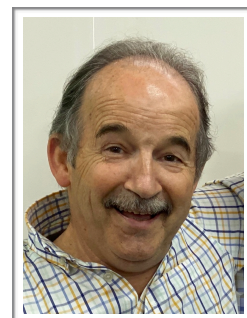


CENTRAL COAST BRIDGE CLUB

Vale Robin Dunlop: 1950 - 2020

Sadly, I have to report that Robin Dunlop lost his battle with cancer on Monday July 6th. He was in Wyong Hospital and his wife was by his side when he passed away. Our sympathy and thoughts go to Sue and her family at this most difficult of times. The funeral was held at Hillsong in Baulkham Hills but due to current restrictions, attendance was by invitation only. We also have a number of members who have been in hospital or who are unwell during this time and we wish them all the best as they recover.



The Constitution

In 2016 legislation about the operation of boards and committees changed and the Dept. of Fair Trading produced a template constitution encompassing these changes. The NSWBA then adapted this template for the use of bridge clubs. CCBC adopted the NSWBA template constitution but since then we have become aware of a number of things that need to be clarified, corrected or changed. The Committee has been working on this and in the October newsletter we flagged the changes that would be made. The AGM is to be held on Saturday 22nd August and the Committee will be putting on the agenda, resolutions concerned with these changes. The main resolution is for the adoption of a “new” constitution. In reality it is not a new constitution, it is simply the old one with the changes incorporated. The Dept. of Fair Trading advised that it was better to present the changes as a package in a “new” constitution rather than put up a raft of special resolutions for each change. It also indicated that by doing it this way the process of approval by the Dept. of Fair Trading would be quicker. The “new” constitution and a detailed explanation of the changes will be put on the website. If you would like to have any further clarification of any part of the changes please feel free to contact Jean Moran.

The AGM goes on-line.

The rapidly changing government health restrictions throw uncertainty over whether we will be able to use the Mingara facility for the AGM. In addition a number of members have indicated that they would not feel able to attend a meeting due to health or other issues. Therefore the Committee has made the decision to conduct the AGM entirely digitally. This means there will be

no face to face meeting. Instead all documentation will be available on the Club website and members will vote through special secure software on the Club website and within a specified time frame. The software has already been tested and security issues have been addressed. Each member will have an Elector ID (your ABF number) and will also be issued with an individual password. This will allow you to log in to vote at the specified time. The advantage of this will be that the AGM will definitely go ahead and that all members will be able to vote regardless of where they are on the day. All members will be notified of the agenda and details of how the system will work in the coming days. Keep checking the Club website for further details.



All Committee positions are vacated at the AGM and anybody can nominate for one of the eleven positions available. Most of the positions will not be contested by present Committee members. This will please Jan Buchanan Medina (seen left) a self appointed spokesperson who has been rallying the troops in opposition to the Committee through a newsletter published each week, under her alias of Spookie. Her editorials regarding what the Committee is doing, or thinking of doing or intends to do, have demonstrated a very tenuous grasp on accuracy. There are always two sides to every story and it would prevent much disinformation if enquiries were

made about the interpretation of so called facts. Unfortunately in preaching to the converted these questions are rarely asked. Now is the opportunity for all those grand words to be converted into action. Nomination forms need to have a proposer and a seconder and will be circulated to all members. I hope all nominees will remember that being on the Committee is not about you but about the organisation that you represent. Committee members should not be pushing a personal agenda but must be working for the good of the **whole** organisation. It was pointed out in a recent article on Julia Gillard that since being deposed as Prime Minister, and regardless of whether you agreed with her politics, she had conducted herself in a very dignified manner and had put her standing and experience as a senior politician to good use. This was in stark contrast to her successors, Rudd, Turnbull, and Abbott who continued to snipe away and undermine the actions of their replacement. Whether we agree with the actions of the new CCBC Committee or not, members can rest assured that the current Committee will not be involved in any of that kind of behaviour. The time has come to seek out the positive and to look for better ways forward.

All the Committee members are volunteers and have a genuine commitment to the Club but when health and personal life start to suffer it is time to draw a line in the sand. In not renominating I am particularly mindful of all those members who have supported us throughout the year and who knew that we were working hard for the Club. On behalf of the Committee I would like to sincerely thank them. Appreciation of the hard work that all members of the Committee have put in has been sparse on the ground of late and so those who have offered encouragement have been very much appreciated.

July 2020

Jean Moran