**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE ST FRANCIS BAY BRIDGE CLUB HELD AT THE ST FRANCIS BAY LINKS GOLF CLUB on Friday December 04 2015 at 08h00.**

1. The Notice of the Meeting was read by the secretary.
2. Geoff Ellis welcomed all those present.
3. Apologies were received from Wendy Mackenzie, Harry Millson, Kathy Fuchter-Wood, Roger Richardson, Carol Boonzaier, Zeta Birch, Jenny Wiggins, Paddy & Bettye Ball, Jenny Blackwell, Gabrielle Lonsdale, Mike Tagg, Rex & Margo McGregor.
4. The confirmation of the Minutes of the AGM held on 05 December 2014 was proposed by Rowan Nicholls and seconded by Virginia Brooks.
5. Matters Arising
   1. Dealing Machine – please see the president’s report.
   2. The Split in Monday sessions into 2 sections has been deferred until the numbers increase beyond 14 tables. A successful trial was held earlier in the year with hand-duplicated boards.
   3. The committee has decided not to introduce “freebies” on Fridays as it impacts negatively on the club’s income.
   4. The once off club team competition was introduced on a trial basis and proved to be most successful. This will be repeated next year and perhaps expanded.
6. The president presented his annual report – please see addendum A –and invited questions from the floor.
   1. Rowan Nicholls asked how much a dealing machine (DM) would cost and was told that Knysna had recently purchased one for R63000. He asked whether it was possible for a DM to deal random hands as his experience of hands dealt by a machine were difficult and not enjoyable. Geoff replied in the affirmative.
   2. Eileen Ellis informed the floor that yesterday the duplicate boards had been dealt by the committee and that perhaps those opposed to the purchase of a DM should have volunteered to help!
   3. Darryl Hendricks congratulated the committee on their decision to buy a DM and said that we would experience hands that were truly random which would result in the improvement of our bidding systems. Hand- dealt hands are never absolutely random.
   4. Hilary Roberts asked that the decision should be deferred until the members had voted on a proposal to purchase a machine. Geoff invited such a proposal.
   5. Judith O’Hara explained how a DM is linked to a programme whereby one can obtain details of each hand that had been played. This enabled players, who are keen to improve their standard of play, to re deal hands after a session and re-examine them in detail.
   6. Keith Anderson suggested that there may be insufficient funds to purchase a DM. Geoff indicated that if this were so we would wait until sufficient funds had accumulated as it was not the intention of the committee to borrow money.
   7. Geoff said that the purchase of a DM was part of the process of modernisation of the Club. This had started in 2011 with the purchase of 12 Bridgemates. We had since spent R 73 000 on upgrading equipment and facilities. This, together with the move to the Links, had helped us to attract more members and improve playing standards. It had also enabled us to host an annual Teams Tournament which this year became the largest Bridge event in the EC calendar.
   8. Hilary proposed that we should leave this decision in the hands of the committee, that there should be no further discussion on the DM and we should move on!
7. Treasurer’s financial report – acceptance proposed by Judith O’Hara and seconded by Mike Bridge - please see addendum B
8. Awards
   1. Teams (1xChampagne each) – Jill Marsh, Shirley Nicholls, Penny Ashdown, Marion Hayes
   2. Monday Club points
      1. Judy Beck -791 (R100)
      2. Theonie Kirton – 711
      3. Wendy Rosser – 533
   3. Friday Club points
      1. Shirley Nicholls – 782 (R100)
      2. Jill Marsh - 708
      3. Una Moolman - 593
9. Fellowship Trophy (Pepper Grinder donated by Don Mackenzie) – awarded to Wendy Mackenzie
10. The proposals to increase playing fees and Subscriptions were accepted.
11. The new committee for 2016 was elected. The President, Vice-president, Secretary and Treasurer remain as for 2015. Wendy Mackenzie and Cookie Kitson have resigned. The two new members are Ronnie Bridge and Melanie Heinamann.
12. General
    1. Penny Ashdown requested that the committee consider affiliation to the SABF. Christine Bowker supported the request.
    2. Jean Fynn proposed a vote of thanks to Geoff and his committee for all their hard work in 2015.

There being no further business the meeting ended at 08h40.

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President: Geoff Ellis

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Date