



Annual General Meeting

Wednesday 25th September 2024, 6.00 PM

Canberra Bridge Club & also via Zoom

MINUTES *DRAFT*

Attendance:

Present: Cathy Nichols, John Niven, Roger Brake, Niek Van Vucht, Stephen Fischer, Wendy Boxall, John Donovan, David Clarkson, Toni Adams, John Brockwell, Barry Butz, Sally Vardy, Catriona Bruce, Suzanne Samarcq, Elizabeth Havas, Tony Hedley, Simon Grant, Michele Grant, Maxwell Ashurst, Richard Hills, Brian Thorp, Ralf Behrens, Jon Pike, Peter Wardrop, Monica Brook

Online (Zoom): Keith Huggan, Marianne Bookallil, Patricia McDonald, Lyn Carter

1. The president opened the meeting at 18.05, thanked everyone for attending and confirmed a quorum was in attendance & that the meeting was being conducted face to face and via ZOOM.
2. *Apologies:* Ian Thomson, Jennifer Yeats, Andrew Dawes, Annie McMaster, Judy Harris, George Stockham, Alex Hewat, Nikki Riszko, Andrew Struik, Donna Stewart
3. **Acknowledgement of proxy votes:** Nil
4. **Confirmation of Minutes of the 2023 AGM**

Motion: "That the Minutes of the AGM of 2023 be accepted as a true record of that meeting". Proposed: Niek Van Vucht, Seconded: Stephen Fischer Carried.

5. **Matters arising from the Minutes of the AGM of 2023:** Nil

6. **Report of the President**

The President advised that her full report was available on the BFACT website. (Precis presented). Another busy year, with CiB well supported last year & this year. Thanks to the team behind it and to CBC. Thanks to Cootamundra Bridge Club who hosted the InterClub, next one scheduled outside of Canberra is in 3 years. A warm welcome is extended to the Gungahlin Bridge Club, which joined BFACT during the year. Thanks to Barry Butz helping Gungahlin and Monaro. Changes at the ABF, both with events, the organisational structure and price increases were highlighted. Working party started for the ANC in 2026. On behalf of BFACT and the wider bridge community the President would like to thank John Niven and Keith Huggan who are retiring as Secretary and Vice President, respectively.

Motion that the President's Report be accepted Moved: Wendy Boxall Seconded: David Clarkson. Carried.

Note that Gungahlin BC reiterated the help that Barry Butz gave and the ACT MP Secretary gave thanks to the President for her work over the last couple of years.

7. **Report of the Treasurer**

The Treasurer advised that that his full report (including Financials and Reviewer's Report) is posted on the website. In summary a small surplus (previous year a deficit), mainly due to Canberra in Bloom and an increase in affiliation fees. Expecting a bigger profit this year due to the ANC being in Orange (decreased costs in sending players) and also Canberra in Bloom being full. Explicit amount in budget for funding of youth bridge, not all spent this year. There is also increased costs associated with the ABF pricing changes. The healthy levels of reserves, is a requirement to enable BFACT to run the ANC. (NB The 'Note' in the report needs a minor amendment).



Motion that the Treasurer's Report be accepted Moved: Cathy Nichols Seconded: Carried.

8. Appointment of auditor for 2024-25

The Treasurer proposed that we continue with the current arrangement of appointing Sean Galbraith as auditor.

Moved: Roger Brake Seconded: Cathy Nichols

9. Report of the Tournament Secretary

Niek advised that his report is available on the website. Some of the qualifying events didn't work, so he is looking to change the format to open entry to all events, on weekends. Niek to look at the NSW approach to selection, especially for the lower categories. The Gala pairs selection event also needs to be looked at.

Motion That the Tournament Secretary's report be accepted Moved: John Donovan Seconded: Richard Hills Carried

10. Affiliation Fees for 2024-25

The Treasurer recommended that the Affiliation Fees remain unchanged.

Motion That the annual affiliation fee for 2024-25 year remain at \$10 (including GST) for all members of affiliated bridge clubs. Moved: Roger Brake, Seconded: Stephen Fischer Carried

11. Appointment of Returning Officer

President appointed Stephen Fischer as returning officer.

The Returning Officer asked if there were any nominations from the floor. There were none.

12. Election of Officer Bearers

The Returning Officer advised that there were 4 positions for which there was one nomination for each position and a vote (secret ballot) was needed for the position of Vice President. The Vice President nominees gave a brief statement regarding their credentials for the role. Online votes were also collected. The Returning Officer announced each Position and Nominee, and the successful elected candidates were:

Position

President	Wendy Boxall	Declared elected
Treasurer	Roger Brake	Declared elected
Vice President	Richard Hills	Declared elected
Secretary	Cathy Nichols	Declared elected
Tournament Secretary	Niek Van Vucht	Declared elected

13. Other Business

The President introduced herself and asked if there were any other business.

Richard Hills asked for a show of support for a Charity Quiz night. It was noted that it was a worthwhile use of the facilities. Show of hands supported the idea.

The President thanked everybody for their attendance and declared the meeting closed at 6.35 pm.