



## Annual General Meeting Minutes

October 1, 2023

**The meeting was called to order at 12:00 pm by Janine Higgins**

1. **Welcome** – Janine welcomed everyone, with the agenda for the meeting displayed on the screen. Janine gave a review of last year’s minutes.
2. **Confirmation of Notice of Quorum** –  
Confirmed with 39 members in attendance.
3. **Approval of Minutes of AGM September 24, 2022.**  
Motion: To approve Gayle George, seconded by Graham Tindale
4. **President’s Report** – Janine presented a recap of a year in transition.
  - Charity events: Art and Artisans Show and Sale – resulting in \$1600 to Mission Services. Thanks to Judy Waters, Dwight Bender and Judy Sterling.
  - Janusz Adamus donated art photography for our auction which raised over \$1000 to humanitarian aid for the Ukraine.
  - Sunday Social Games were open to all levels and held in January, March, April, May and June and were very well received.
  - A special sectional tournament was held in October and was well attended.
  - Brainstorming session in July attended by 24 members.
  - Barbara Seagram ran a workshop in May with 76 people attending. Janine expressed our appreciation for Barbara’s support.
  - Our club is 71<sup>st</sup> in ACBL listing of clubs. Our table count continues to increase, but we have not reached the numbers we need to balance

our budget. We continue to look for opportunities to encourage new members to join. The Thursday afternoon 0-50 is no longer running. We are investigating a low point game on Saturday morning.

- We have increased our game fees to \$8 for members and \$10 for non-members. No apparent loss in attendance due to the fee increase. The membership fee has been increased to \$50 per year.
- Education – Janine outlined Bridge Basics 1 in September and Bridge Basics 2 in November, Advancing Your Game in October and May, Two over one Game Force in October, Balancing in June and Taste of Bridge as well as Lost and Found following Thursday afternoon games. Janine expressed her sincere appreciation to Alison Marr, education co-ordinator, and to all the instructors. She expressed her thanks to all the behind-the-scenes volunteers: Dwight Bender, Penny Finneron, Al Edwards, Sue Edwards, Bruce Moor and Tom Joliffe.

**5. Financial Report** – Kate displayed the financial report, explaining each item. The full report can be found in Dropbox. Of note, Kate showed the revenues for 2023 were down \$88,665 from \$103,804 in 2022 and our expenses were up in 2023 \$132,166 from \$109,606 in 2022. It was noted that the financial statements presented were for year ending 2023 not 2022.

**6. Motion to accept the Financial Report as presented by Kate**

Moved by Graham Tindale, seconded by Dwight Bender

**Amended Motion to appoint Gary Westfall, CPA, as auditor to perform a review of the financial statements for the year ending July 31, 2024** Motion: by Alison Marr, seconded by Michelle Murphy

**7. By-law Changes** – Janine advised members that, as a result of changes to the Ontario Not-for-profit Corporations Act, she and Al Edwards went through our policies to ensure they were in line with this Act. These are available in Dropbox. Motion: To adopt these changes made by Karen Wilson, seconded by Ward Coulson.

**8. Nominating Committee** – Angie introduced Sandra Letton, Al Edwards and Tom Jolliffe as our nominees for a three-year term, in addition to Janine Higgins for her second three-year term. Angie asked if there were any nominations from the floor. There were not. Motion: That nominations be declared closed for this year made by Deb Ellison, seconded by Susan Wark.

Motion: To approve the nominees for the board made by Alison Marr, seconded by Gayle George

Janine introduced Angie Francolini as the new president of the Board. Angie thanked Les Wroblewski for his service especially overseeing the facility. Rick Jordan was thanked and extended the board's appreciation for the social component whereby he adopts and helps new members. Gayle George was thanked for her assistance with sectionals as well as her hospitality assistance. Janine has agreed to stay on as past president.

### **9. Questions & Answers –**

The comment was made about the fees being higher in other clubs, such as in Australia charging \$12-\$16 with no problems. There should be no kick back on our increase.

Another comment regarding Gary Westfall – that he does not audit so is not an auditor? Perhaps we should look at appointing a public accountant.

The Question was raised as to who takes the beginner lessons and who follows-up on whether the beginners are continuing to play in games. Alison responded that 4 out of 11 people who attended Taste of Bridge, have continued to play. There is no official way of tracking these numbers at this time. Alison added that she has reached out through ACBL to promote the club through social media advertising. 58 names were given to Alison as a result of this advertising.

**10. Closing** – Janine requested volunteers for the sectional tournament on October 21/22. Jane also informed all that our Art and Artisan Event is scheduled for December 2, 2023. Janine thanked all for attending this

**11. Termination** – Fiona moved that the Annual General Meeting be terminated at 1:10 PM; Carried.