

**ABF Management Committee Meeting
August 14/15, 1999, Qantas Club, Sydney Airport
Short Minutes**

The meeting commenced at 10.10am.

1. Roll Call

K McDonald (Chair), D Yovich, J Arkinstall, E Ramshaw, V Brockwell, T Brown.

2. Apologies

E. Magner (in Canada on Sabbatical)

3. Confirmation of Minutes for the meeting held 16th July, 1999

So confirmed. Have the Minutes checked by EM and, as usual, publish decisions in ABF Newsletter.

4. Matters Arising

(a) *Web page contract with the Cummings.*

A member of the MC has reservations about the level of use of the website by ABF members and of the need to measure and keep expenditure proportionate. However, it was resolved that the website was an innovative and necessary asset of the ABF, and the contract would be signed.

Action: DY

(b) *Teaching Tour Payments.*

Letter sent to States. All applications must come through State Associations. The WA request for \$1000 to be paid. Enquiries from Qld and Tas also.

Action: DY

(c) *NSWBA Loan.*

The mortgage documents were to be signed by the President (ABF) on behalf of the ABF.

5. President's Report - K McDonald

(a) A letter to be sent to J. Scudder re personal property of helpers at the SF. No insurance cover will be provided by the ABF. They must carry their own insurance.

Action: DY

(b) The brochure for the SF to include a notice that there is a 50% reduction in entry fees for youth participants provided they can prove they are under 26, and are full time students. The cost is to be borne by the event. This applies to any youth player (including overseas students). This does not apply to the Youth Championship preceding the SF. Publish this in the ABF Newsletter.

Action: DY

(c) An email from A. Mill re the use of directors for the Youth Championship. It was deemed OK for either del'Monte or Gill to direct this event. **Action: ER**

- (d) A letter from E Hardy re donation of a trophy to the SF to be sent to J. Scudder.
Action: VB
- (e) R. Hills wishes to donate a silver salver. It was suggested that it go to the Youth Butler. To be checked and advised by ER.
Action: ER
- (f) A note to be sent to the ABF Newsletter re the offers of trophies. We still want one for the Womens Spring Nationals.
Action: DY
- (g) The loan to the Sunnybank Bridge Club has been approved by the JOS Foundation. Letter to be sent to club.
Action: TB
- (h) Marketing matters to be put on hold temporarily. A meeting was to occur in Melbourne of the Marketing Committee (Jessell Rothfield and Michael Kent) soon. Travel to be funded by ABF. JR and MK to brief the MC at the September meeting. Letter to be sent to MK on this.
Action: VB

6. Treasurer's Report

- (a) Letter from Auditors for signing on the 1997 accounts.
- (b) Masterpoint Centre has agreed to change banking to WA agency to assist in security of deposit procedure.
- (c) Contract for Executive Secretary finalised.
- (d) GST advice will be expensive but necessary. D. Stern has prepared a document outlining the sort of advice we need. Likely to cost between \$5k and \$15k. Other avenues to be investigated for quality advice. **Action: TB**
- (e) Price Waterhouse to finalise work till end of September. After that we may select accountancy services in Canberra. To be decided in September.
- (f) The 1999 Budget to be finalised for September meeting. **Action: TB**
- (g) No Insurance claims for the break in at ABF headquarters have been paid as yet. Follow up required. **Action: TB**
- (h) Event accounting and control. A methodology for accounting ABF events to be presented after discussion with Bob Evans. **Action: TB**
- (i) Clarification on the policy for ABF workers needs finalising so that insurance can be determined. Workers compensation insurance needs urgent resolution. This cannot be done until the difference between a contractor and an employee is resolved.
Action: TB&EM
- (j) FABC document not to be distributed yet.
- (k) Payment for ABF Newsletter costs approved.

7. Secretary's Report

- (a) No substantial reporting from ABF sub Committees. Resolved to note which committees reported at future meetings.
- (b) Bega Bridge club award. VB to speak to J. Hansen re printing of the certificates presented in the past.
Action: VB
- (c) World Youth event in Australia. We will consider it after recommendation from Youth Committee.
Action: DY
- (d) Seniors event at the BB/VC. ABF will pay \$2500US entry fee. Expressions of interest to be called (via web site and press release). Correspondence to VB. Closes 16th September. VB to follow up with John Wignall re details. Preference to

- be given to winners of senior events at SF and/or ANC. ABF will not cover other costs of any successful applicant team. **Action: VB**
- (e) NEC Cup. A number of Australian teams interested in obtaining the JCBL subsidy. ABF to stay out of this decision. Publish on the web site.
 - (f) Indonesian event in September. This is an official invitation. The ABF will ratify the selected team.
 - (g) A. Mill to proceed to next stage of work to put Appeals on the net site. A report to be available for the November meeting. **Action: DY**
 - (h) An invitation to Indonesia to send a team to the Summer Festival will be funded on the same basis as their invitation to Australia. VB to write to the Indonesian Bridge Federation. JA dissented from this view. **Action VB**
 - (i) Acceptance of bridge as an Olympic sport to be published on the web site. A press release to be done by VB. **Action: VB&DY**

8. Legal Counsel's Report

No items.

9. TC Report

- (a) NPCs for Bermuda. Write to Jessel Rothfield and Margaret Bourke for suggested names (one only). To be done for September meeting. **Action: ER**
- (b) Travel and accommodation for Bermuda to be resolved at September meeting.
- (c) Hand dealing for SF to be resolved at September meeting.
- (d) Directors Accreditation. Letters to be sent to Glover and McIlrath (and the State Associations concerned) re accreditation awards for 1999 SF. **Action: DY**
- (e) KM recommended that J. Brockwell be approached to chair the Directors Accreditation Committee. DY to send letter to JB with copy of the accreditation criteria which has recently been clarified by the TC. **Action: DY**
- (f) Autumn National Teams was a successful event – a profit of \$1138 was made. Open and Youth Australian teams entered at the cost to the ABF. The team numbers rose from 46 to 56.
- (g) The VCC event was also a great success with teams increasing from 52 to 64. There was to be some considerations of the options for ABF events – such as reporting on standardisation of events, what reports should go to MC and TC, marketing, liaison with convenors, prize structures, etc. A person should be appointed to look into this, with a possible stipend of up to \$5000. KM to report at September meeting.
Action: KM
- (h) Perth ANC report. The event had been a great success – strongly supported by the rank and file players. Butler numbers were highest ever. Problem with Victory Dinner. A suggestion re persuading players to book earlier was to increase the late fee considerably. Friday is a better day for Victory Dinner. Mixed Pairs should now be brought back to the middle weekend. Pass on this information to Qld organisers.
Action: DY
- (i) Expenses for playoff event. When players go to NZ, they get fares and accommodation. However only fares are paid to players when playoff is in Australia. They should get

accommodation expenses in Australia also. ER to prepare a draft document for September meeting.

Action: ER

- (j) Designated events for 2000 playoff. This will probably be the Olympiad for open/women. Ask D. Stern for recommendations for Youth event. Only one event to be considered. For the Youth selection event, we want the 1st, 2nd and 3rd placed pairs to become the team.
- (k) Directors accreditation criteria to be published in the ABF Newsletter.

Action: ER

- (l) Results of the survey conducted on the web page re ANC feedback. The general result was that the restructure was supported. (There was however a small sample). There was some dissatisfaction with the change to 24 boards. It reduces flexibility of captains, and also there is extra strain on 4 person teams. The Youth prefer a 60 board final. This information to be sent to D. Stern for his committee's consideration.

Action: DY

- (m) Budget for the ANC in Darwin. NT to provide revamped budget for September meeting.
- (n) ANC Handbook to be revised. It should be circulated as a loose leaf document. This is to be attempted over the next 12 months.
- (o) ANC Entry Fees. The total revenue should not change. It should not be based on where the ANC is being held. It seemed to some members there is inequity in small States paying large per capita fees versus large States paying a small per capita fee. It is proposed that a revised entry fee structure be put to the 2000 AGM for implementation in 2001. A motion from Tasmania would be welcomed that proposed a solution. A review of the voting structure may be appropriate also.
- (p) D. Moir has been released to represent Australia if she wins selection. There are no residency requirements for Youth players. The release of Prescott to be followed up by ER.
- (q) The trophy for the SNWT is available but not suitable for presentation. The SNOT trophy has been misplaced. A. Macheski (Lindfield may know of its whereabouts).
- (r) At the TC meeting held in Perth the following matters were discussed:
- Draft playoff regs to be finalised by October
 - ANT needs another round. Two will be run on the Friday night (2 x 16) then 5 x 20 rounds to follow
 - The Youth Chairman to be invited to TC meetings
 - Minutes of this meeting will be available in September

Action: KM

Action: ER

Action: ER

10. General Business

- (a) Audit for 1998 is with Auditors.
- (b) Airfares through the Flight Centre. Four possible beneficiaries: Overseas teams; Interstate teams for ANC and other events; MC meetings; general ABF members. There is a 5% rebate to ABF. TB to liaise with Michael Kent on this. For 1999 the total expenditure was around \$220k for interstate and overseas travel.
- (c) Franchising Code for MP Centre and Interstate Trading Act. Val to get advice from R. Clapham.
- (d) Disk of hand from Spring Nationals given to JA to pass to P. Buchen.

Action: TB

Action: TB

Action: VB

- (e) Rabbi Helman. D. Stern to recommend winners for 1999 for current youth program.
EM to be reminded of need for trust deed. **Action: EM**
- (f) Player Incentive Scheme. The Insurance option still being followed up. KM to speak to Michael Kent. As per the Perth Council meeting, the player incentive for the 2000 BB/VC was withdrawn. If insurance can be obtained, it still may go ahead. J. Rothfield and M. Bourke to be informed in writing of this. **Action: DY**
- (g) Residency requirements. To be finalised by JA for the September meeting.
Action: JA
- (h) Hans Rosendorff Womens Teams. No entry from a male player (or players) will be accepted. The ABF will handle all legal aspects from any issue arising from this. Write to Convenor.
Action: DY
- (i) Training of Australian Teams. The paper by TB discussed extensively. TB to provide list of Open, Women and Youth players who will use Okbridge. The top six pairs in the Butler (each of Open/Women) have first preference. DY to prepare a list of recommendations for players and captains. A summarised report to be sent to TC and Player Liaison Committee (TB to check it first). Also to be sent to Moses, Bourke and Fordham.
Action: DY

The meeting closed at 4.00pm on Sunday 18th August.

Next meeting to be held in Sydney, Qantas Club on 18/19th September.

D. Yovich
Secretary, ABF