

# Parramatta Bridge Club

## Annual General Meeting 2021

Held via Zoom

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### MINUTES 6<sup>th</sup> March 2021

**MEETING OPENED:** 12.00pm

- ATTENDANCE:** Quorum of 28 members in attendance  
Ross Best, Shannon Queree, Sandy Boyd, Kathy Duke, Peter Dun, Carlyn Dun, ,  
Ian Caddy, Caimein Bowyer, Ted Richards, Barry Peters, Mary Smal, Ahmed Akbari,  
Margaret East, Bob East, Coral Williamson Annette Ashmore, Marysha Hardy, Peter  
Varian, Ann Lawrence, Joan Young, Harish Patney, Matthew McManus, Bill Doman,  
Frank Gava, Laraine Gava, Eugene Graczynsky, Lammie Barret, Shirley White

Apologies: K Bock, H Bambach, S Overland, VT Alaganar, G Walsh, W Barry, S Patney

#### 2. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:

**Motion:** Minutes of previous meeting were presented. Moved that these minutes be accepted:

1. Coral Williamson
2. Sandy Boyd AIF

#### 3. BUSINESS ARISING:

The President responded that all business arising from last meeting were resolved by our new updated website and publication of minutes and that the psyche register no longer exists.

#### 4. REPORTS

##### 4.1 Presidents Report

- Ross covered the reason for no meeting last year and then gave an in depth overview of the club activities and people who played a role in these activities.
- Report to be attached to final minutes.

##### 4.2 Treasurer Report

- Report tabled
- The Treasurer's Report showed a balance of \$ 13,371.29.

**Motion:** Report was moved for adoption.

1. Ian Caddy
2. Sandy Boyd AIF

#### 5. ELECTION OF LIFE MEMBER (Matthew McManus)

- Margaret East nominated Matthew McManus for life membership of Parramatta Bridge club, she gave a testimonial on his long service to bridge in Australia, as a player, and long-standing supporter of Parramatta bridge club.
- Peter Dun offered additional support.

**Motion:** Nomination was moved for adoption.

1. Margaret East 2. Peter Dun AIF

## 6. ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS

In accordance with Section 15 paragraph (1), of the Club Constitution, Ross Best tabled nominations as listed below, and in accordance with Section 15 paragraph (4) all nominated persons were installed to the respective office positions:

President:	Nada Boyd (Sandy)
Vice President:	Anne Ashmore
Treasurer:	Ian Caddy
Secretary:	Shannon Queree
Committee Members:	Ted Richards, Caimein Bowyer, VT Alaganar

## 7. MEETING CLOSED: 12.48 pm

**PARRAMATTA BRIDGE CLUB INCORPORATED**  
**PRISIDENT'S REPORT – 2019 and 2020**

As we did not hold an annual general meeting last year due to the Covid 19 pandemic this report covers 2019 and 2020.

The committee worked very hard during the 2019 year to deliver the club event programme, arrange directors for regular session and for major events. The Foundation Day Teams event our major event for the year was very successful attracting a large field.

2019 marked the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the formation of the Parramatta Bridge Club and the occasion was marked by the holding of special events at each of the club sessions. These were popular events. The occasion offered a chance to acknowledge the Cath McKenzie and Henk Sluyter as being among the first players at the club.

Our treasurer Carlyn Dun indicated we had a surplus in 2019. We are very grateful to Carlyn for her careful management of the club finances. Our status as an Incorporated Association does not require audited accounts for organisations of our size and accordingly, we have elected not to have formal audit of the accounts. We provide an annual report to NSW Government which includes financial content including our income and assets.

Our directors did a fine job of controlling our regular club sessions. I am very grateful to them for this contribution. They each look for ways to make events more interesting. Our club directors Eric Lam, Margaret East, Kathy Duke and Peter Dun do a great job.

Peter Dun continued to make a tremendous contribution to the club behind the scenes. As well as directing events Peter does a great deal of work sorting out issues with the scoring and working with Carlyn on masterpoint lists and membership records. Sandy Boyd was also involved in supporting this work.

I would like to offer my thanks to the committee for their tireless efforts. Sue Hapek did a terrific job preparing the kitchen for the Saturday sessions. Sue also represented the club in discussion with the Carlingford Centre management in relation to trouble matter of paid parking. Sue also showed her social conscience by leading the effort to reduce waste by eliminating disposable plastic cups from use in the club. Sue has indicated she will not offer herself for service on the committee for 2020 for personal reasons.

The charity event in 2019 raised \$1,200 in service of the Country Women's Association as the committee considered that this organisation would make good use of our contribution during the time of severe drought.

Coral Williamson was on our calendar committee and together with Sandy Boyd and Margaret East developed the programme for 2020. Sadly the event programme for 2020 was cut short by the Covid 19 restrictions.

Marysha Hardy served as Club Secretary until ill health forced to relinquish this duty in late 2019. The club is grateful to Marysha for her contribution. Margaret East was not part of the committee after the 2019 AGM but she continued to serve the club in many ways. She was seconded to committee to provide support and took on the role of secretary have the retirement due to illness of Marysha Hardy.

Coral Williamson served as a committee member and contributes in many ways to the club. Coral prepared our annual calendar for 2019 and together with Carlyn Dun collected membership fees and distributed the event diary to members.

Marienne Vawser served as Vice-President, chaired committee meetings in my absence and works very hard to support the club in many ways in particular during the Foundation Day Teams and the Christmas Party. The club was sad to mark the passing of Marienne in 2020.

Anne Ashmore took on the organisation of our Charity Day activities and arranged prizes for the charity raffles and auctions and for club events and deals the hands for the club sessions at Burnside.

Geoff Henson served on the committee as Tournament Secretary. Geoff maintains records of the outcomes of club events and supports the committee to develop sound operating processes.

Sandy Boyd was energetic in her role as web site secretary. Sandy has worked hard to improve our club web site and has set in train a program to make further substantial improvements. Sandy is supported in these efforts by Shannon Queree and the club is grateful for her involvement. The programme of future club events is now available on the club web site. Sandy is an active member of the committee and an agent for change. She works closely with Geoff Henson to explore ways to improve the club.

As there was no AGM in 2019 the committee attended to changes in the membership of the committee under the process for managing casual vacancies. Shannon Queree joined the committee and took on the role of club secretary, Coral Williamson took on the role of club treasurer and Anne Ashmore took on the role of vice-president. I remained as president and Peter and Carlyn Dun were committee members together with Geoff Henson. Ian Caddy joined the committee and provided great support to Coral in her role as treasurer. Ian took a thorough review of the club financial records over the past five years. Ian developed the financial report circulated to members and I am delighted to advise that Ian has offered to stand as club treasurer for 2021.

The committee continued to meet regularly through 2020. Sandy Boyd and Shannon Queree provided sustained an energetic contribution to the club through 2020. They established a new web site, provided communications to club members and worked tirelessly to support the various tasks associated with our transition to online bridge. I am pleased to advise that Sandy and Shannon have offered to continue to serve the club as president and secretary.

Kathy Duke was active in convening training courses and bringing outside teachers to provide high quality training. Kathy was also involved in the delivery of bridge events for ship cruises. These are privately funded but are within the Parramatta Bridge Club for the purpose of masterpoints. Kathy also directed club sessions.

2020 was a difficult year for bridge in Australia and this was also the case for the Parramatta Bridge Club. Following direction from the ABF to cease face to face bridge we are very grateful for the support of Valerie Roland, Paul Brake and Charles Page who supported the establishment of our initial BBO sessions on Wednesday evenings. Charles set up each of Wednesday sessions and updated membership lists for us while we made use of this system. This allowed our members to play on BBO at no cost with members of our club and members of the other clubs our area. This support by Val, Paul and Charles was provided without charge to the club by people who are based in Queensland with no former links to the Parramatta Bridge Club.

During establishment of the BBO facilities Eric Lam provided terrific support to the club preparing guidance notes and a great deal of advice. He was steadfast in his support of our club and we would not have been able to offer the online games

without his efforts. He has directed every single event and provided training for other directors. Matthew McManus was part of the team who established the Australia Bridge Federation virtual club facility on BBO. He has provided initial advice and regular updates of the player registered with the ABF for the BBO facility.

Eric supported our transition to the ABF BBO facility and directed our Wednesday and Saturday sessions. Eric does a mighty job in support of our club. He is always sharing new developments and offering support. He is professional in directing our sessions and I don't know how we would have managed without his tireless efforts.

Sandy Boyd and Shannon Queree worked extremely hard for the club establishing the new web site and managing our membership lists and new members. Together with the other committee member they are working to re-establish face to face bridge at the Burnside venue. The face to face bridge will begin later this month. Shannon catalogued the extensive bridge book collection donated to the club by John Gray's widow Denese. John was a proud Parramatta Club member who sadly passed away in March last year.

Peter and Carlyn Dun continue to work hard to support the club. They have been very active in exploring the Real Bridge system as an alternative to BBO. This allows players to see and hear the other people at the table. They have arranged a series of trial games and are working through the other details that will be required to provide this facility.

In 2019 and 2020 the committee has worked very hard and always in the best interest of the club. They support one another and have been an absolute pleasure to work with. They deal with the many duties of running our bridge club in their own time for no reward beyond the satisfaction of the work. I invite the members to show their appreciation to the committee.

In closing I say that I am grateful to be part of the Parramatta Bridge Club and I thank all members for their support and friendship. I am moving to Maitland to be close to my eldest daughter and her family and I will not be standing for the committee. I am sure the club will be in good hands with the new committee.

Ross Best  
President, Parramatta Bridge Club Inc  
21 March 2020