

Macedon Ranges Bridge Club (MRBC) Inc.

Incorporated Association number: A0049378Y

Annual General Meeting
Woodend Tennis Centre
Earnshaw Street Woodend
11.30 am on 24 February 2020

MINUTES

The meeting commenced at 12.05 pm.

1. Attendees and Apologies

20 members were in attendance: Ron Watkinson, Linda Watkinson, Margaret Copland, Maureen Redman, Lance Redman, Anne Hill, Wendy Judge, Cherryl Downie, Peter Turner, Ruth Duffy, Linda De Vries, Cate Carr, Connie Albany, Helen Haskings, Marilyn Summers, Eng Riley, Peter Reed, Tatjana Rosner, Jane Bland, Jill Williams.

Apologies were received from: Andrew Lance, Hamish Thomson, Frank Vearing, Desma Sampson, Lawrie Hall, Greg Mayne, June Cohen, Rex Fox, Gretchen Crosling, Evelyn Mactier, Clare Green, Gail Hicks, Lyn Newell, Pauline Moore.

2. Minutes of the previous AGM

Motion 1

That this AGM accepts as read the minutes of the previous AGM held on 26 February 2019, and that these minutes are a true record of that meeting.

Moved: Anne Hill

Seconded: Cate Carr

Carried without dissent.

3. Reports

3.1. President's Report (prepared by Secretary)

Ron Watkinson reported that the MRBC had an interesting year. We had the move from the Norma Richardson Hall to the Tennis Centre which was more or less forced upon us. We also upgraded our equipment from the Bridge Pads and related servers to Bridge Mates and servers. This upgrade of equipment, combined with the extra rental paid at NRH between March and August formed the major part of our reduction in money at bank. Now that we are at our new venue with approximately 20% less rental costs our bank balance should show improvement over the coming period. Full report is attached (Attachment 1).

Motion 2

That the President's report be adopted.

Moved: Lance Redman

Seconded: Peter Turner

Carried without dissent.

3.2. Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer's report for the financial year 1 February 2019 to 31 January 2020 was tabled by Margaret Copland. This showed a bank balance at 31 January 2019 of \$12,333.86 and at 31 January 2020 of \$8,440.07, a decrease of \$3893.79. Club assets amounted to \$4,464.00. The club has no debts. Should any members have financial queries contact Treasurer Margaret Copland.

Motion 3

That the Treasurer's report be adopted.

Moved: Ron Watkinson
Seconded: Wendy Judge
Carried without dissent.

4. Election of Committee Members.

The Secretary Ron Watkinson, advised the meeting that three of the existing four committee members were stepping down at this AGM. There have been three nominations for Committee – Diana Marsland for President, Cate Carr for Secretary and Margaret Copland for Treasurer, there were no nominations for Vice President. Margaret Copland believed that Clare Green may possibly be interested in the VP position but this to be confirmed at a later date. There being only one nomination for each of President, Secretary and Treasurer, the nominated members were elected unopposed. This outcome was supported unanimously by members in attendance. New committee is:

President: Diana Marsland
Vice-President: Vacant
Treasurer: Margaret Copland
Secretary: Cate Carr

5. Fees for 2020

The following motion was put to the AGM.

Motion 4

That annual membership fees for all categories be increased by \$2.50
That daily table fees remain unchanged at \$6.00 full members and visitors, \$5 for concessional members

2020 Full Home Club Membership - \$35.00
2020 Concession Card Holder Home Club Membership - \$30.00
2020 Member whose "Home" club is not MRBC - \$25.00

2020 Session (Table) fees
Full Home Club members and visitors \$6
Concession Card Holder Members \$5

Moved: Ron Watkinson
Seconded: Linda Watkinson
Carried without dissent

6. Club Appointments

The following appointments continue to be filled by club members or otherwise as indicated:

Special Events Coordinators	Committee Members
Catering (Congress Coordinator)	Gisborne Golf Club catering staff
Refreshments (weekly + Xmas)	Linda Watkinson and Connie Albany
Masterpoint Secretary	Cate Carr
Assets Manager	To be decided
Director: Monday	Frank Vearing/Ron Watkinson
Director: Thursday	Frank Vearing/Millicent Henry
Instructor:	Rex Fox

Secretary thanked all members who held appointments in the previous year.

7. Other Business

Member Cherryl Downie proposed that Ron/Linda Watkinson be granted life membership in recognition of years of service to the club. Ron Watkinson indicated it was an honour he would happily accept providing it did not cause financial hardship to the club. It was clarified that life membership only covered the annual membership fees and that table fees should be paid as usual. Peter Turner suggested that some other clubs, an arts group he was familiar with was one, had a set of criteria that had to be met when considering bestowing life membership. Margaret Copland and Cate Carr to explore this further to determine what might be appropriate at Macedon Ranges Bridge Club.

Motion 5

That Ron and Linda Watkinson be made life members of Macedon Ranges Bridge Club.

Moved: Cherryl Downie

Seconded: Cate Carr

Passed without dissent

8. Next Meeting - TBA

9. Close

The meeting closed at 12.25 pm.

Signed: Secretary / President

Appendix 1.

MRBC President/Secretary's Report - AGM 24 February 2020

2019 was a year of significant change for our club. One of the priorities of the committee was to stem the loss of members and in fact gain some additional members if possible. To this end a Beginner's Course was run by Rex Fox over a period of 10 weeks and attracted a number of new players and potentially new members. Following the course approximately 10 new members joined the club and most of those are now playing regularly. Whilst they need more experience this takes time and play, no other way to get that. Our thanks is extended to Rex for conducting the course in his usual efficient manner.

Long term members Graham Farley, Rhyll Trehella and Carmel Halloran passed away during the year and are missed by their friends at the club.

At the end of 2019 the Tuesday evening sessions were terminated as a result of falling attendances due primarily to member preference for daytime bridge. The losses being accumulated by the Tuesday sessions could not be continued indefinitely and so the decision was made to end those sessions. This did cause the loss of 2 members who could only play evenings.

The Monday and Thursday sessions have been popular with existing plus new members and we mostly now have Mitchell movements for both, which members seem to prefer.

Our congress, using the Swiss Pairs format once again, was very successful. However, the 2019 Congress was the last to be held at the Norma Richardson Hall, the 2020 congress will be held at the Gisborne Golf Club and if successful will be held there annually in future. That club has made the venue available free of charge to our club and would hope to cover any costs with the provision of the catering and beverages sold through their bar. We appreciate their generous offer and hope the congress is a win/win situation for the golf club and ourselves.

We are recommending membership fees for the coming year be increased by \$2.50 in all categories to ensure that affiliation fees for the ABF and VBA and other costs are covered but that table fees remain at the present level of \$6 for full members and visitors, \$5 for concessional members.

In August 2019 the club moved its base from the Norma Richardson Hall to the Woodend Tennis Centre. This was not a move the club had sought but was virtually forced upon us by the antagonistic attitude (in our opinion) of the new Norma Richardson Hall Manager. Starting with a 10% rental increase imposed on us at short notice, followed up by several aggressive emails, it became clear that we were no longer welcome at NRH. Thus, the move to the Tennis Centre came about and we have been made most welcome at this new venue.

There are a few issues which are being addressed and improvements will continue to be sought to make the venue better for us, as well as the Tennis Club. Two of the most pressing issues relate to seating and noise levels. The seating issue should be addressed in coming weeks via the acquisition of good quality seats, the Tennis Club is contributing towards that expense. Investigations are continuing into possible ways to help with the noise levels. By and large the move has been very positive for our club, we are saving about 20% in comparison to the payments we made to NRH. These savings are contributing to our ability to hold table fees at the same level that has existed for a number of years. Had we still been at NRH there is no doubt those fees would have had to be increased.

During the year the Bridge Pads and related Servers were replaced by the more robust Bridge Mates and Servers. The cost of this modernisation was in excess of \$3000 but we are seeing much greater reliability of the

equipment and should see this for many years to come. The Bridge Pads in particular were failing at an alarming rate and we would have needed to buy some new ones had we not made the switch to Bridge Mates. This would only have postponed the inevitable. We did retain the scoring software "Scorebridge" as this has served us well in the past and we are familiar with it.

The dealing machine continues to perform well and as necessary we will have it refurbished at an appropriate time. The \$400 or so expenditure on that item is very worthwhile, a new dealing machine costs between \$4000 - \$5000.

The 2019 championships were run and won by Michael Francis and Terry Dold with Margaret Copland/Lawrie Hall winning the handicap section. The championships for 2020 will probably take on a new format, one that is hoped will encourage more members to participate. Details to be announced in coming weeks by the new committee.

We have been allocated 10 red point sessions for 2020, dates of these will be posted on the website as soon as decided. It is likely 4 will be allocated to Mondays, 4 to Thursdays and the other 2 to the championships.

Three of the current committee are standing down at the AGM and so the new committee will have quite a different look, we encourage members to support them so that we can continue to have a thriving local club to meet, socialise and enjoy the wonderful game of bridge.

Looking forward to another good year in 2020. Ron Watkinson/Connie Albany.

Appendix 2

Macedon Ranges Bridge Club
Income and Expenditure Report 2019-2020
As at 31/01/2020

	<u>Debit</u>	<u>Credit</u>	
<u>RECEIPTS</u>			
Table Fees		\$15,965.00	
Registrations		\$ 2,139.30	
Congress		\$ 3,600.00	
Misc. Income		\$ 806.10	
Total		\$22,510.40	
<u>EXPENSES</u>			
ABF	\$ 1,513.37		
VBA + Others	\$ 1,341.34		
Congress	\$ 3,548.77		
Equipment	\$ 3,319.85		
Hall Hire	\$12,603.75		
Postage	\$ 130.00		
Printing/Stationery	\$ 275.85		
Books	\$ 368.46		
Catering/Supper	\$ 1,935.25		
Website etc.	\$ 480.65		
Misc. Expenses	\$ 886.90		
Total	\$26,404.19		PROFIT \$3,893.79
<u>BANK RECONCILIATION</u>			
Opening Balance	\$ 11,818.86		ASSETS \$4,464.00
+ Cash on hand at start	\$ 515.00		
Add receipts	\$22,510.40		
Less Expenses	\$26,404.19		
Total Cash Book	\$ 8,440.07		
Balance as per Bank S/M	\$ 8,440.07		
Plus cash on hand at end of year	\$ -		
Cash Assets	\$ 8,440.07		
<u>Previous Year</u>			
Receipts	\$21,755.80	Opening Bank + Cash	\$12,893.61
Expenses	\$22,315.55	Closing Bank	\$12,333.86
Loss/Profit	\$ 559.75		

Macedon Ranges Bridge Club - Inventory

Date of last inventory: 31 January 2020

(Value: generally drop about 20% per year)

(Consumables not included)	Condition	Value new	Value now	Estimated total value	
Category/Item	Quantity	Comment	(per each)	(per each)	31/1/2020
Furniture & related					
Card tables with folding legs	16	poor to fair	\$30	\$1.00	\$16
Card tables with folding legs	4	fair to good	\$30	\$5	\$20
Card tables with folding legs	4	good	\$30	\$15	\$60
White plastic side tables	44	Fair	\$10	\$1.00	\$44
Table covers	17	Fair to good	\$20	\$1.50	\$26
Table covers	7	Very Good	\$20	\$8	\$56
Trolley for plastic cases	1	Fair to good	\$25	\$5.00	\$5
Set of kitchen steps	1	Good	\$65	\$20	\$20
Electrical/Electronic					
Brother Laser printer	1	Good	\$150	\$40	\$40
Klipsal pedestal fans	2	Poor	\$20	\$2	\$4
Kambrook Thermo Fan Heaters	1	Fair	\$35	\$5	\$5
Sunair Fan Heater	1	Fair	\$35	\$5	\$5
Battery Operated pencil sharpener	1	Good	\$10	\$5	\$5
Electronic timer clock with controller	1	Good	\$480	\$60	\$60
Crockery/Cutlery					
Wine glasses (doz)	1.5	Good	\$40	\$8	\$12
Assorted crockery and cutlery	1	Good	\$20	\$8	\$8
Playing Cards/ HOLDERS/Dealing machine					
Dealing machine	1	Good	\$4,000	\$600	\$600
Card cases - metal	7	Fair	\$25	\$5	\$35
Sets of 32 cards + boards	7	Fair to Good	\$88	\$20	\$140
Table numbers NSEW 1 - 16 (set)	3	Fair	\$45	\$5	\$15
Library - Books					
Books acquired up to 2014	58	Fair to good	\$25	\$1	\$58
Additional new books in 2015 and later	0	New			\$0
Computers etc					
BridgeMates	12	Good	\$220	\$180	\$2,160
BridgeMate Server	2	Good	\$330	\$280	\$560
Asus laptops	2	Good	\$1,200	\$150	\$300
Computer case	2	Good	\$40	\$10	\$20
Video Projector	1	Good	\$748	\$160	\$160
Projector screen	1	Good	\$149	\$30	\$30
Estimated Total MRBC Assets					\$4,464