

## **MINUTES OF THE AGM OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN BRIDGE FEDERATION HELD IN JOHANNESBURG ON 2<sup>ND</sup> MAY 2018 AT THE LINKS**

### **Welcome**

James Grant welcomed the attendees and thanked everyone for taking the time to be present at this AGM

### **Attendance Register**

Attached

### **Apologies**

Steven Bunker

Andrew Cruise

The previous Minutes from the Bi Annual Meeting held in Johannesburg were read and adopted.

### **Matters Arising**

Graham Burrows pointed out that he had not agreed to organize Interprovincials via BBO this year, simply to set a date.

Chris Bosenberg raised the question of colours being awarded for zonals and the Commonwealth games. Stephen Rosenberg wanted to know if other countries gave colours for these events? Ann Sturrock pointed out that according to SASCO, non-South Africans could not take part in the Commonwealth Games should we decide to award colours. Helen Kruger said there had been no criteria set down disbaring any member from entering the trials. This was an effort by the committee to encourage as many members as possible to compete and as such the small number of entries received was extremely disappointing. James Grant said that the matter would be further discussed in Committee.

Bernard Donde said that the statistics for the deals should be published and Sid Ismail stated that this information could be posted on the website.

A discussion came up regarding screens; Craig Gower thought existing screens were fine, Tas Nestoridis said that the cloths should touch the floor. Roz Bernstein suggested that SABF buy 10/11 larger tables which would better accommodate the size of the screens

Proposed by :- A Sturrock

Seconded :- R Bernstein

### **Presidents Report**

James Grant began by especially thanking those who had served on the committee last year but were now, at least temporarily, hanging up their hats. These were Heidi Atkinson who wanted to concentrate more time on her role as leading technical director, Diana Balkin who during her time on the committee had proved herself an excellent secretary, and finally Helen Kruger who had proved herself a wise and stalwart leader as president. Thanks also went to Roz Bernstein for all her hard work as Treasurer. He went on to thank those members who were continuing on the committee for their hard work and support during the year and he looked forward to working alongside them as well as our new members over the coming months.

James noted that the improvements in the Internet and Website had made a huge difference in the ability to communicate between the committee, the provinces, clubs and the members.

James concluded by stating that a major goal during his tenure was establishing zero tolerance towards bad behavior, aggression, bad language etc. He believed that bridge was a pastime that should always be played in an atmosphere that new players to the competitive side of this sport would find pleasant and welcoming.

### **Treasurers Report**

Attached

Proposed :- Helen Kruger

Seconded :- Philip Feinstein

### **Next Year's Events**

Congress would be held in Durban

Alon Apteker felt that Congress should be held every year in Cape Town as it was a desirable destination attracting international players. Helen Kruger pointed out that 20 years ago it was mooted that Congress only be held in Johannesburg and Cape Town.

It was generally felt that fewer and fewer locals were attending Congress in their own City and the bulk of people at Congress were those who always travelled around.

Ann Sturrock said that she would check the entries for the last 3 or 4 years and report to Committee which would then discuss the matter.

Trials would be held in Johannesburg

Eligibility for Entry to trials would be discussed in Committee. Chris Bosenberg pointed out that there had been a sub-committee a few years ago which had established criteria for entry. This report would be dusted off and reviewed again by the current Committee.

### **Election of Committee Members**

The following people were elected unanimously:

Chairman    James Grant

Treasurer    Philip Feinstein

Secretary    Sheila Francis

Members	Roz Bernstein	Gauteng
	Ice Peenz	Norther Gauteng
	Peter Ward	Southern Cape
	Arie Ridderhof	Eastern Cape
	Graham Burrows	Natal
	Jocelyn Ashberg	Western Cape
	Ann Sturrock	Western Cape

### **GENERAL**

Alon Apteker felt that the way that certain Tournament Directors officiated at congress was very heavy handed and unnecessary as it created an unpleasant atmosphere. For example if people arrived for the teams event late they should be penalized at the end and not before the game starts. Several other attendees agreed.

With no further business, the meeting was closed at 7.45pm