



The Newcastle Bridge Club Incorporated ABN 16 405 302 022

COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

For meeting held Tuesday 08/04/2025



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COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA

Location:	Newcastle Bridge Club	Date:	08 April 2025
Chair:	Jeff Biddlecombe	Time:	1:30pm

1. Apologies: Ailsa Kearney
2. Minutes of previous meeting dated 18 March 2025
3. Correspondence 3.1. Invitation from Australian Bridge to participate in Australia-wide Novice Pairs (25-31 May) 3.2. Email from Hunter Region Bridge Association (Peter Clarke) re RealBridge game on Wednesday nights
4. Financials 4.1. Treasurer's report 4.2. P & L
5. Business arising from correspondence and previous minutes 5.1. Aveo 5.2. NBC Congresses – feedback and updates 5.3. Potluck (volunteers, pairing process) 5.4. Maintenance: doors on ladies' toilets 5.5. Bins - issues
6. New Business 6.1. Intermediate lessons 6.2. NPD (non-playing directors)
7. General Business 7.1. Suggestion box contents 7.2.
8. Next meeting: 13 May 1:30pm



The Newcastle Bridge Club Incorporated ABN 16 405 302 022

COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES: April 2025

Location:	Newcastle Bridge Club	Date:	08/04/2025
Chair:	Jeff Biddlecombe	Time:	1:30 pm
Attendees:	Jeff Biddlecombe, Jenny Bissett, Les Brien, Julie Butel (minute taker), Christine Chandler, Vincia Martin, Peter Peterson, Ken Wilks.		

AGENDA ITEM

1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

Jeff opened the meeting at 1:40 pm.

Apologies: Ailsa Kearney

2. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING (18/03/2025)

Les moved that the minutes of the previous meeting be accepted and Vincia seconded the motion. Jeff then signed the minutes as a true record of the meeting.

3. CORRESPONDENCE:

- 3.1. Invitation from Australian Bridge to participate in Australia-wide Novice Pairs (25-31 May).** It was agreed to hold the event in the Thursday morning session on 29th May, provided that sufficient players are interested in participating. Entries close 1st May.

Action: *Jeff to announce the event at the Thursday session; Julie to prepare a form for those interested in participating and send an email to members.*

- 3.2. Email from Hunter Region Bridge Association (Peter Clarke) re RealBridge game on Wednesday nights.** An offer of a free game is being made to new players in the game.

Action: *Julie to send an email to members*

4. FINANCIALS (Les)

4.1. P & L (see attached)

4.2. Treasurer's Report for the April meeting (see attached)

Les gave an overview for the YTD ended March 31.

There was a profit of \$10016 for the period compared to a loss of \$5459 in the previous year. The turnaround of \$15476 is due mainly to increased player participation, membership subscriptions and interest. However, the ABF capitation fee of \$6874 is payable in April whereas the fee (\$5031) was paid in March last year.

A Notice of Valuation for the Club's property has been received, which showed a valuation as at 01 July 2024 of \$1,020,000 compared with \$977,000 at 01 July 2022.

Les moved that his report and P&L be accepted which was seconded by Ken.

AGENDA ITEM

5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM CORRESPONDENCE / PREVIOUS MINUTES

5.1. Aveo presentation

As there was insufficient interest from members to participate in the tour and luncheon, it was cancelled. The Club will therefore not receive \$500. Members who had intended to participate can follow up with Aveo themselves if they are interested.

5.2. NBC Congresses - update

- **Restricted / Novice Congress:**

Overall, the event went well with positive feedback received re the atmosphere, catering and event organization. The committee congratulated Vincia (convenor) and Peter (director). The quantity and quality of the food provided was excellent, as was the contribution of members in managing the kitchen..

There were some issues preparing the club for the event on Saturday afternoon as it coincided with the Saturday social – something to be aware of for future Sunday events..

Reconciliation of payments was time consuming as the default payment method is ABF credits if participants don't select an option when registering. Hence, many payments that were paid by cash on the day had to be changed from Bridge Credits (unpaid) in MyABF.

Action agreed: Julie to send email to members thanking them for their contribution

- **June Congress:**

It was agreed that we need to start promoting the Open Congress now that the Novice/Restricted Congress is over.

There was some discussion about payment options, specifically whether to exclude direct deposit as an option, but it was decided to retain it.

Actions agreed: Julie to send an email to members re the Congress (similar to the wording used for the Novice / Restricted Congress); Ken to add a column to the payment envelopes to allow players to note their payment method. Some amendments were noted for the email that is sent to participants prior to the event, including to delete the reference to food at Broadmeadow station, and to add details re where to find the results after the Congress.

5.3. Potluck Partners

- **Pairing of players:** Participants at the March session were asked about the way players are paired. The general consensus was to make it potluck, but with some discretion for overrides if needed.
- **Roster:** A few members (Bob Cass, Judy Halliday) have indicated they are willing to stand in as volunteers/directors if neither Jeff nor Peter are available. At this stage, there will not be a roster.
- **April session:** The April session coincides with the Anzac Day weekend. The event will go ahead if there are sufficient registrations. **Action: Julie to send a reminder email.**

5.4. Maintenance Issues

The temporary fix to the doors in the ladies' toilets is being monitored. If / when the fix fails, Alex Martin will be involved in finding a solution.

5.5. Garbage Bins

Issues are still being encountered with bins not being collected due to parked cars being in the way. It was agreed to put them on the standby players- side driveway.

There was some discussion about what is expected of the cleaners and it was clear that there is some confusion about their schedule of work.

Action: Julie to email the cleaners and request their schedule of work.

AGENDA ITEM

6. NEW BUSINESS

Note: Les Brien left the meeting at this point so was not present for the following discussions.

6.1. Intermediate lessons

There was much discussion about the gaps in our lessons, given the scaled down version of Beginners' Lessons. Currently, the Beginners' Lessons do not cover Weak 2s or pre-empts, Gerber or Blackwood conventions, or reverse bids. Intermediate players are also interested in learning cue and slam bidding, multi 2s, Bergen raises, Card Play, etc, topics which have been taught in the past by several of our members.

Action agreed: It was agreed that this would be best handled by a sub-committee, consisting of some of the members who had delivered lessons in the past, and others. For discussion at the next meeting. In the meantime, potential members to be canvassed re their interest in being involved.

6.2. Non Playing Directors (NPD) (Ken Wilks was not present for this discussion)

The payment for NPDs has remained at \$70 (approx. \$15/hr) for more than 10 years. It was agreed to increase this amount to \$100 for the three sessions that have an NPD, (Tuesday, Thursday and Friday), effective immediately.

There was discussion if a NPD is still needed for the Friday session - it was originally introduced because no-one who regularly attended the session could direct or score.

Action: Peter agreed to look at the Friday session, specifically how many potential directors/scorers regularly attend. If it is possible to remove the NPD from this session, the rate for the Tuesday and Thursday sessions will be revisited.

7. GENERAL BUSINESS:

7.1. Suggestion Box: A suggestion was received that the Committee review the Tuesday night session and consider making it restricted (less than 300MPs). The reason given was that this would make it more comfortable for new / inexperienced players. After discussion, it was agreed to keep it as is because it is currently the only night session available.

Action: Jeff to speak to the originator of the request and explain the rationale for leaving it as is.

8. NEXT MEETING: Tuesday 13 May at 1:30 pm

9. MEETING CLOSE: The meeting concluded at 3:00 pm

CONFIRMED TO BE A TRUE RECORD OF THE MEETING

Moved by:	Jenny Bissett
Seconded by:	Ken Wilks
Signed by:	UJ mark
Date:	13/5/25

Newcastle Bridge Club – Treasurer's Report for April 2025 meeting

P & L for 9 months to March 2025 shows a result of \$10016 profit compared to a loss of \$5459 last year. See excel file P&L Months of 25 year, sheet MAR 25. An estimate has been made for depreciation at the rate of \$450 per month. The actual amount will be processed by the Accountants at year end.

The \$15476 turnaround from last year is mainly as a result of increased subscriptions (\$1325); increased table fees (\$7302); and increased interest (\$3055). **Please note that the ABF capitation fees of \$6874 will be payable in April, whereas \$5031 had been paid by March last year.**

Also see **Table Fees** exercise showing table fees to end of the month; a weekly average; and an estimate for the year.

A Notice of Valuation for the club's property has been received showing a valuation at 1st July, 2024 of \$,1020,000, up from \$977,000 at 1st July 2022.

Funds at end of March – cheque account \$7608 & Online saver account \$14558. Greater Bank business access account \$189

Greater Bank Term Deposits - \$73579 for 6 months at 4.75% pa (matures 10th July 2025), and \$91073 for 6 months at 4.75% pa (matures 29th June 2025).

Newcastle Bridge Club 12 Young Road Broadmeadow 2292 Profit & Loss [With Last Year] July 2024 To March 2025				
	This Year		Last Year	TY - LY
	TY		LY	
Income				
Competitions				
Congress	\$710.00		\$33.60	\$676.40
Weekend Club Events	\$1,154.00		\$1,012.00	\$142.00
Hosting Events	\$470.00		\$1,652.00	(\$1,182.00)
Memberships				
Subscriptions	\$11,040.00		\$9,715.00	\$1,325.00
Table Fees				
Monday Supervised Play	\$7,390.00		\$4,862.00	\$2,528.00
Monday Afternoon	\$7,270.00		\$8,492.00	(\$1,222.00)
Tuesday Morning	\$16,974.00		\$17,138.00	(\$164.00)
Tuesday Night	\$6,404.00		\$5,468.00	\$936.00
Wednesday	\$4,948.00		\$3,930.00	\$1,018.00
Wednesday Supervised Play	\$438.00		\$0.00	\$438.00
Thursday Supervised Play	\$428.00		\$410.00	\$18.00
Thursday Morning	\$16,060.00		\$14,970.00	\$1,090.00
Friday	\$8,404.00		\$8,702.00	(\$298.00)
Saturday	\$8,812.00		\$5,854.00	\$2,958.00
Total Table Fees	\$77,128.00		\$69,826.00	\$7,302.00
Board Dealing	\$1,597.00		\$1,446.00	\$151.00
Hall Hire	\$160.00		\$140.00	\$20.00
Lessons	\$100.00		\$350.85	(\$250.85)
Sundry Receipts	\$680.00		\$20.00	\$660.00
Gain on Disposal of Assets	\$0.00		\$10.00	(\$10.00)
Total Income	\$93,039.00		\$84,205.45	\$8,833.55
Expenses				
Accounting Fees	\$935.00		\$2,200.00	(\$1,265.00)
Card Dealing	\$1,336.00		\$1,089.00	\$247.00
Cleaning	\$11,407.00		\$12,094.75	(\$687.75)
Consumables	\$5,066.28		\$4,237.75	\$828.53
Insurance	\$7,557.00		\$6,797.00	\$760.00
General Expense	\$136.00		\$296.00	(\$160.00)
Printing, Stationery & Postage	\$4,169.05		\$3,850.30	\$318.75
Prize Money	\$4,284.00		\$3,586.00	\$698.00
Refreshments	\$3,561.59		\$3,177.88	\$383.71
Socials	\$2,238.06		\$2,832.50	(\$594.44)
Competitions				
Congress	\$222.91		\$104.00	\$118.91
Other Competitions	\$2,034.81		\$2,171.61	(\$136.80)
Employment Expenses				
Wages				
Office Staff	\$8,711.69		\$7,714.15	\$997.54
Superannuation	\$1,375.62		\$843.94	\$531.68
Non Playing Director	\$7,350.00		\$7,700.00	(\$350.00)

52%

-14%

-1%

17%

26%

4%

7%

-3%

51%

10%

Fees & Levies			
Affiliation (NSWBA)	\$5,300.00	\$5,200.00	\$100.00
Capitation (ABF)	\$30.00	\$5,061.20	(\$5,031.20)
Masterpoints	\$1,507.73	\$1,863.59	(\$355.86)
Repairs & Mtce			
R&M Air Conditioning	\$163.64	\$540.00	(\$376.36)
R&M Building	\$319.94	\$1,490.47	(\$1,170.53)
R&M Equipment	\$1,124.77	\$1,328.15	(\$203.38)
R&M Grounds	\$496.00	\$396.00	\$100.00
Utilities			
Electricity	\$1,893.95	\$1,780.14	\$113.81
Rates - Land / Water	\$10,178.55	\$9,278.69	\$899.86
Telecommunications	\$2,445.31	\$2,030.23	\$415.08
Computer Systems			
Events Calendar	\$170.50	\$271.83	(\$101.33)
Microsoft 365	\$179.00	\$139.00	\$40.00
MYOB Esentials	\$108.00	\$87.50	\$20.50
Pianola	\$600.00	\$600.00	\$0.00
Web Site	\$0.00	\$41.25	(\$41.25)
Depreciation	\$4,050.00	\$3,747.00	\$303.00
Total Expenses	\$88,952.40	\$92,549.93	(\$3,597.53)
Operating Profit	\$4,086.60	(\$8,344.48)	\$12,431.08
Other Income			
Interest Income	\$5,929.54	\$2,874.20	\$3,055.34
Investment Income	\$0.00	\$10.31	(\$10.31)
Total Other Income	\$5,929.54	\$2,884.51	\$3,045.03
Net Profit/(Loss)	\$10,016.14	(\$5,459.97)	\$15,476.11

Table fees to -		Weeks to	Wkly Ave	Est for Yr	
July	9,504.00	5	1901	98842	
August	17456.00	9	1940	100857	
September	24880.00	13	1914	99520	
October	34622.00	18	1923	100019	
November	43022.00	22	1956	101688	
December	50360.00	26	1937	100720	
January	59852.00	31	1931	100397	
February	68206.00	35	1949	101335	
March	77128.00	39	1978	102837	
April					
May					
June					
Membership at		April 2025	April 2024	April 2023	2022
Home members	1		255	247	253
Alternate members			38	28	?
Total			293	275	

1 April 2024 includes 6 life members