

# MINUTES

## ABF Management Committee Meeting

TBA Headquarters, Hobart

Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> May, 2012

### 1. ROLL CALL

Keith McDonald (President), Dianne Marler (Secretary), Allison Stralow, Simon Hinge

**In Attendance:** Eilis Magner (Legal Counsel)

**Apologies:** Jane Rasmussen (ABF Secretariat) and Roy Nixon (Treasurer)

**Observer:** Bruce Neill

The ABF Management Committee noted the passing of Jose Greenfeld. Jose had been a stalwart supporter of the ABF and a long standing member of the Management Committee. Dennis Yovich was asked to act as the ABF representative at Jose's funeral. He accepted and conveyed our sincere sympathy to Dadi.

### 2. CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES – 25<sup>th</sup> March 2012

Minutes amended and confirmed.

### 3. MATTERS OUTSTANDING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

JR	Procedure for Bridgemates	Pending
EM	MPC Contract for DW – now urgent	Ongoing
EM	Legal Counsel notes to MPPL	Ongoing
EM	Brief for RC re declining entries	Ongoing
EM/RN	SFOB New Contract	Ongoing
BN	TC to set guidelines for reps	Pending
EM	Outstanding Ethics matter	Ongoing
RN & FC	ANC fees	Progressing
AS	Emerald Grand Master article	Ongoing

### 4. MC REPORTS

#### (a) President's Report

#### (b) Secretary's Report

- (i) Items from the Secretary were dealt with during the meeting or in the list of correspondence.

#### (c) Treasurer's Report

- (ii) Quarterly P&L tabled. Currently in much better position than same time last year.

#### (d) Secretariat Report

#### (e) Legal Counsel

- (i) Reviewed ANOT Regulations.  
(ii) Reviewed minutes of February and March prior to posting to the web.  
(iii) MC agreed to wording of Ethics Committee Protocol. To go onto web site. **Action: DM**

## 5. OFFICER and COMMITTEE REPORTS

### (a) Tournament Committee

- (i) R Harper issued resolved to ensure that future entries assert that all in teams are eligible. EM to prepare letter to RH. **Action: EM**
- (ii) National POP Coordinator to be asked to post list of PQPs including Harper. Will adjust if necessary at later time. **Action: DM**
- (iii) Last round appeals from NOT. Sebastian Yuen to keep record of "frivolous" appeals following laws of natural justice. **Action: SY**
- (iv) TC proposes asking scorers for all Swiss Pairs events to have 2 leading pairs sit the same way alternatively in final rounds.
- (v) Query about funding for recording at the GCC. Secretary to reply, with copy to the NTCs. **Action: DM**

### (b) National Tournament Coordinators

NTC report received and acknowledged.

### (c) Central Masterpoint Project

- (i) Green point and improvers award reinstated and will be available using new software shortly.

### (d) Youth Committee

All Youth teams endorsed.

### (e) Women's Committee

Women in bridge fund now operational. Will be promoted via Women's Committee from time to time.

### (f) National Viewgraph Coordinators

- (i) Letters of Agreement in hand. President to sign off. **Action: KM**
- (ii) Chase up schedule for the ANC. **Action: DM**
- (iii) Ask Coordinators to put up schedule of all Australian events being broadcast on ABF web site. **Action: DM**

### (g) National Marketing Officer

Letter of Agreement with M-a-W Foundation was reviewed by the MC. Not comfortable with locking the ABF into 5 year exclusive agreement. Write back declining but stating that we will help with extensive fund raising as and when we can. **Action: DM**

### (h) National Teaching Coordinator

Report received and acknowledged.

### (i) National Appeals Coordinator

No report received. Secretary to send notification of future meetings and chase reports.

### (j) What should I Bid Coordinator

Report received and acknowledged.

### (k) ABDA

Report received from Sean Mullamphy. Directors weekend scheduled for 13/14 October in Melbourne. Flyers out.

## 6. AUSTRALIAN EVENTS

### (a) Playoffs 2012

- (i) Following resignation of TO, the ABF MC to ask Sean Mullamphy to assist. **Action: DM**
- (ii) TC to put discussion sheet for 2013 and 2014 Playoff dates on to web site. **Action: BN**

### (b) GNOT

### (c) GNP

### (d) Bridge for Brains

Report required from organizer. Secretary to chase. **Action: DM**

### (e) Nationwide Pairs

Agreement with facilitator prepared. President to sign and secretary to send off requesting signature and return. **Action: DM**

### (f) Licensed Events

Secretary to follow up on signed agreement from VBA. **Action: DM**

### (g) SFOB

Report received and acknowledged.

### (i) ANC 2012

No report received. Accommodation issue resolved. Numbers in Butler low at this stage.

## 7. INTERNATIONAL EVENTS

### (a) APBF

4 teams from Australia competing. Secretary to write to Esther advising. **Action: DM**

### (b) World Youth

### (c) WMSG

The MC endorsed the Women's Team including the pair of Bourke and Lusk. The MC endorsed the request of the Team for Peter Reynolds to be NPC. Secretary to respond to team. **Action: DM**

### (d) Other Overseas Events

## 8. GENERAL BUSINESS

### (a) Augmentation of the Women's Team

The MC noted the potential conflict of BN in any discussions about this subject. He was asked to remain in the room as the TC representative. The President recapped the position referring to the Tournament and Supplementary Regulations for the Playoffs. He referred to the outcome of advice sought from various avenues and the opinion received from Russell Harms. Following discussions, it was agreed that General Counsel would prepare a response for publication. President to make direct telephone contact with some, while BN to report to TC, Secretary to write to BT, JT AND SB. Letter to be prepared under President's signature and posted to ABF web site. **Action: EM/KM/DM/BN**

TC directed to review current regulations. Guidelines sent via BN with request that amended regs be available for review by ABF MC at September meeting prior to posting on ABF Playoff web site. **Action: BN**

**(b) Strategic Plan**

DM to contact Marketing Officer with proposed dates for meeting in Brisbane in October at QCBC clubrooms. Secretary to advise ABF MC when dates known and seek approval from QCBC manager to hold meeting at their premises.

**Action: DM**

**(c) Constitutional/By Law Changes**

The ABF MC discussed the advice received that By-laws of ABF needed immediate attention to revise inaccuracies with respect to use of Tournament Unit. General Counsel to prepare By-law amending this issue. To be sent to TC for consideration, then to States and Councillors for consideration at the Mid Year Meeting of the ABF.

**Action: EM/DM**

**(d) BFACT Request from AGM**

Secretary to gather information from all other Licensed Events and any profits made so that MC could consider matter further. Secretary to send information to MC members prior to next meeting, then any recommendation to be sent to States/Councillors for their consideration.

**Action: DM**

**(e) Use of ABF URL**

Following letters between ABF Solicitor and Schaller, ABF MC requested General Counsel to speak to Principal of Migration Path to resolve.

**Action: EM**

**(f) Alan Woods Ranking Scheme**

Paul Marston was sent a letter terminating his agreement with the ABF. No further payments were to be made as of 31.12.2011. President to check this. President to write to Paul Marston about maintaining association with the ABF.

**Action: KM**

**(g) Patron/Ambassador of the ABF**

Secretary to write to Marketing Officer regarding re-think of MC about patrons for the ABF vs ambassadors. MC agreed would get more mileage from personalities known to the players – state by state.

**Action: DM**

**(h) Advertising/Newsletter**

Following recent complaints about the positioning of ads in the ABF Newsletter, the MC wished to reinforce that this is at the discretion of the Editor, provided always that requests for particular posting are adhered to if at all possible. Secretary to reply.

**Action: DM**

**(i) Outstanding Ethics Matter**

Chasing recommendations from National Recorder. Secretary to write to National Recorder chasing response

**Action: DM**

**(j) Youth Players/Insurance Issues**

Secretary to write to Chair of Youth Committee and Treasurer raising MC's concerns about insurance issues.

**Action: DM**

**(k) Draw for ANC Teams**

Done and sent to NTCs for inclusion in ANC regulations and posting to the ANC web site.

**Action: DM**

**(l) Resignation of David Stern**

The MC accepted DS's resignation from Playoffs and as Chair of Youth Committee as at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2012. Secretary to write back to DS with interim actions to cover Playoffs and advising that we will give consideration to replacement as Chair of YC later in the year. **Action: DM**

**(m) ANC Fees**

Topic discussed by MC. To be referred to Treasurer and Finance Committee. Need to come up with proposal that can be sent to States and Councillors prior to mid year meeting. A proposal that will meet with their approval. Not to affect bottom line of receipt of entry fees for any state holding the ANC. Secretary to write to Treasurer advising accordingly. **Action: DM**

**(n) ABF Web Site**

- (i) Meeting scheduled with NMO and NTC. Following this meeting SH will arrange to move from paper based to a beta testing environment
- (ii) First pass policy about what links are to be included on ABF web site. Agreed that States/Territories, Australian clubs, WBF, NCBOs will be included in bridge links.
- (iii) The MC acknowledged the excellent work done by Simon Hinge

**(o) Marketing Grants**

President to write to Treasurer asking for payment date. **Action: KM**

**(p) Free Affiliation Fee Incentive**

Following receipt of emails from States and Territories, the ABF MC decided to abolish this facility from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2013. Secretary to circulate decision to Presidents/Secretaries of all States and Territories, copied to ABF Masterpoint Centre. **Action: DM**

**9. CORRESPONDENCE**

- (a) Letter from QLD player regarding membership issues referred back to the QBA.
- (b) Letter from a player re treatment at a Victorian Club was referred back to the VBA via SH.

Other general correspondence handled by the Secretary.

**Forthcoming Meetings**

- 24/25 June 2012 – Sydney
- 28/29 July – Sydney
- 8 September – Mid Year Meeting – Sydney
- 9 September – Sydney
- 3/4 November – Sydney
- 15/16 December – Canberra