

2017 Central Districts Regional Conference

Held Sunday 30th April 2017 at Palmerston North 10.00 am to 3.05pm.

Present:

Committee: Colin Carryer (Chair), Bryan Green, Mairi Fitzsimons, Sandra Calvert (Secretary/Treasurer)

NZ Bridge : Alan Dormer (Chairperson) Alister Stuck (Secretary), Karen Martelletti, Murray Wiggins

Clubs/Representatives: **Havelock North** – Cecile Gyde & Ann Ryan, **Wanganui** – Les Gould, **Palmerston North** – Graeme Thomson & Sharon Mosley, **Hokowhitu** – Alan Dodderidge, **Levin** – Bryan Green, **Feilding** – Rob Sinclair & Janice Coleman, **Hastings** – Caroline Wiggins, **Marton** – Martin Oyston & Pat Oyston

Apologies:

Committee: Susan Sykes

Clubs: Gisborne, Taradale, Dannevirke

Welcome from the Chair. It was disappointing to note that there were a number of Clubs who did not put in apologies or reply at all to the Conference invite.

Club updates (brief notes only) -

Havelock North: Retaining members is a concern, 17 people for this years lessons, there are a number of registered players who are not playing.

Wanganui: Got 62 at improvers lessons last year. They had more people apply for committee than required

Palmerston North: Major change about 18 months ago to the way committee was run, constitution changed & they now have several sub-committees. One major problem is getting people through the door – so this year they have used facebook & NZ post mail drops to advertise the learners lessons. Lessons start shortly

Levin: Membership is dropping. Website refreshed & using Pianola. Rooms renovated

Marton: This is a small club with approx. 50 members. However good attendance of about 7 tables at their twice weekly playing sessions

Hastings: Open night was dwindling so they have added an A point event over several nights to rejuvenate – seems to be working. Retention of members is also a problem

Feilding: Good position all playing sessions well attended, great camaraderie, 5 out of 7 learners joined last year

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Email: cdbridgeregion@gmail.com

Website: cdregionnzl.wordpress.com

Hokowhitu: Club is in good health & Numbers improving. It was noted they have concerns over the NZB constitution. They want power returned to Clubs, with a major example being that Board members should not have their length of service restricted. It was mentioned that the case in question with Alan Turner must have cost a great deal in legal fees to clarify. Hokowhitu recommend taking out the clause restricting length of service out of the constitution.

Positive mentions and ideas from clubs that may be useful : Use day time lessons/play, having mentors for new members, new members going straight into teams or swiss, NZB has a good training website for learners, Use of Pianola – emails can be targeted to specific groups, take university & school lessons at the Uni or school rather than the club.

- 2 Remits from Palmerston Club – We were advised that Remit No 2 had already been submitted by another club & accepted for the National Conference. Remit No 1 also had a similar remit submitted and accepted for the National Conference with the difference being the % of member to request the meeting. A show of hands from the attending club representatives at the meeting supported remit no 1 and the CD Committee voted to endorse it as well. This will be submitted at the National Conference in June.
- Alan Dormer – Alan gave an update as NZB Chairperson. Constitutional review is a priority – will take at least a year. 2 new board members are now required. Consultation & listening are the key. Masterpoints/Grading/Rankings are to be looked at. Martin Oyston proposed a vote of thanks to Alan for supplying the Newsletters.
- Karen Martelletti presented a slideshow on the on new Website/Masterpoints. There are many enhanced features.
- I/P Trials – Colin requested that Clubs actively encourage members to apply especially intermediate players who may not be fully aware of what the competition is about. Whilst it was noted that CD committee could change the format of the trials, Martin Oyston mentioned that the I/P flyer wording should be changed so all people applying were aware of this.
- Bryan gave a brief discussion on the Tournament Schedule & CD Junior/Intermediate Trophies – Clubs should encourage members to apply for the trophies. A copy of the tournament policy was handed out.
- Coaching Grant Application forms given out along with NZB guidelines
- General Business
 - Clubs/individuals need to think about going on the CD Committee as there are a few current members looking to resign next year
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- Murray Wiggins commented on the Pianola system. NZB is also looking into the possibility of a new grading system based on an on English Bridge Union algorithm which is linked into the master point collection programme.
- Director training for CD – it was noted that Laws are changing this year. Murray is attending a workshop on this and it is an issue for other regions as well and is a work in progress.

Meeting finished approx. 3.05



Sandra Calvert
Secretary
Central Districts Regional Committee