



**STEPBRIDGE AUSTRALIA BRIDGE CLUB INCORPORATED
INC1601614**

Email contact: admin@stepbridge.com.au

MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING

of

STEPBRIDGE AUSTRALIA BRIDGE CLUB INCORPORATED NSW NO.1601614

**HELD VIA SKYPE ON 6 SEPTEMBER 2021 AT
5.00 P.M. (NSW, QLD & TAS), 4.30 P.M. (SA), 9.00 A.M. (Netherlands)**

- 1. Present**
- | | |
|-------------------|---------------|
| Sarah Anwar | Chris Larter |
| Mark Hetherington | Rita Pringle |
| Brenda McClean | Steve Pringle |
| Epko Steinmetz | Eric Taylor |
| Antonina Hayles | Mardi Hogarth |

2. Acceptance of Minutes from Previous Committee Meeting on 7 June

Moved: Chris **Seconded:** Rita **All accepted.**

3. President's Report

A copy of the President's report was sent out prior to the meeting via email.

Sarah spoke to this report at the meeting. The key points were the following.

- Numbers are up due to COVID lockdowns
- Applications for usernames have kept coming in
- Support line is hot due to new and returning players requiring support
- Most sessions are single TD sessions due to the increased numbers
- Suspended Players letter

There was a motion to ban a suspended pair, who had been suspended before.

Moved: Sarah **Seconded:** Rita **All accepted.**

There was then a discussion regarding removal of Masterpoints for banned pairs and the software used to identify players with suspicious bids or play.

Then all agreed that, after further investigation, masterpoints be removed from banned pairs as appropriate.

Congresses

- Grafton held a Congress on Saturday 21 August: thanks to Mark for his effort with lots of leg work.
- Upcoming Congresses on Sunday 19 September (Sanctuary Cove) and Wednesday 6 October (Central Coast). StepBridge will hold its Congress on Sunday 31 October with no other tournaments held on this day.

Virtual Clubs

- Bathurst Bridge Club are in lockdown situation due to being close to Dubbo. They are now running their sessions on the StepBridge Virtual Club.
- Orange Bridge Club also looking at the virtual club on StepBridge.
- Finesse Bridge Club are running sessions each week on the StepBridge Virtual Club and soon will be starting lessons and supervised play as well.

State Affiliation

- There was much discussion. It was decided that more information is required, and it was deferred until to the next meeting for any decision to be made.

Vision for the Future

- We are need of more technical people involved and therefore not be left behind with the competition for online bridge. There are more online options than pre-COVID – BBO Virtual Clubs, Real Bridge, Real Deal Bridge, MasterBridge etc.
- Thank you for those who contributed over last 18 months, and what has been done.

Moved: Sarah **Seconded:** Mardi **All accepted.**

4. Treasurer's Report

The profit and loss statement and balance sheet were provided prior to the meeting.

Steve spoke to the profit and loss statement and balance sheet at the meeting.

Steve asked about membership numbers at the moment.

Thanks to small group of people – Sarah, Mark, Chris, Epko and his team.

Moved: Steve **Seconded:** Eric **All accepted.**

5. Chief Technical Officer's Report

A copy of the Chief Technical Officer's report was sent out prior to the meeting via email.

Sarah spoke to this report at the meeting.

Moved: Mark **Seconded:** Steve **All accepted.**

6. New Business

a. Annual General Meeting

Sunday 26 September, 10am.

The first mailer has been sent out. The main reason the mailer was delayed, was due to Treasurer reports being submitted late.

b. Change of State Affiliation

Discussed in President's Report

c. Suspended Players

Discussed in President's Report

d. Bert – 100th Birthday on 13 September

A special session is proposed for 1pm on Monday 20 September. Plans will be put into place and advertised.

Next Meeting

Monday, 11 October, 5.00pm.

Meeting closed 6.03pm (AEST)

Chris Larter

Minute Secretary