



# **BENDIGO BRIDGE CLUB Inc.**

A0005397Z

## **NOTICE TO ALL MEMBERS OF BENDIGO BRIDGE CLUB INC.**

### **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2025**

**DATE:** Monday 8<sup>th</sup> September 2025  
**TIME:** 11:30am  
**PLACE:** LONG GULLY COMMUNITY CENTRE, 23-29 HAVILAH ROAD, LONG GULLY

Members are advised that the Annual General Meeting of the Bendigo Bridge Club Inc. (the Association) for the 2025-2026 financial year is to be held on the 8<sup>th</sup> September 2025 at the Long Gully Community Centre starting at 11:30am.

Under the Rules of the Association, members may nominate themselves for committee positions at any time before the actual election. It is good practice to provide a nomination prior to the meeting so the committee can make every attempt to ensure all positions will be filled. Nomination forms for committee positions are attached and are also available during Club sessions, from the Secretary at [secretarybendigobridge@gmail.com](mailto:secretarybendigobridge@gmail.com) and on the Management Committee pages in the Members Only section of the website. Early nominations assist those voting by proxy to vote effectively for the candidate of their choice.

Proxy voting forms will be accepted by the Chairperson at any time before the opening of the meeting. However, those sent by mail or electronically must reach the Secretary at least 24 hours before the meeting. Proxies must be sent to P.O. Box 648, Bendigo 3552 or [secretarybendigobridge@gmail.com](mailto:secretarybendigobridge@gmail.com) Under our Constitution a person may use the Association's standard proxy form (attached and available on the website) or any other written format so long as their wish is clear, and it is signed by the member appointing another member as their proxy holder.

### **BUSINESS TO BE CONDUCTED**

In accordance with the Rules of the Association, the minutes of the 2024 Annual General Meeting for the 2023-2024 financial year are to be confirmed at this meeting. A copy of the minutes is attached.

### **The business of the Annual General Meeting shall be:**

- To receive and consider the annual reports of the Committee (President and Director) on the activities of the Association for the 2024-2025 financial year
- To receive and consider the financial statements for the 2024-2025 financial year
- To consider Resolution 1 to approve a financial audit for the 2025-2026 financial year
- To consider Resolution 2 to decide the rate of the annual subscription for members for the 2026-2027 financial year and to define date that this annual subscription is due.

- To consider Resolution 3 to create a pro-rata system for payment of new memberships depending on the date joining.
- To consider Resolution 4 to decide the number of ordinary members of the Committee (if any) the Association wishes to hold office for the 2025-2026 financial year
- To elect officers and ordinary members of the Committee
- No items of other business since no member has requested such

#### **Information regarding resolutions:**

##### **Resolution 2:**

*To increase annual membership fee in line with the costs of the annual Capitation Fees per member being the Australian Bridge Federation fee of \$23.30 and the Victorian Bridge Association fee of \$20.*

##### **Resolution 4: Information provided by Kerry Delcourt:**

*Currently, we tend to put off approving new members until after the financial year so that they will not have to pay again too soon. Although this is well-meaning it causes many problems and disadvantages for these new people and the Club. Having a pro rata joining fee would solve this problem. Capitation Fees – we save money on some new members but do not pass it on. We pay Capitation Fees to the Australian Bridge Federation and Victoria Bridge Association every year. This is a per head fee. It is based on our Home Club member numbers as at Mar 31st each year. In 2027 this will be at least \$43.30 per Home Club member. The ABF charges us a pro rata rate for new people joining between certain time periods:*

*%0 for a new person joining between Jan 1 and Mar 31st*

*%50 for a new person joining between Oct 1 and Dec 31st*

*The VBA (Bridge Victoria) fee is charged per head count as at March 31st*

*We tend to keep our Annual Subscription Fee to approximately the amount the ABF and VBA will be charging us.*

*Although these dates do not strictly align with our own current Annual Subscription End dates (July 1 to June 30th since 2018), we often save money each year when new people join us between Oct – Dec and Jan – Mar.*

##### ***Disadvantages in not approving new members as soon as practicable***

*Briefly, some of the disadvantages include exclusion and ineligibility for some free novice lessons and some events (Melbourne and Bendigo), no access to on-line bookings, no access to available partners, each other's contact information and some of the on-line learning tools and online play.*

*The ABF Insurance only covers for 15 sessions including Supervised Play. Our own local Policy is that after five sessions people must join as members to continue playing at Bendigo. The possible loss of new members is a consideration (more likely to keep coming if join as a member) as is the Masterpoints Secretary having to keep track of Blue Points and less freedom to email and contact people and stay in touch if they are not members.*

*Our Constitution requires our Committee to consider applications for membership, and approve or not, as soon as practicable (s.10 (1)).*

*The Committee has been well-meaning in putting this off. Having a pro rata joining fee would allow the Committee to approve as is required and yet still be considerate of new members having to “pay twice” or not long after they have just joined.*

**A luncheon will be provided for members after the meeting, and a regular bridge session will commence at 1:30pm. Bookings for that session must be made on the website in the usual way.**

*Carla Daly*  
**Secretary, Bendigo Bridge Club, Inc.**

August 2025