

MINUTES

ABF Management Committee Meeting

The VIBE Hotel – Cnr Elizabeth & Goulburn Sts, Sydney

Saturday & Sunday 21st & 22nd June 2008

9.30 Both Days

Present: Keith McDonald (President), Richard Grenside (Secretary), Roy Nixon (Treasurer), Dianne Marler, Keiran Crowe-Mai

In Attendance: Eilis Magner (Legal Counsel) and Jane Rasmussen (ABF Secretariat)

Matters outstanding from previous minutes.

JB	TC to review SNOT	Ongoing
JR	Duty Statements in Handbook	Pending
EM	Legal counsel to advise ER of error in ANC 2008 brochure	Pending
JR	Send invoice to WA for 20% of masterpoint fee for Butler 2007	Pending

1. President's Report

- (a) Secretary to represent the ABF in Beijing.
- (b) ABF would like to sponsor a dinner for the PABF, secretary to write to C Page.
Action: RG
- (c) Secretary was asked to send an email to J Stark advising that action had been taken to remedy the tardy posting of minutes of ABF MC and TC meetings to the web site.
Action: RG
- (d) Secretary asked to write to the Chair of the TU and all state/MP secretaries reminding them of their obligation to lodge their masterpoints within 2 months of completion of any event. This follows complaints that have been received recently.
Action: RG
- (e) KCM was assigned the responsibility of coordinating all matters regarding Bridge for Brains. Still some clubs to send in score sheets/masterpoint files. Will also coordinate scoring.
Action: KCM
- (f) Reported that Rabbi Helman may be at Gold Coast Congress in 2009. KM will entertain the Rabbi if he should arrive.
Action: KM
- (g) Letter received from A Halmos re VCC – the contents of which were noted.
- (h) Letter regarding accommodation for Chief of Mission from D Stern noted.
- (i) Letter received from Roland Wark – contents noted and assurances given that BBO issues in Australia will be rectified.
- (j) Secretary to remind all states that they should consider whether assigned rights under Rule 80 should be cascaded down to clubs.
Action: RG
- (k) Reported that “the word” in club land was that GNP was just a money-making exercise for the ABF. GNP conveners to be asked to prepare press release for posting on to the web site and inclusion in the ABF Newsletter.
Action: JB/DM
- (l) Resume from P Hamilton to be acknowledged and kept on file. RG to acknowledge receipt of same.
Action: RG

- (m) Correspondence re female directors at SFOB referred to Women in Bridge Committee for consideration and report. **Action: DM**
- (n) Noted that dialogue with Cathy Chua regarding updating of History of Australian Bridge has begun.
- (o) Correspondence from R Klinger regarding matches between Australia and New Zealand and the Zone 7 Championships was noted. To be advised that Zone 7 playoffs will be incorporated into the PABF subject to cost ramifications. Decision will be reviewed if this proves a non-viable option. **Action: RG**
- (p) Discussion regarding Presidents' Meeting. At AGM It was agreed that it be abandoned in 2008. All Presidents did not seem to receive message. DM to email Dallas Cooper. **Action: DM**
- (q) Noted that the report concerning web page usage was received.
- (r) GST briefing paper to be reviewed and updated. Refer to Finance Committee. **Action: RN**
- (s) Agreed that the ABF would continue with sponsorship of Australian Bridge for 2009 and 2010 on similar terms and conditions. Announcement to be placed in the AB Newsletter. **Action: RG**

2. Secretary's Report

- (a) It would be an objective to have ABF Management Committee meeting minutes on website no later than 3 weeks after each MC meeting. **Action: DM**
- (b) Promulgate Playoff dates to all states and point out change of closing date for Open and Women's Playoff to December 11, to PO Box U166, Armidale, NSW, 2351. Venue to be ascertained for the Open and Womens ASAP. **Action: RG**

3. Treasurer's Report

- (a) Subsidies for Beijing and PABF have been finalized.
- (b) Letter to Captains and Manager, Team Manager subsidy to be increased.
- (c) Purchase of two new ABF Computers to be placed on the asset register.
- (d) Insurance policies are currently being reviewed.
- (e) QLD License agreement discussed – response to QBA agreed.
- (f) Secretary to write to NSWBA re: Coffs Harbour. **Action: RG**

4. Legal Counsel Report

- (a) Correspondence from R Busch re: Law 80.
- (b) Tender documents for SFOB hand duplication were placed on website, applications closed June 10. M Mullamphy – to be advised she was successful in tender.
- (c) Correspondence from TC Chair re: Appeals, referred to National Authority.

5. Secretariat Report

- (a) The MC approved the purchase of a new photocopier for ABF Headquarters from three quotes provided.

6. Tournament Unit Report

- (a) Entry fees for the ANC to be an agenda item at the AGM in March. **Action: RG**
- (b) Draw for the ANC Teams was conducted and the information has been circulated to all states, webmaster and TC Chair. **Action: RG**
- (c) All States are to be informed that Stop Cards are to be used at the ANC 2008. **Action: RG**

7. Tournament Committee Report

- (a) K Morrison briefed the MC on Tournament Committee matters.
- (b) Financial matters re: SFOB to be referred to the Finance Committee. **Action: RG**
- (c) Recommendation that there be Senior Women, and Veteran Open categories for the SFOB, endorsed. TC to correspond with SFOB Convenor. **Action: RG**

- (d) PQP Compiler position solely a TC decision, subject to complying with requirements. **Action: RG**
 - (e) Legal Counsel to ascertain position on software for PQP compiling. **Action: EM**
 - (f) MC approved all other points within the TC Minutes, Last Train event in teams selection years needs further thought. **Action: RG**
 - (g) Zone 7 Playoffs, further clarification required, relay to player liaison committee.
 - (h) Seniors Playoffs, status quo, Secretary to contact convenor. **Action: RG**
 - (i) Publication of TC minutes in full ASAP on the website. Notations on TC minutes whether MC has accepted recommendations or not.
- 8. Central Masterpoint Centre Project**
- (a) A recommendation was received from the Masterpoint Centre Project Coordinator concerning interim remuneration arrangements for the Administrator. The MC endorsed the recommendation. Details to be provided to ABF Accountant. **Action: KM**
 - (b) The proposed Action Plan and timeline provided by DM and amended by M Bourke and D Smith was discussed. EM to consider contractual matters and liaise with Martin Willcox. Suggested that contractual questions be referred to Ron Clapham for consideration. **Action: EM**
 - (c) DM to advise MB and DS that the ABF MC agree to moving forward in a cooperative manner on their suggested timeline and Action Plan. **Action: DM**
 - (d) Proposal to have someone else assist with streamlining the current system considered by the MC. All agreed to the proposal with MCPC liaising with both parties. Visit to ABF HQ to be organized at a time that best suits the MP Administrator. **Action: DM**
- 9. Youth Committee Report**
- (a) A request for the final composition of the three teams for Beijing was sent to the Youth Coordinator. **Action: JR**
 - (b) Secretary to ask for information on the 4 subsections of Youth Coordinators. **Action: RG**
 - (c) Secretary to write to Youth Coordinator requesting a budget by November. **Action: RG**
- 10. ABF Events**
- (a) ANOT report received and Secretary asked to thank Convener for report. **Action: RG**
 - (b) Playoffs – Open and Womens: Proposed 21-25 March 2009 in Sydney with a venue to be advised. Secretary to write to convener (Eric Ramshaw) confirming his appointment for 2009 and asking for venue/budget soonest. **Action: RG**
 - (c) Playoffs – Seniors: Send email to David Stern confirming his appointment as convener for 2009, acknowledging his proposed venue for 2009 and asking for budget soonest. **Action: RG**
 - (d) Acknowledge report received from Convener of ANC. **Action: RG**
 - (e) Noted that Lyn Turner will be the Convener of the ANC in the ACT in 2009.
 - (f) Licensed Events – reports coming and being acknowledged as they arrive.
 - (g) GNOT – ABF MC asked to consider rotating the GNOT final to states holding ANC. Discussed and not believed to be a good idea.
 - (h) GNP – discussed above.
 - (i) SFOB – Profit and Loss received. Secretary to email Convener asking that budget for 2009 be provided soonest. **Action: RG**
- 11. Women's Committee Report**
No Report
- 12. International Events**
- (a) PABF – report from Charles Page noted. Secretary to write an email of thanks and advise that the ABF MC would consider hosting a dinner for the PABF officials subject to cost parameters and the PABF Convener's approval. **Action: RG**
 - (b) Yeh Bros Cup discussed.

- (c) Mind Sports Olympiad – noted that it is the desire of the ABF MC that it will actively seek better communication between the four sports concerned in the future.
- (d) Youth teams for international events. Noted that email advises that China will pick up costs for 2 officials per team. As only one ratified, should be raised with the ABF MC. Email sent to chair of Youth Committee seeking clarification. **Action: JR**

13. Other Matters

- (a) Gold Masterpoint Coordinator Report received, Secretary to thank. **Action: RG**
- (b) Budget for BBO 2009 requested.
- (c) Australian Masters Games – noted email received from organizer.
- (d) Minutes of meetings – DM to send a link to Councillors when all minutes are on the web and up to date. **Action: DM**
- (e) Mid year meeting – items for discussion to be circulated along with venue and timing by DM. **Action: DM**
- (f) Nick Fahrer joined the meeting to give a run down of BBO activities during the past year. Reported that he was disappointed with how it was running when he was not at the helm. Skill level/interest in most states seems to be lacking. Will prepare a budget for September meeting with proposed resolution to other matters. Asked for permission to add Hans Rosendorff Womens Memorial Teams to the BBO calendar if the Convener so wished – MC agreed to this additional expense.
The MC also agreed to the purchase of a wireless card for BBO and the Secretariat.
Nick to check the web page for BBO information and keep it up to date.

Secretary to send email of thanks to Nick.

Action: NF

Action: RG

14. Forthcoming Meetings

Gold Coast – 9th & 10th August
Canberra – 13th September Mid Year Meeting & 14th MC Meeting
Sydney – 25th October
Sydney – 11th & 12th December

Meeting closed at 1.45pm