

**Redcliffe Bridge Club Inc.**  
Minutes for the  
Annual General Meeting 14<sup>th</sup> June, 2021

1. Fay Jeppesen (President & Chairperson) welcomed the Members present and opened the meeting at 10.05 a.m.

**PRESENT:** 38 as per Attendance Book.  
**APOLOGIES:** 9 as per Attendance Book.  
**PROXIES:** 5 as per Attendance Book.

2. Fay drew attention to the Draft Minutes for the 2020 AGM and there being no comments on these Fay read the following:

**Motion 1:** That the minutes presented for the AGM on 24 September, 2020 be accepted as a true record of the meeting. Proposer: Melissa Weber. Seconder: Ron Elmes . **Carried.**

3. There was no business arising from the above minutes.

4. Fay drew attention to the minutes from the Special General Meeting in October, 2020 as shown in the Annual Report, and read the following:

**Motion 2:** That the minutes presented for the Special General Meeting on 24 October, 2020 be accepted as a true record of the meeting. Proposer: Melissa Weber. Seconder: Steve Woodrow. **Carried.**

5. Fay referred members to her President's Report as printed in the Annual Report and thanked the many members who contribute to our club with their volunteer work. Fay then proposed the following:

**Motion 3:** That the Presidents Report be adopted. Proposer: Fay Jeppesen. Seconder: Ross Shardlow. **Carried.**

6. Wayne referred the members to his **Treasurer's Report** in the Annual Report and noted the following:

(a) For the first time in a long time the Club made a small loss. For the year ended 31 March, 2021 we had a loss of \$4,651. Wayne noted that the Club was shut for most of April, May, June and July in 2020 due to Covid-19, so our Table Fees for the year were down significantly. We also had some savings during the Covid lockdown mainly in the areas of cleaning and catering. Wayne noted that we upgraded our photocopier during the year as the old one had a number of problems. He also noted that we did have some extra cleaning and hygiene related expenses due to Covid, but that the ABF had reduced their fees for the year in order to help club's with Covid-related expenses.

(b) Wayne advised that overall the Auditors are happy with our finances but they have asked our Management Committee to address two issues:

(i) Cash Handling. The auditors are concerned that it is usually the same person who receives cash, issues the receipt, does the banking, and does the entry into Quickbooks. This issue is now obsolete, as we are now receiving all payments by card there will be no cash receipts. We also have a reconciliation form which is completed by the person receiving paywave payments for each session, which is signed and then passed on to the Treasurer for checking.

(ii) The Auditor advised that we should be doing a self-assessment each year to show that we are exempt from paying Tax. Wayne has printed the appropriate form from the Tax Office and will now start doing this each year in January. Jill Hanley asked when did this self-assessment procedure come in? Wayne advised that it has been around for a while but we didn't know. Our auditor has never picked this up in the past but the person doing the audit this year was a different accountant (same company but a different person).

Wayne then asked members for any comments or questions. Neil Gibson commented that \$430,000 is a large amount of money for us to have in the bank and perhaps we could be using some of it for the advancement and appreciation of the game of bridge. Fay addressed this saying that we haven't increased our membership fees or table fees for many years; we provide free beginner lessons and free supervised play; and we provide beginners with 4 games with a mentor. In the past we have had educators such as Joan Butts, Ron Klinger and Andy Hung come to the club to provide lessons, but during the Covid environment over the past 16 months this hasn't been appropriate. Fay also commented that we provide our volunteers with free games which helps the Club to keep operating, and we spend quite a bit of money on catering and the Christmas Party which is free for members. The Club also subsidizes entry to competitions such as the Australia Wide Pairs, and keeps our table fees for events such as the GNOTs at a very low amount. She also commented that we are in a fortunate position where we occupy a council building and pay no rent and limited maintenance costs. This may not always be the case, so our committees have been reluctant to spend savings in case at some point we need to set up at new premises with increased costs. Fay then asked if anyone had any suggestions about what we could spend our money on, and advised that the Management Committee is always happy to hear ideas from members about what we could be doing to benefit the Club.

Fay then read:

**Motion 4:** That the Treasurer's Report and Financial Statements be adopted. Proposer: Wayne Parker. Seconder: Melissa Weber. **Carried.**

7. Fay read **Motion 5:** That an honorarium of \$300 each be paid to the President, the Secretary and to the Treasurer. Proposed: Ross Shardlow. Seconded: Ron Elmes. **Carried.**

8. Fay read **Motion 6:** That the Auditor's Report be accepted, the Auditor be paid and that the Certificate by members of the Committee be authorized. Proposed: Wayne Parker. Seconded: Melissa Weber. **Carried.**

Fay read **Motion 7:** That Andrews and Associates be re-appointed as Auditor for the 2021-22 Financial Year. Proposed: Wayne Parker. Seconded: Melissa Weber. **Carried.**

9. Fay declared all Management Committee(MC) positions vacant and appointed Ross Shardlow as the chairperson.

10. Ross advised that nominations had been received for all MC positions and that no ballot was necessary. He announced that Fay Jeppesen is the President for the 2021-22 year. Fay then took the chair and read out the list of MC nominations all of which were carried.

Position	Nominee	Proposer	Secunder
VICE-PRESIDENT	Steve Woodrow	Melissa Weber	Carol Bailey
TREASURER	Wayne Parker	Melissa Weber	Ross Shardlow
SECRETARY	Melissa Weber	Annette Hyland	Ron Elmes
COMMITTEE	Carol Bailey	Melissa Weber	Ross Shardlow
	Ron Elmes	Richard Back	Barbara Wales
	Annette Hyland	Melissa Weber	Ross Shardlow
	Max Kershaw	Ross Shardlow	Wayne Parker
	Elly Ten Hacken	Peter Murray	Wayne Parker

11. Fay then called for a vote on the following: **Motion 8:** That the Annual Membership Fee be changed from \$9.80 to \$10 per annum. **Carried.**

12. Fay read the following motion:

**Motion 9:** That By-Law 9.3 (a) be replaced with the following:

All entrants must be Members of the Redcliffe Bridge Club to be eligible to play in the following events:

- 1) Championship Teams
- 2) Championship Individual
- 3) Ton Vankan Pairs
- 4) Championship Pairs
- 5) Novice Pairs (for less than 50 masterpoints at the date indicated on the nomination form)

**Proposed by:** Elizabeth Gibson **Seconded:** Gary Wardrop

Fay asked Elizabeth if she would like to speak on the issue. Elizabeth said that her reasons were provided in the "Statement by Proposer" which appeared in the Annual Report with the motion. She added that according to her research, the only clubs in the Brisbane/Sunshine Coast area which have restrictions on "Away" versus "Home" members

are Redcliffe, Bribie and Caboolture, and she understands that Bribie and Caboolture are both considering changing their rules.

Greg Gosney then spoke, pointing out that our Rules don't specify "Home" and "Away" members – most of us are "Ordinary" members and we should all be treated the same. The designation of "Away" member simply means that you pay your ABF and QBA fees through a different club, but you still pay the same Member fees at Redcliffe as the "Home" members.

Fay commented that when the sub-committee came up with the By-laws they were largely based on our previous By-laws and Supplementary rules.

Melissa Weber spoke in favour of the motion saying that from an administration point of view, the current By-law creates problems in implementation.

Ross Shardlow spoke in favour of the motion saying that currently if someone moves from interstate and joins our club, they are excluded from certain events for 3 months which is unfair and unwelcoming.

Jill Hanley spoke saying that the rule was there to stop people from other clubs coming to get our red or gold points.

A vote was held and the motion was **carried**.

13. Fay read the following Motion:

**Motion 10:** That By-Law 9.3 (d) be replaced with the following:

For interclub events Members representing Redcliffe Bridge Club shall be determined by the Management Committee.

Proposed: Elizabeth Gibson Seconded: Gary Wardrup

Elizabeth commented that the reasoning for this was the same as Motion 9. Greg Gosney commented that the words we are looking at deleting are superfluous. A vote was held and the motion was **carried**.

14. Fay then read the following Motion:

That By-Law 9.3 (b) be replaced with the following:

For GNOT qualifying heats held by the club, a minimum of 3 players for one team at the table at any time must be members of the Redcliffe Bridge Club, and every player must be a current member of a club in the Brisbane Zone. Eligibility and entry requirements shall otherwise be in accordance with QBA regulations.

**Proposed by:** Melissa Weber **Seconded by:** Elizabeth Gibson

Melissa clarified that this motion is to delete the 3 months of membership qualification to participate in our GNOT heats, for similar reasons as discussed for the previous 2 motions. A vote was held and the motion was **carried**.

15. Fay then spoke on the subject of Life Memberships, noting that our current one and only Life Member, Ton Vankan, had recommended that the MC look at proposing some new Life Members. She advised that our By-laws have quite specific criteria for qualification as a Life Member, and that it is awarded to those who have played an important role in the history and development of the Club. Fay then read the following Motion:

**Motion 12:** That we endorse the provision of Life Membership to Sandra Routley. **Proposed:** Fay Jeppesen **Seconded:** Steve Woodrow

The Management Committee has endorsed this motion noting that Sandra meets the requirements of By-Law 11.3 having provided significant meritorious service to the Club in various areas as follows: (a) First joined Redcliffe Bridge Club in 1986. Has achieved playing honours in various club competitions. (b) Was Vice-President in 2011 and 2012, and served on the Management Committee in 2016 and 2017. While Vice-President she had a lead role in the relocation of the club and establishment of the current club premises. (c) Teacher of bridge 2002-03; conducted advanced lessons for players and has been a participant in various mentoring programs for beginner players. (d) Part of sub-committee in 2011 to formulate and digitalise the Club Constitution; Secretary to the sub-committee in 2019-20 to formulate new Club Rules and By-Laws. Has responsibility of the Club Recorder role in 2021. (e) Been a Club Director since 2000, served as Tournament Organizer, Congress Convener and provides ongoing mentoring to trainee Directors. (f) Co-authored the Redcliffe Club History.

A Vote was held and this motion was unanimously **carried**. Sandra was then invited to say a few words. Sandra said she was very touched to receive this honour after 35 years in the Club. She commented that running a club requires teamwork and that she has been fortunate to work with good people. Sandra said that when she joined the Club she met Edna Hodgen (who became our first Life Member) and that she had tried to emulate her as she was such an inspirational person.

16. Fay then read the following Motion and Steve Woodrow spoke detailing Helen's contributions to the Club:

**Motion 13:** That we endorse the provision of Life Membership to Helen Chapman. **Proposer:** Steve Woodrow **Seconded:** Melissa Weber

The Management Committee has endorsed this motion noting that Helen meets the requirements of By-Law 11.3 having provided significant meritorious service to the Club in various areas as follows: (a) First joined Redcliffe Bridge Club in 1995. Has achieved playing honours in various club competitions and has represented the Club in both GNOT and GNP finals in Sydney and Canberra. (b) Was Vice-President 2001-02; served on Committee 2003 and 2007; was Secretary 2007-2009; helped secure government grants to enable the Club to occupy the Sutton Street premises in 2002 and secured a grant for a dealing machine. (c) Became a qualified Teacher of Bridge in 2003 and has conducted Beginner courses, both day and night, introduced supervised play and taught advanced lessons in bridge. (d) Chaired the Sub-committee to review the Club Constitution and By-Laws 2019-20. Assisted in the

introduction of RAP scoring program. (e) Been a qualified Club Director since 2003, organized sessions to help educate other directors and directed the first GNOT heats held at the Club.

A vote was held and the motion was **carried** unanimously. Helen was invited to speak and thanked everyone for this honour. Helen commented that she and Sandra have a long history in the Club dating back to days when cards were dealt by hand and scores manually recorded and calculated. She commented that the Club has come a long way to be a stable and successful Club. Helen acknowledge the many past Presidents and Committee members who have contributed to get the Club to where it is today.

17. Fay declared the meeting open for General Business and the following items were raised:

(a) Elizabeth Gibson asked why are we still required to register to play. Fay replied that the Directors like it as they feel it helps them to organize the movement. Ross Sharlow advised that he finds it very useful in organizing partners in his MORP program. Our Partner Liaison advised that it is very useful to know who is already playing in a session and who else might be available. Wayne advised that he likes it as he can print a list to collect Table Fees. Fay advised that the MC does constantly review this procedure. Neil Gibson suggested that if we are going to continue to register for sessions, perhaps we should look at updating the software so that Wayne doesn't need to manually enter pairs.

(b) Lorraine Bechly asked do we still need to take temperatures and can we use table cloths? Maree said that at Caboolture they are using table clothes. Fay commented that she had been to one club where members could bring their own small cloth and take it home to clean. The MC will re-look at these issues.

(c) Barbara Wales asked if we are going to keep Pianola, as she believes it is useful for new members. Wayne advised that we pay \$600 a year for a limited subscription and have no plans to change this.

(d) Maree asked, can we get rid of the bins at each table? There was no consensus on this issue. Maree suggested that we could have a 2 week trial of no bins. This will be added to the MC Agenda for our next meeting.

18. Fay thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 11.20 a.m.

These minutes are confirmed as true and correct by:

Fay Jeppesen  
**President**  
Date: \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_

Melissa Weber  
**Secretary**  
Date: \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_