

**ILLAWARRA BRIDGE ASSOCIATION
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2018
MINUTES**

10th November 2018

WELCOME

President Jill MacRae welcomed all present. The meeting began at 12.30 p.m.

PRESENT

John Kilgower, Phil Barker, Chris Yates, Jeff Carberry, Stuart Cutsforth, Jan Greenlees, Lily Gulati, Kaye Hart, Penny Howes, Liz & Steve Hurley, Carol Jeffs, Sue Kennedy, Rob Kinloch, Renate La Marra, Aileen O'Brien, Marie Pickering, Jill & Larry Regterschot, Lindsey Smith, Kay Snowden, Lynne & Ken Soldi, Margaret & John Spira, Cheryl Waters, Moira Cunningham, Glenys Coomer, Betty Pieters, Marian Lerman, Carolyn Githens, Leonee Dixon, Steve Smith, Marie O'Neill, Barbara Overington, Ron Knowles

APOLOGIES Ken Mclvor, Ngaire Meehan, Andrew Smith, Rilla England, Joyce Hoyle

PROXIES

To Phil Barker: Maria Christensen

To Marie O'Neill: Anne Macinnis

MINUTES of the 2017 AGM were accepted as a true record.

Moved: Marian Lerman, seconded: Carol Jeffs

REPORTS ON ACTIVITIES OF THE ASSOCIATION

Presidents Report. Jill MacRae spoke to her written report, emphasising thanks to the directors and the Tournament Committee, to Ken Mclvor, to Marie Pickering and Paul Lavings for lessons, as well as others as in the written report. It is due to the lessons that the membership has increased. The Club has "come of age",- we are now definitely over 21 –illustrated by the fact that the Management Committee has moved from the founding fathers to the "next generation".

Barbara Overington was content to let the written **IBAND Report** stand on its own feet, as does IBAND.

Marie Pickering spoke to the **Business Plan Report** emphasising that the club was still working on ways to introduce younger players to the game. The approach to high schools was ultimately unsuccessful, but beginning in March we will offer Saturday morning classes aimed at younger players and free for all below 30 years of age. Steve Hurley has volunteered to assist Marie with these classes.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Jill MacRae, in the absence of Ngaire Mehan, referred members to the written report and assured members that the Club is financial.

ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS

The chair was taken by Steve Hurley. He thanked the members of the committee for their hard work during the preceding year.

- President: Jill MacRae elected unopposed
- Vice president: Marie Pickering elected unopposed
- Secretary: Carolyn Githens elected unopposed
- Treasurer: Ngaire Meehan elected unopposed
- Ordinary Members: Phil Barker, Julie Cowling, Carol Jeffs, Ken McIvor, Barbara Overington, Cheryl Waters elected unopposed

Jill MacRae returned to the chair and made special thanks to retiring secretary, Lindsey Smith, mentioning some of the contributions she had made to the successful running of the Club, as outlined in the President's written report.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Questions or comments were elicited for consideration in the coming year.

Jenny Muscio inquired about changes to the dividing line in the Hi-Lo events. Jeff Carberry explained that the final choice had to left to the directors on the day because it depended on who signed up (and turned up) as to what dividing point was needed to get a balance of players above and below. 40 MP was about right when the event first started but the levels overall have risen so that for the event held today(10th November), 100 MP was the best guess before the event.

Steve Hurley emphasised the need for lots of fliers about the Saturday lessons which will begin in March.

The meeting closed at 1.05 p.m.

Presidents Report

2018 marks a year into our renewed lease on the clubrooms at the Figtree Community centre. We have come of age. Maturity shows in the increased numbers playing bridge, not only within the club but in congresses and tournaments beyond our walls.

The club is about the people and our club is benefitting from the dedicated input of a growing band of volunteers. The club runs smoothly because many members do a bit extra every week. A big thank you to all. Some deserve a special mention.

1. First of these are the directors, ably lead by our Tournament Director, **Jeff Carberry** and the Tournament Committee. As chairman of the tournament committee, **Rob** had worked very hard on the tournament regulation and code of conduct.
2. **Ken McIvor** as business manager spoils us all with his readiness to prepare and repair the clubrooms.
3. Improving and intermediate players have benefitted from “pop up” lessons on Mondays, delivered by **Marie Pickering**.
4. An extra session on Tuesday afternoon provides a competitive game in a quieter atmosphere due to the dedication of **Andrew Smith**.
5. **Ngairé Meehan**, our treasurer, works hard and efficiently.
6. Our editor, **Peter Graham**, has produced many interesting and informative newsletters and is stepping down, thank you Peter. And thanks to Dave G for stepping up.
7. **Cheryl Waters** as web manager for the club’s website has dragged us into the technological age.
8. IBAND continues to thrive under the leadership of **Barbara Overington** and her dedicated volunteers. The Friday afternoon session provides further opportunity for developing players to play Bridge.

9. **And now to Lindsey Smith.** As the clubs secretary for many (7) years, she has brought a new level of organisation to the many strands of the secretary's job. Put the club's records in order, regularly updated the memberships, communicated with Council when navigating us through the application for the new lease, developed a set of procedures for the Management committee. In time of chaos and turmoil....in the past...she waded through rules and regulations to ensure that all our actions complied. She rewrote some of the rules to avoid ambiguity in the future. She leaves the office tidy and organised, ready for future committees. No mean feat and truly a reflection of the calibre of her contribution. Her legacy stretches beyond her post as secretary. She initiated regular Hi-Lo sessions. As a further result of Lindsey's dedication to the Club and its members she has taken part of the responsibility for the Library, its development and improved accessibility. We are very grateful, as future committees will be, that Lindsey Smith has been our secretary. She is stepping down this year and so she will be able to relax and play the game and let someone else do the worrying.

Thank you to this year's committee as a whole.

Thank you to all the members who comply every session with the ethos of the club to provide a fair and competitive bridge game in a friendly atmosphere.

Jillian MacRae - 10th November, 2018