

**MINUTES**  
**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**  
**AUSTRALIAN BRIDGE FEDERATION**  
**Held at “Tall Trees” Motel, Canberra**  
**19-20 March 2005 commencing at 10.00am each day.**

**1. Identification of Attendees**

1.1. *Roll Call*

QLD	K McDonald (Chair), T Jackman
ACT	E Dudley, V Mitchell (Deputy-Councillor for R Nixon)
NSW	K Crowe-Mai (2 votes), J Foster (Deputy-Councillor for J Arkininstall)
VIC	M Willcox, A Halmos
TAS	D Cooper, A Richman
SA	N Croft, D Marler (Deputy-Councillor for P Gue)
WA	J Beddow
NT	K Miller (2 votes)
Supplementals	E Ramshaw, L Kelso
General Counsel	E Magner
Minute Secretary	V Brockwell

1.2. *President welcomes new Councillors and thanks retiring Councillors.*

The President thanked retiring councillors, J Hoffman (ACT), A Struik, (ACT), J Stark (VIC) and D Yovich (WA). Council recorded special appreciation to D Yovich as a hard working member of the Management Committee and long serving Secretary of the ABF.

New Councillors, A Halmos, E Dudley and J Beddow were also welcomed, as were Deputy Councillors for the meeting, V Mitchell and J Foster and D Marler.

1.3. *Bona Fides of each person present voting or observing*  
Confirmed.

1.4. *Apologies*

R Nixon, P Gue, T Haubrick, J Arkininstall and R Grenside. The Council extended good wishes to Richard well when informed that he is ill.

**2. Minutes of Previous Meeting**

2.1. *Confirmation*

The minutes of the meeting 20/21 March 2004 confirmed. (DC/KM).

2.2. *Matters arising*  
Nil

2.3. *Chairman's power to vary agenda as circumstances dictates.*  
Motion (DC/KM) that the President is empowered to vary the agenda. Carried.

### **3. Election of Office Bearers**

3.1. *Election of Supplemental Councillors*  
Item 3.1 not required at 2005 AGM.

3.2. *Management Committee*  
Although 2005 is not an election year, in accordance with clause 10 (8) of the Constitution, the casual vacancies filled by the Management Committee required an election of Treasurer, Secretary, plus one ordinary member of the Management Committee. Nomination forms were sent to all Councillors and States in accordance with the Constitution.

Secretary – R Grenside elected unopposed.  
Treasurer K Crowe-Mai elected unopposed.  
Management Committee Member – M Willcox elected unopposed.

Noted that the elected officials are elected until the AGM 2006.

3.3. *Election of General Counsel*  
Item 3.3 not relevant to 2005 AGM.

### **4. Appointments**

4.1. *Public Officer*  
George Jesner appointed.

4.2. *Auditors*  
Norman Chan & Associates appointed

4.3. *Delegates for PABF, Zone 7*  
Joe Greenfeld appointed Delegate for PABF.  
Eric Ramshaw and John Brockwell appointed Delegates for Zone 7

### **5. Executive Reports**

Note: All reports in items 5, ,6, 7, 8a, 8b, 9, 10 were precirculated with the exception of Item 5.4, Item 6.18 and the NT Gold Bridge Festival (omitted from the agenda).

All reports gratefully accepted. The relevant Councillors spoke to each report and answered questions. Only the discussion to each report is minuted. The

President earnestly thanked all those who submitted reports and Council requested individual thank you letters be sent. **Action VB.**

- 5.1. *Presidents Report (K McDonald)*
- 5.2. *Treasurers Report (K Crowe-Mai)*  
(Including audited ABF Financial Report for the year ending 31 December 2004)
- 5.3. *Secretary's Report (D Yovich)*
- 5.4. *General Counsel's Report (E Magner)*

General Counsel gave a verbal report that she:

- Attended all Management Committee meetings for the year.
- Was involved in negotiations with the VBA with regard to the venue for the ANC. This issue was resolved satisfactorily.
- Was a member of the Selection panel for the position of a new Summer Festival Convenor.
- Advised D Stern on a variety of contractual issues with regard to WJC.
- Advised Council that there are two matters outstanding – (i) security for NSWBA loan renewal, and (ii) a question of a claim against an estate for return of a subsidy paid by the ABF for international representation.

In 2003 and 2004 a set of edited appeals reports were produced by the joint efforts of P Gue and General Counsel. It has not been possible to repeat this effort in 2005 because the paperwork has not been presented to Ivy Dahler. Convenors are asked to note that all appeals reports should be sent to Ivy Dahler.

The President noted that a number of enquiries are addressed to General Counsel. Insurance queries should not be addressed to General Counsel or to the Secretariat. There is information on the ABF website. Claimants should contact the broker directly but also notify the Treasurer. Council requested that the Finance Committee review the trend in claims and consider issuing advice to Clubs having regard to occupational health and safety regulations.

- 5.5. *James O'Sullivan Trust*  
(Including audited Financial Report for the year ending 31 December 2004)  
Chairman of Trustees, KM, presented a brief verbal report indicating that JOS has no bad debts. It is a policy that there is minimal documentation in an effort to minimise legal costs.

## 6. Committee Reports

Note: At this point in the meeting, a list of Committees for 2005 was distributed to Councillors. The Management Committee had discussed the situation regarding committees in light of comments made by the Oversight Committee. It was decided at a Management Committee discussion last night to distribute a list of committees and ask Councillors to indicate their three preferences. This is a new initiative in an attempt to get committees working more efficiently. The Chair asked Councillors to return their completed list to General Counsel.

6.1. *Tournament Committee Report (E Ramshaw)*

6.2. *Finance Committee Report (K Crowe-Mai)*

The Council requested the Finance Committee to review quotations for professional officers insurance although this is a State responsibility. **Action KCM.**

6.3. *Tournament Unit Report (E Ramshaw)*

6.4. *Masterpoint Centre Report (J Hansen)*

The Masterpoint Centre was requested to draw up an analysis by state of masterpoint returns *per capita*. **Action VB.**

6.5. *Systems Committee (L Kelso)*

6.6. *Ethics Committee Report (E Magner)*

6.7. *National Authority Report (E Magner)*

6.8. *Regulations Committee (L Kelso)*

6.9. *Technology Unit Report (D Yovich)*

6.10. *Masterpoint Committee Report (D Anderson)*

6.11. *Player Liaison Committee Report (P Gue)*

6.12. *Youth Committee Report (D Stern/D Lusk)*

The Chairman of the Youth Committee to be asked to comment on note 3 from the report “what steps are/will be taken to appoint a new Youth Coordinator from 1 December 2005” – **Action KCM.**

6.13. *Newsletter Committee Report (A Richman)*

6.14. *National Directors Accreditation Committee (J Brockwell)*

- 6.15. *State Directors Accreditation Committee (D Cooper)*  
The State Presidents requested the creation of this Committee but some States have not responded to queries from the Committee Chair. To be an Agenda item at the President's Meeting May 2005. **Action R Grenside**  
Copy of State Directors Accreditation Committee Report to be sent to the Presidents. **Action VB.**
- 6.16. *Library Committee Report (T Bourke)*  
Treasurer agreed to review insurance cover for the Library. **Action KCM.**
- 6.17. *Governance Report (K Crowe-Mai)*  
General Counsel advised the meeting that it was in appropriate for a Treasurer to be on the Governance Committee.
- 6.18. *Masterpoint Review Report. (C Mitchell)*  
No report received.
- 6.19. *Marketing Committee Report (A Richman)*
- 6.20. *Olympic Liaison Committee Report ( K McDonald)*  
Noted there is a need to continue correspondence with the AOC.
- 6.21. *Presidents Meeting (K McDonald)*  
Council considered that given there had been an acting appointment made as President of Tasmania, the acting President should be invited to attend the 2005 Presidents Meeting.
- 6.22. *Oversight Committee Report (A Struik)*  
There was considerable discussion on this report. The Council noted the A Struik's wishes for greater success in the future.
- 7. ANC Calendar**
- 7.1. *ANC 2004 Melbourne (J Collins)*  
The event was well received. The Convenor and the VBA commended.
- 7.2. *ANC 2005 Sydney (B Neill)*  
J Foster distributed some ANC fliers and spoke to B Neill's precirculated report.
- 8. Tournaments & Licensed events**
- 8.1. *2004 Australian Swiss Pairs (B Walker)*  
D Cooper informed the meeting that the Convenor of the ASP in Launceston is not prepared to also convene the Seniors segment. Matter referred to the Tournament Unit. **Action ER.**

8.2. *2004 GNOT Report (J Brockwell)*

The President confirmed that the Management Committee has approved the relocation of the 2005 GNOT to Banora Point NSW under certain conditions for a period of one year. There is no date change. Dates are 18-21 November 2005. Council requested that an article be written in the next ABF Newsletter on the subject of the relocation of the 2005 GNOT to Banora Point. **Action KM.**

There was a discussion regarding the consolidated shift of players from one event to another (Spring Nationals to GNOT).

The President will write to Australian Bridge requesting a correction to the dates printed in the AB calendar, March 2005. **Action KM.**

8.3. *2004 Spring Nationals. (F Budai)*

This report concludes Frank Budai's tenure as convenor. The Committee expressed earnest thanks for his work convening the Spring Carnival. Kim Neale has been confirmed as the new Convenor.

8.4. *VCC (J Thompson)*

This report concludes Jenny Thompson's tenure as convenor. The Committee expressed earnest thanks for her work convening the VCC. Di Jacobs has been confirmed as the new Convenor.

8.5. *2005 Summer Festival of Bridge Report (J Scudder)*

This report concludes John Scudder's tenure as convenor. The Committee expressed earnest thanks for his work convening the Summer Festival. Sean Mullamphy has been confirmed as the new Convenor.

Noted a national credit card scheme is being investigated by the ABF Treasurer.

8.6. *2005 Playoffs (E Ramshaw)*

8.7. *2005 World Youth Teams (D Stern)*

8.8. *Commonwealth Nations Bridge Championship 2006 Melbourne (A Halmos)*

A Halmos noted that the correct name of the event is "Commonwealth Nations Bridge Championship". He displayed medallions and plaques similar to the proposed ones. The Chair emphasised that any statements that have given the impression that this event is part of the Commonwealth Games is regrettable.

8.9. *Western Seniors Pairs (Allison Stralow)*

Noted that the venue for 2005 will be the South Perth Yacht Club.

8.10. *Golden West (N Dutton)*

- 8.11. *Swan River Swiss (H Yovich)*  
Noted that the event attracted 102 pairs which was very pleasing.
- 8.12. *Hans Rosendorff Memorial Womens Teams (N Dutton)*  
The Treasurer commented on the need to return the bank balance (\$2098) on hand at date of transfer of this event to WA. **Action J Beddow/KCM**
- 8.13. *2004 Barrier Reef Teams (K Ellaway)*  
No balance sheet provided for this meeting. The Chair informed Council that the event made a profit of about \$10,000.
- 8.14. *ANT (D Marler)*
- 8.15. *Sydney Bridge Festival (K Neale)*  
J Foster noted that the Sydney Seniors Teams will be renamed the Bobby Evans Seniors Teams.
- 8.16. *GCC (K Ellaway/T Jackman)*
- 8.17. *NT Gold Point Event*

## **9. WBF Tournaments**

- 9.1. *Z7 Championships (E Ramshaw/V Brockwell)*
- 9.2. *Meeting between ABF and NZCBA.*  
The President elaborated on points from the minutes of the meeting that took place at the 2005 Gold Coast Congress.  
The slightly contentious issue of NZ participation at the ANC discussed. This will be referred to the President's Meeting for discussion. **Action R Grenside.**

## **10. Independent Organisations**

- 10.1. *ABDA Report (J McIlrath)*
- 10.2. *ABTA Report (L Harkness)*

## **11. Notice of Motion**

Nil

## **12. General Business**

- 12.1. *Honoraria*  
Moved (KM/DM) that the honoraria for the current officers of the Tournament Unit, the Executive Secretary, the GNOT Convenor and Library Custodian, be increased by 3%

- 12.2. *2005 Committees*  
General Counsel will circulate the composition of the 2005 ABF Committees when information is received from the “apologies” to this meeting. **Action EM.**
- 12.3. *Mid year ABF Meeting Dates.*  
Thurs 28 July. Time 3.00pm-8.00pm. Venue to be advised. J Foster will investigate the possibility of holding the meeting at the Masonic Centre.
- 12.4. *Sponsorship*  
D Marler queried sponsorship for the national bodies. List as an objective of the new marketing committee. Noted the appointment of a marketing person had a high priority. There was a short unresolved discussion on naming rights for ABF licensed events.
- 12.5. *Date of 2006 AGM.*  
18-19 March 2006. A discussion followed on the length of the AGM and the possibility of truncating it from 2 days to one day.
- 12.6. *Reciprocal Masterpoints*  
T Jackman raised the point that Japanese players attending the GCC could not be allocated reciprocal masterpoints. Advice is to be sought from the Masterpoint Centre and D Anderson. **Action KM.**
- 12.7. *Promotion in Ireland*  
T Jackman is soon to visit Ireland and is willing to promote any Australian event if provided with brochures/information.
- 12.8. *Meeting Close*  
The Chair declared the meeting closed at 2.30pm.

**ACTION ITEMS RESULTING FROM THE ABOVE MINUTES**

<b>Item No</b>	<b>Action by</b>	<b>Brief Description</b>	<b>Comments</b>
5	VB	Thank all who submitted reports	Done
6.2	KCM	Professional Officers Insurance	
6.4	VB	Request from MP Centre	Done
6.12	KCM	Youth Committee Report	
6.15	VB	Send State DAcc Rep to Presidents	Done
6.15	RG	Agenda item for Pres Meeting	
6.16	KCM	Library Insurance	
8.1	ER	Convenor/Seniors ASPLaunceston	
8.2	KM	Write to AB re wrong GNOT dates	
8.12	KCM	HRMWT bank balance	
9.2	RG	Agenda item for Pres Meeting	
12.2	EM	Committees	
12.6	KM	Reciprocal MPs	