

**ABF Management Committee Meeting
January 23/24, 2000, Rydges Hotel, Canberra
Minutes (Short)**

The meeting commenced at 10.15am.

1. Roll Call

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

2. Apologies

E. Magner

3. Confirmation of Minutes for the meeting held 11/12 December, 1999

So confirmed.

4. Matters Arising

(a) *1998 Accounts.*

KM presented data on all expenditure by ABF in 1998. No major discrepancies were apparent. Audited ABF accounts will be available for March AGM.

Action: TB

(b) *Mayer Residency*

Extensive discussion took place re the Mayer letter and his eligibility to represent Australia. Further evidence was presented regarding his alleged membership of the ABF in 1975. It appears he was a member of Akarana B/C at this time, which was affiliated to the NZCBA. General Council also presented an opinion. **Moved KM, seconded JA that Mayer be excluded from the April 2000 playoff and be ineligible to represent Australia in the Open team.**

The motion was carried. Abstain: 1 (TB)

A letter to be written urgently to Mayer and all his team explaining the result of the vote. Copy to be sent to J. Wignall and the WBF also.

Action: VB

5. President's Report - K McDonald

(a) *BFACT Contract*

TB has spoken to Jon Hunt. Awaiting response re repayment of loan. As there appears to be some doubt about the viability of BFACT, a letter to be written to the President (acting) to ascertain if delegates will be present at the AGM representing BFACT.

Action: VB

(b) *SABA/Gue Matter*

Letters have been sent to Gue and SABA. Awaiting response re mediation offer. To be followed up in first week of February.

Action: DY

6. Treasurer's Report

(a) *GST*

It was noted that several ABF events may require separate GST accounts (e.g. GNOT). Players receiving travel allowances do not pay GST. TB to provide a briefing on GST issues for the next Meeting.

Action: TB

(b) *Mullamphy and Gill*

TB will arrange a payment of \$1000 to Mullamphy and \$250 to Gill as discussed at previous meeting.

Action: TB

(c) *Insurance.*

ABF workers insurance is in hand as Stan Willis has been authorised to proceed. All other insurances which expired on 31/12/99 have been renewed for 12 months. A copy of these policies to be sent to VB for her records. A full list of policies to be tabled at next meeting.

Action: TB

(d) *Travel Centre proposal.*

Is now on ABF website. List of ABF members numbers to be provided to Travel Centre for player identification. Security is guaranteed.

Action: TB

(e) *Corporate Mastercard.*

Proposed that DY have card which will be used to book all ABF fares, particularly those for International travel to allow frequent flyer points to be used to reduce air fares for DY's travel to MC meetings. DY asked for indemnity for expenses incurred on this card. It was stated that the debit on this card would be the ABF's responsibility.

Action: TB, DY

(f) *NSWBA Loan*

\$50,000 repaid in 1999 and \$25,000 in 2000 so far. Interest rate as at 31/12/99 to be checked by VB and sent to NSWBA.

Action: VB

(g) *Advertising in ABF Newsletter*

J. Thompson seeks reduced advertising cost for VCC. Not granted. DY to inform.

Action: DY

(h) *Auditors*

TB will seek quotation from Green, Penklis and Lawson for auditing the ABF accounts.

Action: TB

(i) *ABF Newsletter*

Salmat, who typeset and distribute the Newsletter are very expensive. An alternative printer is being sought and will probably be used for the March issue. A review of the paper type and layout to be done also.

Action: TB

(j) *Audit of Summer Festival*

Has not occurred. TB will follow up with J Scudder. He will arrange alternative audit.

Action: TB

7. Secretary's Report

- (a) *Quittner Request*
Request for travel subsidy discussed. It was felt this would create a dangerous precedent. Not granted.
Action: DY
- (b) *Dealing for SF 2001*
Agreed to continue with calling of external tenders for dealing for 2001 event. Inform JS of this so he can initiate.
Action: DY
- (c) *Software for MP Centre*
Ask John Hansen to prepare detailed specification within next 6 months for new software.
Action: DY
- (d) *Australia Wide pairs and Multipairs*
Agenda item for February meeting.
Action: DY
- (e) *Hans Rosendorff Women's Teams*
Convenor to provide balance sheet asap.
Action: DY
- (f) *Medallions and Trophies*
Prepare letter to send to Convenors and States re new policy for medallions and trophies for ABF and other events. D. Pocock may have ideas for medallions.
Action: DY

8. Legal Counsel's Report

- (a) *Matter from the Summer Festival Mixed Teams*
Referred to Ethics Committee for resolution and recommendation by next meeting.
Action: EM

9. TC Report

- (a) *Microsoft Gaming Network Masterpoints*
ER to send list of questions to D. Anderson. Issue is not simple and could cause major problems if not addressed properly.
Action: ER
- (b) *McManus Letter*
Letter received, discussed. Contents of letter noted and an apology was forthcoming. Reply to McManus that apology would be reiterated.
Action: DY
- (c) *Jackets for TOU*
The smart jackets worn by Officials at the SF were deemed to be appropriate for all members of the TOU. ER to proceed with having similar jackets in an appropriate colour (red or similar) provided.
Action: ER
- (d) *D. Cummings to Committee of Honour*
To be proposed at next AGM. VB to arrange.

Action: VB

(e) National Director

J. Brockwell to inform DY formally of J. McIlraith's elevation to National Director, Level 2. DY will then inform J.McI.

Action: VB

10. General Business.

(a) Paul Marston Presentation

PM presented his case for the ABF adopting his CARDS system for player ranking. He would allow the ABF to licence the software to run and control its use in Australia. He suggested sponsorship of up to \$100,000 would be available in the first year. The success of the sponsorship would depend on the number of people in the scheme. Some component of the sponsorship would go as prize money to the top players in Australia. The ABF would be required to assist in calibrating the system for maximum benefit. The ranking system would be on a club-to-club basis. There would be centralised processing of data. There had been some problems in ranking on a club-to-club basis, and calibration would be required.

There had not been any licences sold so far but 4 clubs in USA were trialing it. Trumps was also using it in Australia.

A perceived problem was whether it would work with a database of 32,000 players in 240 clubs. PM suggested no problems would arise.

A condition of accepting the CARDS system would be for the ABF to cease distribution of the ABF Newsletter and support the sale of Australian Bridge magazine to all players in the clubs that became part of the scheme. This would cost each player \$60 per year, but costs would go down as more players became subscribers.

PM also would affiliate all Grand Slam clubs to the ABF as part of any arrangement for the ABF to accept and promote CARDS.

The ABF Masterpoint scheme would carry on as is, with the possibility of it processing the CARDS ranking scheme also.

PM suggested that the critical mass for the CARDS scheme was 50% of ABF members joining.

Any cost of development of the CARDS software would be borne by PM.

The MC thanked Paul for his presentation and said it would write to him soon with a counter proposal that stated the ABF position on behalf of its members.

Action: JA, KM

(b) February Meeting

All Committee Chairmen to provide Reports on their activity for the March AGM. VB to write to all so reports are available by 28 Feb. Notices of motion to be prepared and vetted by EM

(1) Voting rights for States

Action: JA

(2) ANC fees

Action: DY

(c) AGM attendance

The MC decided to revert to the traditional position of funding only one delegate from the NT. Delegates to be notified of this.

Action: VB, KM

(d) *Helman Klinger Trophy*
VB to discuss with Ron Klinger.

Action: VB

(e) *Naming Rights for ABF Events*
To be referred to Promotions Committee. KM to discuss with M. Kent.

Action: KM

(f) *2003 ANC*
Letter to be written to NTBA re a further update on progress.

Action: DY

(g) *Youth Committee Subsidy*
The \$1200 given to the Youth Committee for the Youth Championships in Canberra to be refunded.

Action: TB

(h) *Overseas Invitations to our Teams*
Numerous formal invitations to Australian Teams to compete in overseas events (e.g. Israel, NEC, Indonesia, etc) to be automatically extended to current Open and Women's teams. If they wish to go, they must self fund after seeking endorsement from MC. Other invitations to be sent to Val Cummings for display on website.

Action: VB, ER

(i) *Web space for ABTA*
The ABTA is seeking space on the ABF web site. Granted. Val Cummings to liaise with ABTA.

Action: DY

The meeting closed at 4.00pm.

Next meeting to be held at the Gold Coast Congress, 26/17 February at the ANA Hotel.

D. Yovich
Secretary, ABF

James O'Sullivan Foundation
January 24, 2000, Rydges Hotel, Canberra
Minutes of Meeting

The meeting commenced at 3.15pm.

1. Roll Call

K McDonald (Chair), D Yovich, J Arkininstall, E Ramshaw, T Brown

2. Apologies

Nil

3. General Business

All loans information has been collated and placed in safekeeping by TB.

The application from Devonport B/C for \$20,000 loan was checked and found to be OK. The loan was approved.

The total number of active loans to be presented at next meeting with a summary of all financial details. Any cash balance to be noted also.

The meeting closed at 3.20pm.

D. Yovich
Secretary.