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President: Eunice de Vries Secretary: Anne Grayden Treasurer: Peter Mackey

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF CENTRAL COAST LEAGUES CLUB BRIDGE CLUB
held Thursday 31st July, 2025

1. The Meeting opened at 10.30am by the President, Eunice de Vries, with a welcome to everyone.

2. Attendance – 31 members attended the Meeting (see attached). NB. the required quorum according to our Constitution is 20 members.

3. Apologies - 44 members recorded an apology - (see attached) In addition, Steve & Mary Collings (our online members) sent apology

4. The Draft Minutes for previous AGM (Thursday 25th July, 2024) and all Reports had been e-mailed, or hard copies sent, to the membership. Moved: Trish Dennis; seconded: Marion Ellis, that the Minutes be accepted. Carried

5. Business arising from Minutes. Comment by Dorothy Berzins that Election of Committee usually precedes General Business, on Agenda. Last year's Minutes were taken as guide but order was reversed for this year. Margaret Regan asked about possible new club rooms. Eunice explained that the facilities offered were unsuitable as they were too small.

There was no other business arising

6. The President's Report (see attached). All have had an opportunity to acquaint themselves of content of this report, previous to the Meeting, but Eunice thanked the Committees for their work throughout year & noted that four long time members of the present Committee are standing down this year.

7. The Treasurer's Report (see attached). Peter explained that the $725.21 deficit
Is due to accounting procedure & some monies due to us are not yet received.

8. Business arising from Treasurer’s Report. Adding to this, Louis Koolen commented that we have not received the sponsorship from TIBI (for Congress) – this is for $500. Peter also explained that our grant from CCLC was increased this year. (see Treasurers Report)

Margaret Regan asked why ‘Petty Cash/Hunter Valley’ were together. Peter explained that it was a matter of convenience, but he will consider restructuring the presentation of items in the accounts.

David Bowerman asked how financial interactions with MyABF works. At present time, Peter explained, MyABF puts the money they owe us (for session payments etc made through MyABF) into our account at the beginning of each month for the previous month – so all money owed to us for July ’25 has not yet been paid in.

Peter further explained that it was paid in as a lump sum and it wasn’t always easy to know dates etc. Wendy Mitchell agreed that dates need to be included but Alan Bustany advised that all events/details can be found on MyABF.

Adele Mills asked if a comparison between this year and previous year could be included in accounts. Peter said he would do so next year.

Pauline Caust said catering costs increased greatly when we moved from Donnison St building back into club after Covid.

Moved Stephenie Mathews; seconded Margaret Regan, that the Treasurers Report be accepted. Carried

9. The Tournament Organiser's Report (see attached) Julie presented this Report commenting that it is pleasing the attendance on Thursday evening continues to improve. There are now two evening sessions catering for those members who are still working. Julie thanked all Directors for their work throughout the past year.

10. Motions on Notice.

President explained that although two Motions appear on the Agenda, the first has been withdrawn in writing to the Secretary, so we'll proceed with the second at this stage.

The Motion was put by Louis Koolen, and seconded by Julie Sadler, and calls for changes to be made to S8(c)(i) & S8(c)(ii)Strike out 'and potential directors'
S8(c)(i) ………….Strike out 'and any members of the club that wish to be members of this committee'
S8(c)(ii)…………. Strike out 'and potential directors' and replace with …….Any potential directors may attend as observer
The procedure for speaking either for or against Motion had been sent to all members; Pauline Caust presented a summary of process here. Eunice acted as timer.

Mover

Louis spoke about changes he proposed were based on the concept of making meetings more manageable – it was difficult to control a meeting if others could come & speak although potential directors can come but as observers
Questions to Louis – Adele Mills asked why we need restrictions and how many disruptions had occurred in past.
Louis answer: twice people had turned up
Dorothy Berzins asked if past Directors could turn up.
David Bowerman asked why TC is restricted to Directors
Pauline Caust asked why the Motion limits and does not encourage interest by potential directors.
Referring to S8 (c)(i) …The committee shall consist of all active tournament directors…. Kevin Hughes how the term 'active' is defined in writing.
Louis responded that it is in the bylaws.
Kevin replied there is no definition in bylaws.
Louis responded that those listed are active.
Dorothy Berzins asked why people have to be directors to be on the Tournament Committee
Louis responded that you need experience running tournaments and if they haven't been directors, they don't have that experience
Dorothy asked how new ideas can be presented if non-committee members cannot attend
Louis responded that new ideas could be proposed
Dorothy replied that the proponent could not advocate for those new ideas if not allowed to attend meeting. She also asked why the two committees were combined. George Connell asked why the problem could not be solved if the meetings were run by meeting rules

Louis replied that people at the meeting would be allowed to vote according to the bylaws

Julie (as Seconder of Motion) reserved her right to speak until later.

Against Motion: Wendy Mitchell said by-law 8(c) was introduced in March 2014 and that two separate meetings (Tournament Organisers & Directors) used to be held. Wrong to exclude people from attending the committes serve two distinct functions. It conflicts with Rules of CCLCBC which says Tournament Organiser is usually VP which implies it does not have to be – The Rules do not discriminate between members and members who are also Directors. Inactive directors could provide valuable input to directors committee.

A question was put to Wendy re potential to alter wording.

Questions to Wendy finished and Julie did not take up her right to speak.

Pauline Caust said she was not for the Motion and did not want it to go to a vote. Section 38 of CCLC Constitution may need to be considered and that CCLC may not approve change.

Louis's right of reply: He still thinks the Tournament Committee meeting should be controlled by Vice President but otherwise agrees to general sentiment. He wants the management to the TC to be streamlined so there are no interruptions by other not on Committee. He agreed that the CCLC would need to approve, but but the provision does not bar our vote.

Alan Bustany reminded Louis that Tournament Committee was set up as a sub-committee by the Management Committee and that neither an invitee nor someone who just shows up has voting rights.
Louis maintained that anyone who shows up has voting rights on the committee.
Alan disagreed.

After discussion of Motion concluded and before voting on it, Pauline Caust proposed an amendment to the Notice of Motion.

Motion reads:
That the Management Committee undertake a review of the CCLCBC By-laws and determine whether Clause 8(c) (i) and (ii) should be amended by ....
S8(c)(i) Strike out 'and any member of the club that wish to be members of this committee'

S8(c)(ii) Strike out 'and potential directors' and replace with ….'any potential directors' and replace with 'any potential directors may attend as observers'.

Moved: Pauline Caust; seconded Stephanie Mathews

Members voted to accept amendment: 26 for, 0 opposed, 5 abstainers.

<u>Pauline Caust speaking for the amended Motion.</u>
We do not want the proposed Motion to be passed by the meeting. Clause 38(e) of the Constitution of the Central Coast Leagues Club provides that the 'constitution and rules or By-Laws of each section of the Club, in this case the bridge club, 'may be amended by a majority of members at a general meeting of the club. "However, an amendment proposed and approved by a General Meeting of the section (internal club), will not have effect unless and until it has been approved by resolution of the Board" I don't think this is something that the Board of the Leagues Club needs to be concerned about.

The Rules of the Club, found on our website under 'Constitution', which have previously been approved by the Board of the Leagues Club, place responsibility for sub committees in the hands of the Committee. The Committee has taken up responsibility by creating two sub committees - the Tournament Committee and the Directors Committee.

The Committee is best placed to conduct a review of Clause 8 of the By-laws. They created the sub committees; they determined who would be a member & what those committees would be responsible for. Sub committees report back to the Committee. So, the Committee, who is best placed to know needs of the Bridge Club, should decide in consultation with members of the Tournament Committee, the Directors Committee, and the Leagues Club, whether the By Law needs to be amended.

There being no speakers against the Amendment a vote was taken, by show of hands, to accept it.

The Amended Motion was passed - 22 members approved and 2 opposed.

11. New Committee: Dorothy Berzins, as Life Member, was asked to conduct the election of the new Committee. No positions were opposed so Dorothy announced the following members, as having been duly elected.

President: Eunice de Vries
Vice President: Louis Koolen
Secretary: Stephanie Mathews
Treasurer: Peter Mackey
Committee Members: Ruth Griffin
Julieanne Perceval
Margo Burnet
Leonie Lovell
Lyn Harrold

9. General Business.

a) Adele Mills asked for a review of start times for sessions. Wants all day sessions to be at 12.30pm. Discussion followed with past poll results showing most people wanting 1pm. It was agreed to refer it to Management Committee.

b) Gary Heyting asked that scores be turned off on BridgeMates – reasons people talking can be annoying to people still playing, spoken results are giving information to those at nearby tables and it can be insulting to either partner or opposition. Also, it slows play and other clubs don't show results. At a minimum, results should not be shown on red point events. Kevin Hughes supported re discussion slowing play. Wendy Mitchell made the point that educated players & teachers have an advantage by knowing scoring system. Pauline Caust – against talk at table but we do have rules to prevent slow play. The senior players generally take time thinking but they're usually not over allotted time.

Wendy Mitchell added that the problems could be overcome if players followed the rules – need to train players not to discuss results.

Dorothy Berzins noted that when club agreed to use BridgeMates it was conditional upon the results being displayed as they would be on travellers.

Lyn Harold finds seeing scores to be deflating. Louis wants them turned off to avoid unauthorised information.

Eunice ended conversation with a promise to poll membership and refer matter to the Management Committee.

c) Kevin Hughes asked if anything had been done to train up Directors. Reply there is a workshop being organised, Pauline Caust & Leon Babinski went to course with John MacIlrath earlier in year.

d) Kevin Hughes drew attention to The Playing Conditions as stated at the front of our Program. Pt 8 specifically says **DISCUSSION of boards should NOT occur at the table.** He suggested that Directors stress this.

e) Kevin Hughes also asked if more could be done to support the Novice and Restricted players

Meeting closed at 12.25pm.