

## President's Newsletter 26 Nov 2022

*Dear Fellow Chess Players - Season's Greetings!*

*I wish you all a joyful time with family and friends and good luck for those playing in Congress.*

### **1. Hilton Bennett Funeral**

We are all saddened by the completely unexpected loss of our dear friend and chess colleague Hilton Bennett. His funeral held in Hamilton saw many chess people from near and far assemble for a dignified farewell. Our deepest sympathy to his wife Robin.

### **2. Congress Jan 2023 Wellington**

Looking forward to Congress organised by Wellington Chess Club! Thanks to Paul Spiller, we have two visiting GMs – Elshan Moradiabadi (current co-US Open Champion) & Samy Shoker (Egypt).

### **3. Chess Documents Sent to Clubs 15th Nov**

All Clubs should have received the following papers and remits for discussion decision at AGM. Papers were sent to email addresses as recorded on our website, but some 'bounced.'

If your Club has not received information please alert me directly with the correct person and email address for documents.

All but one of the following documents are posted on our website:

#### **i. Annual General Meeting 2023 (posted on website)**

This 36-page PDF includes:

- Agenda
- Minutes AGM Jan 2022
- Minutes Workshop Chess Development Plan 2021-23 Jan 2022
- President's Report 2022
- Chess development Plan 2023-25
- Actuals 2020-21 & 2021-22 and Forecast Budgets 2023-25
- Council Remits for Constitutional Change  
*Note: an error in numbering in these Remits was discovered after dispatch. A corrected (amended) version of these Remits is posted on website.*
- Council Remits for Fees Increase

#### **ii. Club Remits (posted on website)**

North Shore Chess Club proposes two remits

- Life Membership for John McRae (endorsed by Papatoetoe Chess Club)
- Complaints and Harassment policy

#### **iii. Annual Performance Report FY 2021-2022**

Our Annual Accounts including some metrics of performance is a separate PDF document not posted on our website as it contains confidential financial information.

A copy is of course available to any Club Official.

### **4. Council Remits for Constitutional Change**

These 16 remits are all short & technical and will:

- Bring our Constitution in line with the new Incorporated Societies Act 2022 and Charities Act 2005.
- Change our Financial Year (FY) to Calendar Year (CY) starting 1<sup>st</sup> Jan 2024

This current FY will end 30<sup>th</sup> June 2023. Then we will have a transition 6-month period for reporting 1<sup>st</sup> July 2023 - 31<sup>st</sup> Dec 2023.

An FY matching CY is common sense with all our Clubs and FIDE running FY as CY.

#### **5. Council Remits for Fees Increase**

We are requesting Clubs to approve a fee increase from 1<sup>st</sup> July 2023:

-Club Membership from \$10 to \$15

-Tournament Levy from \$5 to \$7

There will be no change in FIDE rating fee which is currently \$2.50

(The FIDE fee is based on cost recovery plus a small margin for admin and currency fluctuations.)

The purpose of the increases is to:

##### Budget for Olympiad Expenses

NZCF made a net loss after depreciation last FY of \$13,000 which reduced our reserves.

This FY we anticipate only breaking even after net Olympiad expenses ca. \$12,000 (and this after receiving a private donation of \$5,000). For the first time, Olympiad expenses are fully disclosed to members. We need to budget anticipated costs in the next Financial Years for Olympiad 2024 Budapest.

##### Fund new initiatives.

In the Chess Development Plan (introduced last AGM and now updated) we identified desirable objectives or projects which need funding:

- ZOOM School using foreign GM & IM trainers to deliver targeted training to

-Olympiad, World Cup & top Junior candidates.

-Ordinary Club players wanting to improve their game.

There will be student fees and cost recovery, but with partial subsidising of selected players.

- Supporting our certified Trainers and Arbiters to maintain certification and advance education by participation in FIDE seminars.
- Supporting one Norm tournament per year where local players can improve their FIDE ratings and potentially get title norms. Such a tournament could be a big Swiss rather than an elite round-robin. This means using our international contacts to invite players here with modest travel incentives.
- Upgrade our IT so that we are not dependent on any individual's private computer & software.

##### Forecast Budgets

For the first time in my memory, we have supplied forecast budgets showing the financial effect of revenue gains through fee increases, increased membership and tournaments as well as expenses against specific objectives in our Chess Development Plan. Forecast budgets are inevitably prone to many variables and typically vary between 'optimistic' and 'pessimistic.' We have tried to steer a middle course.

#### **6. AGM Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> Jan 2023 Wellington**

Every Club that is financial (paid its membership fees) is entitled to delegates at AGM - one delegate for Associate Members and based on Club membership for Affiliate Members. If an Affiliate club will have more than one delegate attending AGM, one would preferably be designated as 'Voting Delegate.' Clubs are reminded to complete their affiliation form including member list and email it to Craig Hall. When Affiliate Club forms have been received, a list of number of votes that each Club will be emailed.

Names of delegates should be notified to:

Nigel Metge: [nigel.metge@gmail.com](mailto:nigel.metge@gmail.com)

Bob Gibbons: [secretary@newzealandchess.co.nz](mailto:secretary@newzealandchess.co.nz)

Richard Christie: [treasurer@newzealandchess.co.nz](mailto:treasurer@newzealandchess.co.nz)

Craig Hall: [chess@fastmail.com](mailto:chess@fastmail.com)

*Naturally, I am always available to chess players who wish to discuss any item above or how we can advance chess in general!*

**Nigel Metge**

**021 025 08869**