

**SCRABBLE NSW COMMITTEE MEETING  
MINUTES OF MEETING SUNDAY 15<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2017**

**1. PRESIDENT OPENED MEETING**

**PRESENT:** Bob Jackman, Liz Jackman, Monica Dwyer, John Holgate, Chris Ostrowski, Rocky Sharma, Colleen Birch, George Khamis

Meeting opened by Bob Jackman at 1.50pm. Bob welcomed Colleen Birch to the committee, as the new Membership Officer.

**APOLOGIES:** Rene Chelton, Pat Schuberg

**2. MINUTES OF MEETING 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2017**

Minutes of the previous meeting were accepted as correct by George Khamis and seconded by Chris Ostrowski.

**3. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

Chris Ostrowski advised he had purchased a 2<sup>nd</sup> hand projector, which has already been used successfully.

**4. PRESIDENT'S REPORT TABLED**

Discussion was held between with Bob and George regarding the date of Matchplay (10<sup>th</sup> March 2018), 9 games. George has prepared flyer.

Discussion re Tri-State Challenge (12/13 May 2018), being 1 week prior to Ulladulla tournament.

Bob stated that membership renewals were slowing, and he was following this up with Colleen. Richard Birch has updated the membership form to include details for contacting Colleen. There is also an on-line membership form. New memberships are still extremely slow. Despite all available information/forms etc, most initiatives with clubs have not been successful.

It was requested by Burwood RSL that only one person (George Khamis) is to liaise with them for tournament bookings.

The matter of declaring blanks during a tournament game was raised and was discussed in "General Business".

There is still a vacancy for Publicity Officer. Suggestions were called for. George offered to accept, however a job description is required before the position is filled.

**5. TREASURER'S REPORT**

John Holgate presented his report. Summary as follows:

- Cash at bank on 16<sup>th</sup> December 2017, \$4,017.43
- Tournament profit/loss:
  - o Winter Challenge \$102.00 profit
  - o Winter Masters \$52.00 profit
  - o NSW Championship \$135.00 loss
  - o Spring Marathon \$120.00 profit

Tournament levies (includes national levy) collected since last meeting:

Baulkham Hills \$108.00  
Revesby \$100.00

Scroker \$14.00 \*  
Empire Bay \$23.00 \*  
Central Coast \$58.00  
Nowra \$49.00  
WORDS \$14.00 \*  
Loftus \$19.00 \*  
Sutherland \$68.00  
Bundanoon - outstanding

\* Indicates national levy only applies

CASPA levy paid September to December \$880.00 (includes \$250.00 tournament levies)

WESPA ratings levy paid for NSW Championship \$44.00

ATO refund \$422.00

Discussion ensued re GST payments/refunds, also financial and non-financial memberships.

John will chase up the overdue Bundanoon levy.

## **6. MEMBERSHIP OFFICER'S REPORT TABLED**

Total renewed members 210

Total still to renew 36

Full members 96

Pensioner members 148

Student members 4

Total unaffiliated members 49

New members since September 2017 4

Total clubs 48

Clubs collecting renewals, 20

ATBs requested by email 66

ATBs requested by hard copy 178

ATBs paid for individual postage 38

Total cost of distribution of December ATB, \$202.81

Discussion ensued regarding guidelines for lapsed/written off or lapsed/no contact members.

Across the Board distribution methodology and unaffiliated members were discussed. Also the possibility of half year subscription discussed.

## **7. EQUIPMENT OFFICER'S REPORT**

Chris reported that all score books were on hand for the next 4 years. Also that he had purchased a projector and screen.

He also has a register of people to contact by text message re upcoming tournaments, which is appreciated by many members.

Tile bags and racks are cleaned regularly, currently in use. There are also another 60+ tiles/bags in storage.

## **8. CLUB LIAISON OFFICER'S REPORT**

George produced a flyer for Gary Pollard's tournament, scheduled for 19/20 May 2018.

He has prepared flyers for "wanted" players for distribution in the Bundanoon area, and he also has a contact who may possibly run this group.

## **9. NEW ITEMS OF BUSINESS**

Discussion re ATB postage costs for 2018. Colleen advised that there were 60 to 70 individual addresses, should or do members pay an additional membership cost to have these posted to them? Current postage costs are: 1 to 2 mags cost \$2.00, and 3 to 5 cost \$4.00 postage.

Wording on membership form should be altered to allow electronic receipt of ATB, but this will be discussed further before implementation.

Possible sale of score books (for 8,12,16 or 24 games), as it was felt that they should not be free of charge. This is inconvenient for Chris unless a minimum of 10 books are requested. This would provide some extra funds for Scrabble NSW.

Proposed by Colleen Birch, seconded by George Khamis.

Banner purchase. Monica will investigate this and advise.

Regional competitions. Could use spare sets to support regional competitions, in the hope of converting kitchen table players into club players. Also advise libraries of what support is available..

## **10. GENERAL BUSINESS**

George discussed the Janboree, Australia Day Open, Masters and Matchplay. John Holgate suggested Twitch for final game.

Venues for Winter Challenge and Winter Masters are still to be booked. This will be discussed on email, as there was insufficient lead time for this meeting. Other possible venues and their amenities will be checked, i.e. Croydon Club.

Promoting/Increasing tournament members was discussed. (see attached list). Member's mobile phone numbers already being used to advise them of upcoming tournaments, if they are current members or ex-tournament players.

Community based non-profit volunteer radio was discussed, particularly in MacArthur and Southern Highlands area. Specific details needed, and John Holgate, George Khamis and Tony Hunt will discuss this initially.

On 17<sup>th</sup> October 2017, George met with Magpies Waitara and discussed room hire for Winter Challenge and Winter Masters for 2018, but not all members want the same venue used all the time.

Bob spoke of the need for a role description for the position of Publicity Officer, and this will be discussed further by email.

## **1. CLOSE OF MEETING:**

Meeting was closed at 4.30 pm.

Date of next meeting will be Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2018 at Burwood.