



OREWA BRIDGE CLUB

Notice of revised date of Annual General Meeting

Dear Member,

Our AGM this year will now take place on 7th November 2025 at 12.00pm and not in September as advertised previously. Our new constitution will be available to all members at least 14 days prior to that meeting. Our Friday Bridge session will commence after the conclusion of the AGM.

We have received emails from members insisting that solicitor's advice is sought in respect of the constitution and we confirm that we have done so. In asking whether there was a way that we could retain our September date we received the following legal advice:

... the wording in Rule 20 is very prescriptive and says the AGM "shall be held during the month of November", so you will need to do it then.

You could risk having an earlier AGM and at the start of the meeting ask the members to vote on a motion agreeing to the earlier date, but this is not legally compliant. A members' resolution cannot overturn the constitution. If it was subsequently found that the AGM was invalid due to non-compliance with the constitution, then all the decisions made at that meeting would be void. That would leave you in a very difficult position.

The committee wishes to make it clear that the issues with past constitutions have not arisen due to the fault of any individual(s) and there is no question of blame in any quarter. Past, or present, committee members are not legal experts, nor are they expected to be. Our current position is a matter of fact; we have an obligation to inform members of what we are doing and why. Failure to agree and file a legally compliant constitution prior to April 2026 will result in our club ceasing to exist.

The issues experienced with these past constitutions highlight why we need to get this right so that the club, its members, and committee, are safeguarded in the new more rigorously regulated environment that we find ourselves in.

Please support the club and committee by attending our AGM and voting for a modern compliant constitution tailored to the needs of Orewa Bridge Club.