Hartford Bridge Club
Annual Meeting
November 2, 2025

The Annual Meeting was called to order at 11:30 am. The meeting was held at the Bridge Club and through Zoom There were 94 attendees at the club and 1 via Zoom, for a grand total of 95.

Ben Bishop welcomed everyone for taking the time to attend this meeting. He reviewed the agenda. He explained the need for the annual meeting. The agenda includes the "State of the Club", election of new board members, member feedback and of course to play Bridge!

This year was a year that really pointed out that we are a member owned, member run club. After Donna's terrible accident in December many members stepped up to the plate to make sure that the schedule of games continued, lessons continued and tournaments happened. He thanked the volunteers that helped with the clean-up day to help spruce up the club. Ben wanted to personally thank us for the support he felt when he needed to step in to the role of president unexpectedly.

Secretary's Report: Minutes accepted (all voting yes)

Treasurer's Report: Rick Thibodeau, presented his report to the club. He detailed the annual expenses for director fees, rent and honoraria as the highest cost to the club. Game fees provide 63% of the revenue with the rest coming from dues and the generous donations we receive. He also wanted to thank Joanne Llyod, our bookkeeper, for the work she does.

Club Manager's Report: Donna thanked everyone for the support she received during her recovery . We are beginning our 95th year of bridge! Our membership for the year was 356 up from 335 the previous year. The club is number 23 nationally in table count in the US and is the oldest club in North America.

Moment of Silence for recently deceased members.

Honoraria: were presented to Donna Feir, Linda Starr, Ann Hughes and Sue Seckinger.

Comments from Members: Cathleen Malone thanked us for providing expert lessons from Ann Hughes and the easy progression of the supervised novice to beginner group games. She also asked about the current membership, which is at 230, we were all reminded to pay your dues.

Donations: members were acknowledged for their donations.

Nominating Committee – The slate of Officers and Directors for 2024 -25 was presented by Felix Springer. The slate was – David Brandwein, President; Lori Leopold, Vice President; Richard Thibodeau, Treasurer; Ann Lohrand, Secretary. Trustees: Ann Marie Hughes, 1 year, Linda Starr, 1 year, Ausra Geaski, 2 years, Deb Prince, 2 years, John Lloyd – 3 years, and Ben Levine – 3 years. (Accepted - all voting yes)

Ben thanked the outgoing trustees – Rob Stillman and Diane Tracy for their service to the club. He also recognized Carole Amaio for her hard work organizing the luncheon. He then handed the microphone to the new president, David Brandwein.

David gave a short talk about how he got involved in Bridge and the Hartford Bridge Club. He discussed the financial challenges ahead – negotiations of a new lease and the establishment of a furnishing fund to replace chairs and tables. A legacy information flyer was distributed to all. He noted that participation is increasing and that is the best way to keep the club going. We need you!

Adjourned at 12:02 pm,

Respectfully submitted, Ann Lohrand, Secretary.