

REGINA DUPLICATE BRIDGE CLUB
Minutes of the Annual General Meeting
Held at the Club June 27, 2023

Present: A constituted quorum of approximately 30 members

Leslie Mortin called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

Adoption of the agenda: moved by Gaylene Spence, seconded by Dan Mathieson, that the agenda be adopted. **Carried.**

2. Approval of the Minutes of June 26, 2022. Three errors were noted: the correct number of the South Saskatchewan United mentioned in the fifth paragraph of Item 3 should be 573, and the spelling of the names Morton and Spence should be corrected to Mortin and Spence in Item 7. With these corrections, Doug Powley moved adoption of these minutes, seconded by Don Norman. **Carried.**

3. President's Report

After welcoming everyone, President Leslie Mortin introduced the current executive of secretary Sandy Bingaman, treasurer Lorna Bingaman, and board members Gaylene Spence who chairs the education committee, Greg Hutchinson our resident computer guru, and Ilsa Krukoff who serves as the club's collective memory. She thanked two retiring members: Paul Ormilon who represented newer players and Donna Barber who has organized community bridge for many years. She noted that Donna had recommended that our club discontinue its participation in community bridge because attendance was so low that games were often cancelled and that it was too much work for very little reward, a recommendation which the board has accepted.

Leslie then thanked members who have made special contributions to the club: manager Jim Bingaman who unflappably handles problems or finds someone to fix them, Dale Wilde, Byron Seymour and Doug Powley who work weekly to have boards duplicated for all games; Doug Powley who is our smiling resident handyman able to fix everything; and our face-to-face game directors Joyce, Claire, Jim, Kevin, and Pam who are indispensable to the club, and Cal McLeod, Lorraine Garrett, and Jan Carter who have done on-line directing. Retired board member Angela Duczek has again dealt with collecting club memberships fees and printing our membership list. She also acknowledged South Saskatchewan Unit 573 for all their work organizing tournaments such as the recent Regina Redcoat Regional which provide playing opportunities for our members and some financial assistance.

Leslie then reported on a successful meeting with our landlord Aubrey Steadman which led to a five year extension of our lease in our current location with the same basic payment of \$3850 per month plus a slightly raised common area fee of \$87.50 for a total monthly charge of \$3937.50. This gives the club stability for the next five years.

A recent review of the club's bylaws has revealed some out-of-date material and some inconsistencies which she announced will be dealt with this year by striking a committee to revise these and bring them in line with current common standards.

Leslie ended her report on a very positive note by announcing a substantial donation from the family of Arnie and June Lind, long-time members who passed away recently and inviting Dow Cooney and Rick Gaucher to unveil a plaque which will hang in the June and Arnie Lind Learning Centre at the Club. Rick spoke briefly about the Linds' contributions to the club through their teaching and play and commented on how pleased they would have been to be honoured in this way.

4. Financial Report

Lorna Bingaman presented her four-page financial report, starting by thanking Don Norman for reviewing it.

The first page was the club balance sheet as of May 31, 20223 which showed the club's assets at \$75,120.98 in cash and investments and no liabilities. The second page, the statement of receipts and disbursements, showed the club with an operating deficit of \$8725.55 based on \$63,632.25 receipts and \$72,357.80 expenses. She explained that the expenses for the year were higher than last year because of two insurance payments falling in the same year and an expenditure of almost \$1,000 to replace our stolen computer. The third page of the report was a monthly table count which showed a total of 1857 tables, a significant improvement over 1373.5 from last year. The fourth page of the report was a suggested budget for the 2023-24 fiscal year. Lorna moved acceptance of her report seconded by Lance Connell. After a brief discussion, Rick Gaucher moved and Dan seconded that the first three pages of the report be accepted as presented but that the budget be revisited after the discussion of two other financial proposals on the agenda. **Carried.**

5. Old Business

5.1 The lease negotiation was already covered in the president's report.

6. New Business

6.1 Increase in annual membership fee

The club's current bylaws require an increase in this fee to be approved at an annual meeting which means this would have to be done at the beginning of a fiscal year, requiring guessing at what revenues and expenses will be. Therefore Sandy Bingaman moved, seconded by Ilsa Krukoff, that the board of directors be allowed to set the Club's annual membership fee for 2024/25 at a rate between \$25 to \$50 in May of 2024, based on the Club's financial position at that time. There was discussion of this motion, with some members expressing the idea that this fee should be kept low to encourage more members and that this fee should not be used as a way to raise revenue. **Defeated.**

6.2 Increase in game fees

In order to end the operating losses at the club, Ilsa Krukoff moved seconded by Lorna Bingaman that the games fees be raised from \$7.00 to \$8.00 for members and to \$9.00 for non-members, effective immediately but with members being allowed to use up their current punch passes. General discussion showed agreement with this proposal. **Carried.**

6.3 Signing officers

In order that the Club can continue to run its financial affairs, Lorna Bingaman moved and Ilsa Krukoff seconded that the signing officers for our bank account be the president, vice president, club manager and a member at large. **Carried.**

6.4 Committee reports

The Education Committee was the only one to report, with chairperson Gaylene Spence reporting that she had held two sessions of lessons over the fall and winter, with these attracting nearly 20 students each. She noted that almost all the current Monday night players are graduates of her lessons.

6.5 Items from the floor

Tuesday evening director Claire Jones noted that this game continued to struggle to attract enough players to be viable and asked for help or suggestions to improve this. Several members commented on possible solutions, and the president agreed to continue to investigate this problem.

Member Vivian Krakowski commented that her daughter, a university student in Calgary, was part of a group which had regular contact with duplicate club members there who were increasing interest in the game and suggested that this might work in Regina.

6.7 Revisited 2023-24 budget

Lorna changed the budgeted amount of for tables fees of \$52,080 to \$57,520 based on the increase in game fees mentioned in Item 6.2 and noted that this change reduced the anticipated deficit from \$11,245 to \$3,805. She then moved and Claire Jones seconded that this budget be approved. **Carried.**

7. Election of Officers

Acting elections officer Ilsa Krukoff announced that the executive officers of the club for the 2023-24 fiscal year will be president Leslie Mortin, vice president Ron Miller, treasurer Lorna Bingaman, and secretary Sandy Bingaman. Lance Connell moved and Larry Lazurko moved that nominations cease and these nominees be approved. **Carried.**

Ilsa then announced that she, Gaylene Spence, and Greg Hutchinson will continue to serve on the board, along with new members Geri Spilnick and Frank Fries. Pat Harlton moved and Lance Connell seconded the end of nominations and the approval of these nominees. **Carried.**

8. Recognition of 2021-22 award winners

Rick Gaucher presented a list of the players who won the various club championships. The Joan Schneider player of the year was Barb Miller, the Under 100 best player was Linda Holowaty, and the rookie of the year was Frank Fries.

9. Motion to adjourn

Frank Fries moved the meeting be adjourned at 7:20