

ARANA CONTRACT BRIDGE CLUB INCORPORATED
2026 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING | 11 February 2026
MINUTES

1. Opening

The President, Bruce Hansen, opened the meeting at 9:10 am and welcomed all those attending. He remarked on the good attendance.

2. Attendance/apologies

Eighty two (82) members had signed the attendance register.

Apologies had been received from eight members

Thirteen members had appointed and lodged proxies

3. Confirmation of the Minutes of the 2025 AGM

Bruce tabled the minutes for the 2025 AGM.

Trish Lye moved, seconded by Phil Chappell that those minutes [which had been circulated to members prior to the AGM] were a true and proper record of that meeting and be received.

The motion was carried on a show of hands.

4. Business arising from those Minutes

There was no business arising from those minutes.

5. President's Report

5.1. Bruce said that after four years of negotiation with Brisbane City Council a new lease had been finalised for the Tramway St land. The lease is for 10 years and commenced in October 2024.

The lease requires the Club to have sub-user agreement with the Football Club. It was rumoured the Football was to relocate to another ground, but that is not so and it intends to stay at Tramway St for the longer term.

5.2. Membership as at 31 December 2025 was 272 members, although 44 are yet to renew membership. There were 270 members at 31 December 2024.

The current membership includes groups organised by Warren and Marcia Applegate at the Albany Creek Library and TriCare.

Bruce reminded members they must be financial to vote for new committee members.

- 5.3. The Committee is conscious of rising costs and has looked at various options to improve cash flow and defer an increase in table fees. It was decided to discontinue free game vouchers which saved the Club about \$6,000 over the year.
A recent consideration of the forward budget prepared by Joan Mackay highlighted a need to focus on revenues, and it was decided to increase session table fees from 1 January 2027. There is a motion to this effect for consideration later in the meeting.
Joan will speak further on Club finances shortly.
- 5.4. The Club currently has three sponsors, TBIB, Harcourts and K M Smith, who presently contribute about \$2,000 to Club revenues, and we are very grateful for their support.
We are hoping to gain further sponsors in 2026.
- 5.5. The Beginners course, which commenced on 9 February, has 27 participants, which is very pleasing.
Thanks to Trish Lye, Jim Taylor, Sue Norton and Kit Clarke for organising and presenting the course.
Graduates of the course are a source of new members for the Club, the challenge is getting them to join the Club.
- 5.6. The first Congress for the year will be held on Sunday, 15 February. We are using the My ABF system for registration and payment of prize monies and we hope things go smoothly.
Last year's Congress was cancelled as it clashed with the Gold Coast Congress.
- 5.7. The Committee received complaints from members that associate members generally only play at the Club when red points events are played or prize monies are awarded.
The Committee decided that those registering for club competitions must be financial members prior to the events and have played at least six green point sessions in the previous 12 months before the event.
- 5.8. Grants supplement the funding of projects and major acquisitions. Currently we have an application with the Gambling Fund to assist with funding of a new defibrillator, repairs to rusted guttering, and purchase of new chairs, which may cost as much as \$10,000.
Thanks to Phil Chappel for preparing and submitting the grant. We should know if our application has been successful by March.
Total grants awarded to the Club through Phil's efforts exceed \$160,000.

- 5.9. The GNOTs have been reduced to two days from three, as it has not been possible to find a director who will commit to three consecutive Friday sessions.
QBA have no issue with the shorter format.
- 5.10. The Melbourne Cup and Christmas party were both very well attended and there were many favourable comments received from members. There was only one complaint, in jest, which was that the Christmas party did not go on for long enough.
- 5.11. Finally, Bruce said he would like to offer his sincere thanks to members of the Committee and the numerous volunteers who have given their time and energy to ensure your Club continues to run smoothly.
- 5.12. Simon Wood thanked Bruce for his report and moved that his report be received by the meeting. Dawn Benes seconded the motion. Bruce's report was received by acclamation.

6. Treasurer's Report

- 6.1. Joan Mackay tabled the financial accounts for the year ended 31 December 2025 which had been circulated to members prior to the meeting by email.
- 6.2. She noted the reduction in the revenue from table fees from the 2024 year and the decrease in the net surplus for the year when compared with the 2024 year. Joan said the significant reasons for this are the timing of levies paid and the amortisation of leasehold improvements.
- 6.3. There were a number of cost savings for the year arising from electricity subsidies, the cost of masterpoints, the cessation of prize vouchers and repairs and maintenance costs.
- 6.4. In the Balance Sheet the significant issue relates to the accounting for club house, more properly described as a leasehold improvement. During the term of the lease which commenced in 2002 the clubhouse building was amortised at 2.5% per annum. This lease expired in 2022. The new lease granted in 2024 is for a term of 10 years. Therefore, the MC resolved to amortise the written down value over the term of the new lease. Accordingly, the balance has been written off on a straight-line basis over the next 10 years which recognises the benefit expected to be derived from the right of occupancy under the lease.

- 6.5. Joan then discussed the investment account, which has a balance of \$325,950. The purposes underlying this account was as a reserve in the event the Club had to relocate, either because the Council did not renew the lease, or members resolving to relocate.
- 6.6. Joan advised that an ATO publication in relation to Mutual Income has been attached to the notice board.
- 6.7. Joan asked if there were any questions about the financial report. There were none.
- 6.8. Joan moved that her report been accepted. Simon seconded her motion. The motion was carried unanimously on a show of hands.

7. Appointment of Auditor

- 7.1. Simon advised the meeting that our current auditor Jason O'Connor, Chartered accountant, had agreed to act as the Club's auditor for the 2026 year. His fee will be in the order of \$500.
- 7.2. Simon moved that Jason O'Connor be appointed as the Club's auditor for the 2026 year. Willemina Hendriks seconded the motion. The motion was carried on a show of hands.

8. Motion on Notice

THAT this meeting agrees to an increase in the session table fees payable by members to \$7 from 1 January 2027, and for non-members and visitors to \$9 from 1 January 2027.

- 8.1. Bruce spoke in favour of the motion. He said that in 2002 session table fees were \$3/\$4 and it wasn't much of an increase. The proposed amount compares favourably with other Clubs.
- 8.2. Simon spoke in favour of the motion. Essentially, over 70% of the Club's revenue is derived from table fees and the Club faces increasing costs and its profit for the year was modest.
- 8.3. There were no speakers against the motion.
- 8.4. Simon restated and moved the motion. Dawn Benes seconded it.
- 8.5. The meeting resolved in favour of the motion on a show of hands. One proxy was not in favour of the motion.

9. Motion on notice

THAT Honorary Life Membership be granted to Gary Lynch for meritorious service to the Club upon unanimous recommendation of the Management Committee.

- 9.1. Bruce spoke to the motion. He said that in the process of negotiating the new lease he came to appreciate the time and effort Gary and others had devoted to negotiating the lease from Council in 2002,

and his instrumental involvement in the project development, funding, design and oversight of the construction of the Clubhouse. He and Bob Dancer, who is now deceased, devoted over 2,000 hours of their time to ensuring the Clubhouse building became a reality. During the negotiations for the new lease Bruce had asked Gary for his assistance, and he was able to provide him with a comprehensive history of the genesis and construction of the Clubhouse.

Gary's humility impressed Bruce, and Gary has been a loyal member of the Club for over 20 years.

Gary was presented with an Achievement Award at the time, but as further recognition of his service to the Club Bruce said he was pleased to nominate him for Honorary Life Membership.

- 9.2 There were no other speakers to the motion.
- 9.3 The meeting resolved unanimously in favour of the motion and by acclamation.
- 9.4 Gary responded and thanked the meeting for the honour awarded. He gave brief history of the beginning of the Club and the decision to build the clubhouse.

10. Election of Office Bearers and Committee Members for 2026/27

- 10.1. Nominations received for the various positions on the committee are:

Name	Position	Proposer	Seconder
Bruce Hansen	President	John Murphy	Marv Parmenter
Patricia Lye	Vice President	Byron Lye	Rhonda Wieck horst
Sue Norton	Secretary	Marcia Applegate	Bev Fraser
Joan Mackay	Treasurer	Bruce Hansen	Norma Hansen
John Hull	Committee Member	Gay Hull	Bruce Hansen
Patricia Lye	Committee Member	Rhonda Wieckhorst	Byron Lye

10.2. All members of the present committee stood down as required by the Rules. Simon Wood then conducted the election for the office of President.

10.3. As Bruce Hansen is the sole nominee for the office of President, no ballot is necessary, and he is elected to the office of President.

10.4. Bruce then conducted the election of the rest of the committee positions.

- 10.5. Patricia Lye is the only nominee the office of Vice-President, no ballot is necessary and she was declared as elected to the office of Vice President.
- 10.6. Sue Norton is the sole nominees for the office of Secretary, and she was declared as elected to that office.
- 10.7. Marlene Joan Mackay is the sole nominee for the office of Treasurer, and she was declared elected to that position.
- 10.8. John Hull is the sole nominee for the position of Committee Member, and he was declared elected to that position. (As Patricia Lye was elected to the office of Vice President, she withdrew the nomination as Committee Member).
- 10.9. Bruce advised the meeting the Club's Rules provide for three Committee Members and as there were insufficient nominations for the position of Committee Members, nominations may be called from the meeting.
- 10.10. Trish Lye nominated Anna Green, which was seconded by Gary Lynch. Anna accepted the nomination and was declared elected to the position.
- 10.11. Fleming Scholler nominated Jeff Borg, which was seconded by Dawn Benes. Jeff accepted the nomination and was declared elected to the position.
- 10.12. No further nominations were necessary.

11. General business

- 11.1 Dawn Benes raised the issue of beginner lessons. She said the lessons are well attended, but the retention rate at the end of the lessons isn't very good and a lot are lost to other clubs.
Trish Lye said she had recently attended a meeting at QCBC and all clubs face the same issue. Generally, the retention rate is about 30%.
Bruce said this issue is one for the new MC to consider.
- 11.2 Tony Agar raised the issue of table etiquette and the discussion of scores entered into Bridgemates.
It is possible to configure the Bridgemates so that only the scores of the particular table are shown and not those of all other tables which have played the boards. This is what happens at Congresses.
The MC to consider it and whether to trial it.

12. Close. The meeting was closed at 9:55 am.