Kath Chapman	Roy Hardy
Caroline Carey	Rosalie Broughton	Christian Ardley
Jennifer Bisset	Neil McMaster	



## AGENDA ITEM

### 1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

Jeff welcomed everyone and thanked them for coming to the AGM.

As a quorum had been reached, the meeting was declared open at 11:30am.

Apologies were received from 59 members (refer to Schedule 1 on the previous page for the list).

### 2. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS AGM DATED 19/11/2022

Jeff Biddlecombe asked if there were any comments regarding the Minutes from the previous AGM. As there were none, Jeff Biddlecombe moved that the Minutes be accepted, and Peter Peterson and Pamela Robinson seconded the motion. The Minutes had previously been signed by Jeff Biddlecombe at the Committee meeting on 13<sup>th</sup> December 2022, subject to approval by members at this AGM.

### 3. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE 2022 AGM MINUTES

There was no business arising from the 2022 AGM Minutes.

### 4. PRESIDENT'S REPORT (Jeff Biddlecombe)

Jeff thanked everyone for coming to the AGM, then proceeded to give his report for the year (copy included at the end of the Minutes).

#### Key points covered were as follows:

- Jeff thanked the Committee for their work, including Ken Wilks (Masterpoint Secretary) and Peter Peterson (Tournament Director). Also Rosalie Broughton who had retired from the Committee earlier in the year.
- Jeff expressed appreciation to the members who volunteer to help the Club, including:
  - David Corney (gardening maintenance), and now Ian van Altena
  - Dealers (Gary Banauch, Graham Woods, Bernie Adcock, Ken Wilks, Rosalie Broughton, Ian van Altena and Christo Moskovsky).
  - Tuesday night supervisors and helpers (Ken Wilks, Janet Hill, Bernie Adcock, Vincia Martin, Judy Halliday, Rodney Bell, Peter Goodwin, Neil Best and Greg Archbold).
  - Standby players
  - Scorers and playing Directors
- Jeff mentioned the Beginners Lessons and their importance in bringing new members to the Club, including younger people.
- Jeff congratulated those members who had represented Newcastle Bridge Club in various tournaments throughout the year.
- Jeff then announced that he was awarding Rosalie Broughton Life Membership to the Club after outlining the criteria and procedures that had been met.

## AGENDA ITEM

Unfortunately Rosalie was not able to attend the AGM but received a loud round of applause for her award.

- Jeff concluded by wishing everyone a happy time during the fast approaching festive season.

### 5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Jeff asked if there were any issues arising from his report.

As there was no business arising from the President's report, Jeff moved that the report be accepted, and there was unanimous acceptance

### 6. TREASURER'S REPORT for FY ending 30/06/2023 (Les Brien).

Les commenced by saying that the notice of the AGM had included the Financial Reports prepared by Lambourne Partners as well as his Treasurer's Report (copy included at the end of these Minutes), and an invitation to submit any questions prior to the AGM. Les advised that as no questions or comments had been received, he would not go through the reports in detail at the meeting, but mentioned the following points:

- In the previous year, the Club had been in COVID lockdown for a total of 10 weeks and had received \$16,500 in Government support. This combined with a loss on investments made it difficult to make any real comparisons between the last two years. However, the loss from Operations in the year ended 30/6/2023 was \$1,114 compared with a loss of \$4,972 in the previous year.
- Les commented that as a Not For Profit organization (hence no profit target or KPIs) he was not concerned that the Club had incurred a small loss. However, Les stressed the importance of getting more players at Bridge sessions as this is the best way to improve the bottom line.
- Les mentioned the replacement of all chairs, adding that the Committee had recently resolved to replace chairs by acquiring a batch of four chairs as and when replacements are required. This strategy will probably result in a number of different chair types as the options available will probably change over time.

Les concluded by thanking the Committee for its support in his first term as Treasurer.

As there were no questions or objections to his report, Les moved that the reports be accepted, Chris Dibley seconded the motion which was unanimously supported.

### 7. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE TREASURER'S REPORT

There was no business arising from the Treasurer's report.

### 8. APPOINTMENT OF LAMBOURNE PARTNERS AS ACCOUNTANTS

Lambourne Partners' appointment as accountants to the Club will continue and as such they will continue to prepare the Financial Statements and advise on regulatory matters as required.



## AGENDA ITEM

### 9. GENERAL BUSINESS

Jeff Biddlecombe then asked members if there were any matters of general business to discuss. There were no comments or questions so the meeting proceeded to election of office bearers.

### 10. ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS

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

<b>President:</b>	Jeff Biddlecombe	<b><u>Ordinary Members</u></b>
<b>Vice President:</b>	Vincia Martin	Ailsa Kearney
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Les Brien	Angela Jeffs
<b>Secretary:</b>	Julie Butel	Caroline Carey
		Christine Chandler

The roles of Masterpoint Secretary and Tournament Director will be confirmed at the next committee meeting.

### 11. NEXT MEETING

The date for the next AGM will be left for the incoming Committee to determine but it will probably be in September.

### 12. MEETING CLOSE: The meeting concluded at 11:50 am.

## CONFIRMED TO BE A TRUE RECORD OF THE MEETING

<b>Moved by:</b>	<i>L. Brien</i>
<b>Seconded by:</b>	<i>P. Paterson</i>
<b>Signed by:</b>	<i>J. Biddlecombe</i>
<b>Date:</b>	<i>3.10.23</i>

Newcastle Bridge Club

Annual General Meeting 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2023

### Presidents Report

Thanks to everybody for turning up to our 2023 AGM.

As President, there are a lot of acknowledgements to go through. Firstly, I would like to thank the committee (Vincia Martin, Julie Butel, Les Brien, Ailsa Kearney, Angela Jeffs and Caroline Carey (for her ongoing work with Facebook and her posters) for the work and extra effort during these times along with our Masterpoint Secretary, Ken Wilks and our Tournament Director, Peter Peterson. We are lucky enough to have had a continuation of the same members from last year.

A special mention to Rosalie Broughton who retired from the committee earlier this year due to other commitments. Her advice and knowledge are a big loss.

More on Rosalie later.

Any club cannot survive well without the input from volunteers, and I would like to highlight and thank the following:

David Corney for his gardening maintenance work. David has now handed over his "green thumbs" to Ian Van Altena, who is continuing the good work.

Our dealers: Gary Banauch, Graham Woods, Bernie Adcock, Ken Wilks, Rosalie Broughton, Ian Van Altena and Christo Moskovsky.

Our Tuesday night supervisors and helpers: Ken Wilks, Janet Hill, Bernie Adcock, Vincia Martin, Judy Halliday, Rodney Bell, Peter Goodwin, Neil Best and Greg Archbold.

Our standby players who assist in giving members the opportunity to get that extra game.

Our Scorers and playing Directors.

We held lessons that started in February, and we picked up at least 6 new members. There is a current set of lessons, 3 weeks in and so far, 12 in the afternoon session and 16 in the evening session. There are several younger people in these groups so hopefully we will retain their "fresh blood" for further years.

I would like to make a special acknowledgement again to our secretary, Julie Butel. Julie has done an admirable job once again, not only in the secretarial duties but filling in for Ken's banking in his absence and generally her devotion to the Club in many unrelated activities. Thanks very much, Julie!

The Club has a lot of success in various tournaments and our top players have done very well and have maintained the strong reputation the Newcastle Bridge Club has. Well done to all those members.

One of my earlier delights in this position was the awarding of Life Membership to a thoroughly deserving person Graham Rummey. I am now able to award another Life Membership to another deserving person. To achieve this honour, a person must have meet several critical criteria which includes, length of membership, committee positions and length in them, other outstanding achievements in the assistance in the betterment of the club. This nomination is then vetted by a sub-committee including a previous President, the current Vice President and President. The decision was unanimous and then presented to the full Committee where it was endorsed.

Unfortunately, this person cannot be present here today, but I still want to publicly acknowledge this granting of Life Membership at this Annual General Meeting. Some of you may have already identified this person but I can formally announce that the recipient is Rosalie Broughton. Well done in absentia, Rosalie.

I would like to conclude by wishing everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year for the upcoming festivities.



The Newcastle Bridge Club Incorporated

**2023 Annual General Meeting Treasurer's Report**

The club's operations over the last few years have been significantly impacted by the presence of COVID.

The club incurred a loss for the year ended 30<sup>th</sup> June, 2023 of \$14,767 compared to a profit last year of \$11,528. The following table shows the results from operations for the last two years:

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
P & L Statement Result	(\$14,767)	\$11,528
Government support payments	-	\$16,500
Loss on sale of Investments	(\$13,653)	-
(Loss) from operations	(\$1,114)	(\$4,972)

- **Table fees** were \$87,010 (see below), and whilst this is up on last year (\$70,222), the amount is less than the pre COVID 2019 level of \$98,042 despite the \$2 increase in table fees.

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
Monday Supervised Play	\$5,064.00	\$1,752.00
Monday Afternoon	\$11,532.00	\$11,186.00
Tuesday Morning	\$21,098.00	\$17,096.00
Tuesday Afternoon	\$0.00	\$552.00
Tuesday Night	\$8,610.00	\$5,836.00
Wednesday	\$6,184.00	\$6,408.00
Thursday Supervised Play	\$230.00	\$0.00
Thursday Morning	\$17,570.00	\$13,354.00
Friday	\$10,390.00	\$9,408.00
Saturday	\$6,332.00	\$4,630.00
<b>Total Table Fees</b>	<b>\$87,010.00</b>	<b>\$70,222.00</b>

- **Subscription fees** of \$9,780 are less than last year (\$10,215) and have been in steady decline viz 2017 \$11,325.
- **Dividends** of \$1,259 were half those of the previous year. See below regarding the investments.
- **Total income** for the year was \$111,724 compared to \$110,538 last year.

- **Expenses** for the year were \$126,490, and after excluding the loss on sale of investments, the breakup of expenses was as follows:
  - Employment 20%
  - Occupancy 35%
  - Administration 45%
- **Loss on disposal of the investments** amounted to \$13,653. See below regarding the investments.

### **Investments:**

The Committee resolved to dispose of the investments for the following reasons:

- **Poor income returns** received by the investments over the last two years (\$1,259 and \$2,459)
- **The uncertainty regarding future income returns** compared to the more attractive interest rates on offer for term deposits
- **The uncertainty regarding changes in market values** of the investments compared to the certainty of the capital value of the term deposits

This resulted in a loss of \$13,653 compared to the original cost.

To put this into perspective, the total income received from the investments since they were acquired amounted to \$9428, and the interest rates on offer for term deposits during the majority of this time were miniscule. By way of background, at the 2019 AGM it was resolved to evaluate alternatives to the low interest rates being received on term deposits and the committee agreed to make the investments at the committee meeting on 12<sup>th</sup> November 2019.

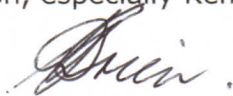
The investments had been written down to market value by \$14,557 at 30<sup>th</sup> June, 2022 (see Reserves in the Equity section of the Balance Sheet) and as the loss on sale of investments was \$13653, there is an increase in Total Equity of \$904. As the loss from operations (excluding the loss on sale of investments) was \$1114, there is only a reduction in Total Equity of \$210 from \$483,202 to \$482,992.

**The Balance Sheet** shows the club in a sound financial position with bank accounts of \$20,439 and term deposits of \$155,000.

We are currently operating at an average of about **52 tables per week** compared with 82 tables per week in 2019. It may be that the 2024 financial year will give us a clearer view of the new "post COVID normal".

At the 2022 AGM, **replacement of all the chairs** was discussed as an example of one-off major expenses that could be incurred in future. Some members expressed the view that that was not necessary at that time. The committee has recently resolved to recommend replacing chairs by acquiring a batch of four chairs as and when replacements are required. This strategy restricts the outlay to the minimum required at any point and negates the need to dispose of perfectly good chairs (which would be the case if all the chairs were replaced at once). The downside is that we could end up with a number of different chairs as the options available will probably change over time.

My thanks to the committee for their assistance during my first term in this position, especially Ken Wilks and Julie Butel.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Les Brien', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Les Brien (Treasurer) 26th August 2023