



NEWCASTLEBRIDGE

The Newcastle Bridge Club Incorporated ABN 16 405 302 022

COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

For meeting held Tuesday 04/08/2026



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COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA

Location:	Newcastle Bridge Club	Date:	4 August 2026
Chair:	Jeff Biddlecombe	Time:	1:30pm
1. Apologies: Effie Roach			
2. Minutes of previous meeting dated 14 July 2026			
3. Correspondence 3.1.			
4. Financials 4.1. Treasurer's Report			
5. Business arising from correspondence and previous minutes 5.1. Alternative venue for June Congress 5.2. Ron Klinger workshop (6 th January) 5.3. Pot Luck Sunday roster 5.4. GNOTs Regional Final – held 2 nd August 5.5. Education regarding Bridge rules 5.6. Savoury Biscuits			
6. New Business 6.1. Club Pairs Championship			
7. General Business 7.1. Suggestion box 7.2. Duties currently performed by Caroline Carey			
8. Next meeting: TBA			
9. Notes for future meetings: Planning for AGM (scheduled for 21 st Nov) Xmas party			



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COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES: August 2026

Location:	Newcastle Bridge Club	Date:	4/08/2026
Chair:	Jeff Biddlecombe	Time:	1:30 pm
Attendees:	Jeff Biddlecombe, Jenny Bissett, Les Brien, Julie Butel (minute taker), Kathleen Drew, Ailsa Kearney, James Leitch, Peter Peterson, Ken Wilks.		

AGENDA ITEM

1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

Jeff opened the meeting at 1:30 pm.

Apologies: Effie Roach

2. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING (14/07/2026)

Jenny moved that the minutes of the previous meeting be accepted and Ken seconded the motion which was agreed by all present. Jeff then signed the minutes as a true record of the meeting.

3. CORRESPONDENCE

No correspondence was received since the last meeting that needed to be tabled.

4. FINANCIALS (Les)

4.1. Treasurer's Report for August meeting (see attached)

As agreed at the last meeting, Les will report the P & L at the end of each quarter, and the cash position and Table Fee results each month.

The cash balance remains healthy with a total of \$177,868 on hand, most of which is held in term deposits.

The average number of tables per week is still below the target of 70 (the number needed to achieve a break even profit result after depreciation).

After discussion, it was agreed not to increase Table Fees. There is a chance that the new players will help bridge the gap, so no increase will be advised at this year's AGM.

Ken moved that the Treasurer's report be accepted. This was seconded by Jenny and agreed by all present.

5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM CORRESPONDENCE / PREVIOUS MINUTES

5.1. Alternative Venue for the June Congress

Following the proposal by Effie at the last meeting to investigate Wests Newcastle as a possible venue for our June Congress, Kathleen approached the club to get costs and further information.

AGENDA ITEM

A summary of the costs and logistics involved is as follows (*ref attached report*):

- **Room hire:** \$1500 per day (the room used by Wests Bridge Club is too small)
- **Cost / day / player:** \$52 (includes morning and afternoon tea and lunch). Any food or drinks at the end of the day's play would be additional.
- **Parking:** \$6 per hour (Saturday); free on Sunday
- Tables and other Bridge requirements would need to be supplied by us (chairs are available). This would involve hiring a truck (and maybe labour) on the Friday before the event and again at the end of the Congress. This could impact the Friday and Monday sessions.

Based on the above, it is estimated that we would need to charge at least \$80 per delegate to cover costs, including prize money and director's fee.

Decision: While it was agreed that it would be good to have a bigger venue, the cost and logistics of doing so are prohibitive. This is consistent with the information we have obtained previously. Accordingly, it was agreed that next year's Congress will be held at our Club. Thank you to Effie and Kathleen for their work in obtaining the information to enable a decision to be made.

5.2. Ron Klinger Workshop (6th January)

Ron advised that this is the only day he is available so the workshop will not be happening.

5.3. Pot Luck Sunday Roster

Jenny emailed potential participants for a roster and received positive responses from a few. However, Vincia has decided that she's happy to continue as is, but will call on those who have volunteered if and when the need arises. Hence, at this stage, there will be no roster. Thank you to Vincia for her ongoing dedication to this initiative.

5.4. GNOTs Regional Final (held at NBC on Sunday 2nd August)

Peter advised that it was a successful day with 28 teams participating representing 10 clubs. The tables fitted in OK thanks to the expertise of Bernie Adcock. There were snacks and drinks at the end of play but no morning or afternoon tea was provided (except for our usual biscuits, coffee, etc).

Congratulations to the winning team: Graham Woods, Grant Gamage, Janet Hill and Bernie Adcock. The team will not go on to the next round, but the region will be represented by the 3rd, 4th and 5th placed teams (Tomaree, Maitland and Team Dibley).

The invoice for hosting the day (\$510) will be sent to BridgeNSW. This covers the cost of the room hire, photocopying and dealing.

5.5. Education regarding the Rules of Bridge

Peter advised that this will commence in the next few weeks. Jenny is working on displaying selected rules on the TV screen.

5.6. Savoury Biscuits

Ken advised that he has sourced savoury biscuit packs from the regular supplier.

AGENDA ITEM	
6. NEW BUSINESS	
6.1. Club Pairs Championship	
The event is scheduled for Sunday 23rd August. So far 10 pairs (8 Open and 2 Restricted) have registered so the event will go ahead. Peter requested a follow up email in an attempt to attract more entries, with a special emphasis on Restricted players. Julie to action.	
7. GENERAL BUSINESS:	
7.1. Suggestion Box:	
There were no suggestions received since the last meeting.	
7.2. Duties currently performed by Caroline Carey	
Jenny advised that Caroline is keen for a replacement to be found for the duties she currently does (Facebook posts, flyers for the website, Congress brochures, etc). Jenny volunteered to do the Facebook posts. An email will be sent to all members to see if anyone is interested (Julie). Jenny will discuss the 'Job Description' with Caroline for inclusion in the email.	
8. NEXT MEETING: Tuesday 8/09/2026 commencing at 1:30pm (Julie and Kathleen are apologies for this meeting).	

The meeting concluded at 2:10pm

CONFIRMED TO BE A TRUE RECORD OF THE MEETING:

Moved by:		
Seconded by:		
Signed by:		Date:

TREASURER'S BRIEF REPORT

	Bank Accounts						Totals
	ANZ BANK	GREATER BANK					
	Cheque	Saver	Access	TD 1	TD 2	TD 3	
July 2026	9000	25	638	65972	97188	5045	177868
June 2026	7684	25	769	64642	97188	5045	175353
May 2026	8784	25	786	64642	95217	5045	174499

	Table Fees	desired target is 70+
	1	2
August 2025	2063	64
September	2138	67
October	2113	66
November	2119	66
December	2112	66
January 2026	2125	66
February	2134	67
March	2120	66
April	2112	66
May	2107	66
June	2107	66
July	2057	64

1 weekly twelve month rolling average

2 average tables per year NB 78 tables per week in 2019

West's - NEX	Comments
Date	12 & 13 June, 2027
Potential Numbers	100-160 participants
Time	9am - 5pm
Room Hire	1500 per day
EXTRA'	includes data projector, screen, 2 x microphones, wifi (no printer available) printing can be done by front desk, charged per copy
Day Delegate	52 per day includes Morning tea, working lunch, afternoon tea
Parking	6 per hour Bull St underground parking free parking on Sunday parking ticket can be validated with proof of \$20 purchase within club
Tables	NBC
Tablecloths	NBC
Boards (cards)	NBC
Bidding Pads & holders	NBC
Bridge Mates	NBC
Small bins	NBC
Side Tables	NBC
Set Up	NEX
Trestle tables	NEX
Chairs	NEX
Catering	NEX

NB: we would need to hire a truck & workers to pick up and drop off tables which may interfere with general Monday to Friday club activities