

ANC Council Meeting Saturday 26 July 2003 Chan Building, Darwin

The meeting commenced at 10.30am.

1. Present

Keith McDonald (Chair), QLD; Tony Jackman QLD; Dennis Yovich WA; Justin Stark VIC; Laurie Kelso VIC; Dallas Cooper TAS; Andrew Struik ACT; Julia Hoffman ACT; Phil Gue SA; Martin Willcox VIC; Keiran Crowe-Mai NSW; Helge Pedersen NT; Eric Ramshaw (Supplemental);

2. Apologies

John Arkinstall NSW; Joe Greenfeld WA; David Smyth SA; Andrew Richman ACT; Eilis Magner (General Counsel); Valerie Brockwell (Secretariat). The President stated that Garth Tier had passed away some weeks earlier and expressed his and the ABF's sympathy to the family of Garth.

3. Minutes of the 2003 ABF AGM.

The minutes were pencilled.

- (a) J. Stark raised the issue of the 2004 Playoff. It was noted that the format was pairs and this had been widely promulgated, but the detail was not yet finalized.
- (b) It was reiterated that the Capitation Fee would increase to \$12 for 2004, from April 1st.

4. Minutes of the 2003 President's Meeting

The President covered a few of the major issues discussed at the meeting:

- (a) Alerting Regulations – these had planned to be promulgated on August 1st. Objections were raised by delegates who asked for them to be sent to the Player Liaison Committee for comment. These would be received till the end of September (P. Gue would manage this). The Regulations would be in force from August 1st, comments received by 30th September, and then further action would follow depending upon comments received. L. Kelso would be asked to précis the Regulations and these would appear on the ABF website.
- (b) A veteran category would be allowed, but only at State level.
- (c) ANC venue and conditions. There was general discussion, particularly regarding the suitability of the VBA Clubrooms for 2004. E. Ramshaw had posed various questions to the Convenor that had to be answered satisfactorily before the venue would be accepted.

5. Committee Reports

(a) *President for Management Committee*

The 2006 Commonwealth Games bridge event would be held in Melbourne before the Games (there was no connection between the two events). Professor Helmos would be asked to chair the organizing committee. It would probably be held in early March 2006.

Winners of Regional heats of the GNOT would be awarded certificates under certain conditions. J. Brockwell is managing this. P. Marston is running a heat of the GNOT at his Grand Slam Club, but this was within the spirit of the competition.

The online bridge agreement with IOBC is likely to be formalized later this year. John Scudder's contract to convene the Summer Festival has been extended to 2005.

The WBF drug policy has been adopted by the ABF and details are on the website. The 2003 PABF will be held in September in Manila. Queensland has agreed to host a future PABF.

The Nation Wide Pairs is in its 9th session. A Sunday session is also mooted. M. Willcox to look at this.

License fees [policy](#) for many ABF events run in the States was in place. P. Gue questioned the wisdom of this and asked if the fee was linked to masterpoints. For new events this was true, but established events attracted a fixed fee depending on the size and success of the event. The aim was to give States an incentive to maximize profits for their State by "owning" the event. There was a suggestion that a "peppercorn" rent was all that was needed. The MC agreed to review this. The SABF would write to the MC seeking a review of the license fee.

Mobile phone regulations were changed to fall in line with those of the WBF. This was tested in Darwin for the first time and appeared to succeed.

The SNOT and GNOT have been separated as events in terms of organization. Numbers of registered players in States was raised. Currently the numbers are as follows:

State	June 1998	June 2003
ACT	891	734
NSW	12588	13388
VIC	3846	4013
QLD	5951	6639
SA	1739	1692
WA	3127	3385
TAS	740	756
NT	147	119
TOTAL	29029	30415

It was stressed by a number of delegates that teaching programs was the only way to increase numbers on a continuing basis.

(b) *Governance*

The Report was noted.

(c) *Marketing*

The Report was noted. The ANC in Darwin had attracted considerable sponsorship, particularly \$2000 from Nilsen, a large electrical company with outlets Australia wide. Ken Miller has a proforma form for sponsorship if people were interested. J. Hoffman suggested an article should be placed in the ABF Newsletter seeking assistance with sponsorship.

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(d) *State Director Accreditation*

D. Cooper presented a short report but sought assistance. It was suggested that she write to all States seeking their input to unifying the accreditation of State Directors.

(e) *Technology*

A query about the reissue of old MP numbers was raised. This was to discontinue in the future.

At this point in the meeting, Pam and Eric Nunn were invited to address the councilors regarding the Darwin ANC. The President thanked them warmly for the excellent effort with the 2003 ANC, which had been an outstanding success. Pam said a formal Report would be presented in due course, but highlighted a few points:

- They were pleased with the opportunity to hold the event in Darwin and thanked the ABF for its support.
- There was a clash with the NZ Nationals
- Email was the best way to speed up communications
- It was difficult to find out in advance what was needed – because nobody knew!
- They became worried towards the end of the event about making a profit
- A profit was likely – in the vicinity of \$10,000
- The honour system with the coffee was probably break even
- The liquor license that the NTBA set up was very successful and contributed to profit, and it kept people in-house
- The ABF website should post Butler entries
- An improvement to the Butler would be to have a discount for early entry

The President thanked them again, and the meeting resumed.

(f) *Tournament*

The Committee has not met due to the difficulty of getting the people together in one place. There will be two meetings annually from now on. The format of major events (such as the Playoff) could not be discussed by email as it was too complex. However, the detail of the Playoff was to be finalized quickly. The TC should educate players on a variety of relevant issues.

(g) *Youth*

Noted. Nilsen was a possible sponsor for the World Youth event in 2005 in Sydney. Microsoft Chairman (Bill Gates) should be approached also for

sponsorship support. The idea of combined teams of players from more than one State should be looked at by the Youth Committee.

(h) Oversight

The Committee had sent letters to most Chairmen (TC to be done). Awaiting responses.

There were no Reports from other Committees.

6. General Business

(a) Masterpoint Fees

These were to be increased by 5% from April 1st 2004, at the same time as the Capitation fee. P. Gue suggested that CPI increases should be annual for all ABF fees.

(b) ANC Review

This is being conducted by J. Hoffman with input from as many people as possible. It was suggested that the Review be presented to the 2004 AGM. It may include a rationale for varying the ANC cycle.

(c) Gold Point event for NT

This has been requested by the NT to alternate between Alice Springs and Darwin and be held in October preferably to coincide with the Masters Games in the NT.

(d) K. Miller

Ken thanked everyone for their support of the 2003 ANC in Darwin.

As there was no further business, the meeting closed at 3.30pm

D. Yovich
Secretary