



New Zealand Bridge

Important Notice

Bulletin 1 – Thursday 22nd November 2007

Progression towards achieving a Board of Management & Regional Committees.

The interim Board of NZ Bridge met last weekend to agree a Board Structure under the new Constitution.

A Working Group comprising Susan Edwards, Arie Geursen, Kay Nicholas, Norm Silcock and Graham Wakefield, supported by the Secretary, Trish Scott, was set up to manage the transition process and communications with Clubs and Centre Committees. It is the intention of this Working Group to release regular Bulletins to ensure Clubs and Centres are kept fully informed on progress.

Important Transition Milestones Dates

1. **15 December 2007**
The Annual Return for all affiliated Clubs is due with the NZ Bridge Secretary by this date. The documentation for completion together with simple instructions for their Secretary and / or Treasurer is now in the mail.
2. **14 February 2008**
Nominations for the Chairman and six Board members close with the NZ Bridge Secretary. A brief, relevant CV must accompany each nomination.
3. **19 February 2008**
Election Ballot Papers with Candidate details and CV's will be sent to Clubs.
4. **1 March 2008**
Invoices for the NZ Bridge levy will be sent to Clubs.
5. **15 March 2008**
Closing date by which Ballot papers must be returned to the Secretary. Each club will have a weighted vote based on the membership as at the last Annual Return date.
6. **22 March 2008**
Election Result will be declared.
7. **1 April 2008**
 - New Board takes office
 - Levies for the Financial Year ended 2009 (2008/2009 Year) are due.
8. **1st March – 30th April 2008**
During this time existing Centres must initiate the process by which Clubs nominate and elect a Regional Committee for their area (**Note there are no changes to the current boundaries**).

9. **1 July 2008**
Regional Committee's take office
10. **27 September 2008**
Inaugural AGM of New Zealand Bridge to be held in Hamilton prior to commencement of the National Congress
11. **5 October 2008**
This is a tentative date for the Inaugural Regional Conference. If confirmed it will be held in Hamilton immediately after the National Congress.

Additional Important Information for Clubs

- Under the new Constitution only one Levy which includes a provision for the new Regional Committees is payable to New Zealand Bridge. The Board has set the Levy for the next financial year at \$16.00 inclusive of GST. This does not represent an increase to Clubs and their members, as the Levy to NZCBA was \$14.00 inclusive of GST, in addition to the Centre Levy of \$2.00 (or more).
- There is nothing in the new Constitution that requires Clubs to urgently amend their own Constitution but NZ Bridge is aware that some Clubs at this time of change wish to take the opportunity to update their Constitutions. As part of its service to member Clubs, in the New Year NZ Bridge will provide a sample Constitution which can be used as a guide by Clubs who wish to modernise their Constitution.
- Official signed copies of the new Constitution may be downloaded from the following web link – Ministry of Economic Development – Registrar of Incorporated Societies site:-
<http://www.societies.govt.nz/pls/web/dbssiten.main>
 - Search for New Zealand Bridge Incorporated – Number 215735

Future Bulletins

- **Bulletin 2**
Describes the steps and timelines required to achieve transition from Centres to Regional Committees.
- **Bulletin 3**
Describes the new structure of NZ Bridge as from 1st April 2008

The Interim Board asks all Club Officers and Committees to familiarise themselves with the information detailed in each Bulletin. In addition it requests that Club Committees take every opportunity to ensure wide dissemination of these Bulletins so that as many of their members as possible are informed of the various steps of the Transition Process e.g. Posting Bulletins on Club Notice Boards, Announcements in Club Notices etc.

Trish Scott
Secretary