

**ABF Management Committee Meeting
February 26/27, 2000, ANA Hotel, Gold Coast
Minutes (Short)**

The meeting commenced at 10.00am.

1. Roll Call

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

2. Apologies

J. Arkininstall

3. Confirmation of Minutes for the meeting held 23/24 January 2000.

So confirmed.

4. Matters Arising

- (a) *Player Residency*
See TC Report later in Minutes.
- (b) *GST Issues*
See Treasurers Report later in Minutes
- (c) *SABA/Gue Issue*
This has been resolved. SABA pursuing a possible change of Constitution
- (d) *Mixed Teams Issue*
See General Counsel Report later in Minutes
- (e) *Committee of Honour*
The proposal is agreed. A citation has been prepared.
- (f) *CARDS Proposal*
See General Business later in Minutes
- (g) *AGM Notices of Motion*
Set out to Councillors and States
- (h) *Corporate mastercard*
See Treasurers Report later in Minutes
- (i) *Approval for J McIlrath as National Director*
Letter sent to JM

5. President's Report - K McDonald

- (a) *BFACT Contract*
Under control. The loan repayment is due in June 2000. The figure was \$6000 at 8% interest. The interest payment has been made.
- (b) *Event Naming Rights*
To be referred to Marketing Committee

Action: KM
- (c) *Youth Matters*
Relaxing the age limit for some developing States so their players could be U/30 was supported (e.g. NT would always seem to have such dispensation). How would we define a developing State? Stern to propose a format in writing.

The Test Match with NZ requires more detail. It was also decided to pay \$1000 to Stern to use at his discretion for Youth related promotion. The “Youth Club” proposal needs to be discussed in more detail.

(d) *Score Books*

The concept of the ABF providing score books for various events was supported. VB to get quotes for having the books printed. A notice was to go in the ABF newsletter re this. A question was raised as to whether people would use them. Consensus was that they would.

Action: VB

(e) *Advertising Rate Reduction*

The request from Coff’s Harbour was discussed and approval for half price advertising given. VB to write and advise the club.

Action: VB

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*

Payment of \$1000 to Mullamphy and \$250 to Gill has been finalised.

(c) *Insurance.*

A full list of policies was presented. A copy of the body corporate insurance policy for the ABF headquarters was to be provided to TB. Have received the \$16,000 insurance payout for the robbery at ABF headquarters.

Action: VB

(d) *Travel Centre proposal.*

List of ABF members numbers to be provided to Travel Centre for player identification. Security is guaranteed. It is important to publish what the ABF gets out of the sponsorship deal. This is to be put on the web site and in the Newsletter. The Travel Centre can do travel other than by air also. A written agreement is to be provided by the Travel Centre. TB to action both items. Subject to exceptions determined in advance, all subsidies to players to the Playoff and International events are payable only through the Travel Centre and available only for the journey specified by the player specified. Any rooms booked at the venue for the ABF event must be attributable to the Convenor for the purpose of discounts available from the venue.

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 completed application and passed to TB. Issues of player preference for airline raised by ER resolved.

Action: TB

- (f) *NSWBA Loan*
Interest rate reviewed on 31/12/99 and Association notified.. NSWBA wished to pay off loan quickly. However if liquidity became a problem, requested ability to seek assistance from ABF. A motion was put that the ABF accept a fluid arrangement in loan repayment if NSWBA requested funds in advance of the repayment schedule. The motion was defeated.
- (g) *Auditors*
TB said that Green, Penklis and Lawson were unavailable in 2000 for auditing the ABF accounts. They would probably be OK for 2001.
Action: TB
- (h) *ABF Newsletter*
Alternative printing quotes have been received. DY to ask Pilpel for quotation for 24 pages, and 9000 and 10,000 copies. Approved. TB to write to Lusks with various changes required. No contra's will be allowed. An invoice to be sent to each person who advertises in each edition. An updated Contract to be written by EM limiting all issues to 24 pages and increasing the editorial fee by \$25 to \$525 per issue. Current Contract written in 1994.
Action: TB, EM
- (i) *Audit of Summer Festival*
Has not occurred. TB will follow up with J Scudder. He will arrange alternative audit.
Action: TB
- (j) *Audits of ABF Accounts*
1998. Complete. A letter to Alan Good to be signed on Audit papers. DY to send all MC Minutes to Sonia Foo at Price Waterhouse. **Action: DY**
1999. These are being processed at the moment. TB will attempt to have them audited by the AGM, else will present draft accounts anyway.
Action: TB
- (k) *Subscriptions to ABDA Newsletter*
The members of the TOU will have subscriptions paid. The policy of having all members of the TC subs being paid is rescinded.

7. Secretary's Report

- (a) *Quittner Request*
Request for travel subsidy discussed. It was decided to grant a once off \$250 subsidy provided that a report was provided to the MC on Quittner's return from the US. His request to have Teaching Coordinator was also discussed but no action taken at this time. The creation of such a position to be an Agenda item for the President's meeting.
Action: DY
- (b) *Dealing for SF 2001*
Scudder's tender document to be changed to reflect correct dates.
Action: DY
- (c) *Software for MP Centre*
Approval to request quotation from McKinnon re updating the Masterpoint software to Windows environment.
Action: DY

- (d) *Australia Wide Pairs and Multipairs*
 There was strong feedback that the events were poorly managed. Masterpoints were late or not presented. Write to Marston stating that if the 2000 event follows the trend, the ABF would cancel the sanction to conduct the event. The ABF understands the complexities of running such an event but members require better management. **Action: DY**
- (e) *Hans Rosendorff Women's Teams*
 To be an Agenda item for President's meeting to discuss ABF promotion of this and similar events. **Action: DY**
- (f) *Medallions and Trophies*
 Medallions from D. Pocock shown. Format approved. A prize of \$250 plus first casting to be offered for best design from a player. Advertise in ABF Newsletter. ER will do a full list of events requiring medallions. **Action: DY, ER**
- (g) *OK Bridge*
 OK Bridge prepared to provide 12 complimentary memberships for 12 months. We will give 3 each to Open, Women and Seniors. Three to be given to Stern for Youth. Ask OK Bridge to prepare contract or detail of what the ABF gets for this. **Action: DY**
- (h) *L. Calcraft Request*
 An application has been received by KM to approve an event in 2003 (Oct, Nov, or Dec) to run a large event attracting major cash prizes. Gold Points are requested. Passed to TC for recommendation. **Action: DY**
- (i) *A. Gudge Request for Player Information*
 A. Gudge has requested profiles of major Australian players for her web site. VB to liaise with AG to provide details. **Action: VB**
- (j) *Generali Individual*
 VB to check with J. Wignall if NZ player interested. Why only men? What of the Youth event? ABF will supplement \$850 to player at top of PQP list. VB to check and make invitation. **Action: VB**
- (k) *Secretariat Report*
 VB will provide a Report from the Secretariat for each MC meeting in the future. **Action: VB**

8. Legal Counsel's Report

- (a) *SF Mixed Teams Matter*
 Actions to be implemented by DY. **Action: DY**
- (b) *Notices of motion for AGM*
 The two motions were reworded for the meeting. It was noted that 75% of delegates needed to agree as well as a majority of States.
- (c) *Incident at Vista Hotel*

Received by Convenor J. Mottram. It was noted that matters pertaining to the Ethics Committee were to be referred only from the MC or from the National Recorder. In this case further information was to be sought from the accused person. EM to follow this up.

In addition, EM to prepare a note to all Convenors re correct protocol for all matters to be referred to the Ethics Committee.

Action: EM

(d) *Use of ABF Letterhead*

It was noted that ABF Letterhead should not be distributed to Convenors. Their outgoing correspondence should be under the event name only. Copies of any correspondence under ABF letterhead must be sent to ABF HQ.

9. TC Report

(a) *Microsoft Gaming Network Masterpoints*

ER sent list of questions to D. Anderson. Issue is not simple and could cause major problems. Answers did not clarify many issues raised by ER. However, a 6 month trial was agreed. A zero club would be set up for the trial. D. Anderson to begin setting up, but all regulations and other correspondence to be through ABF Secretary.

Action: DY

(b) *Jackets for TOU*

Has not been done yet.

Action: ER

(c) *D. Cummings to Committee of Honour*

Citation prepared.

(d) *Player Eligibility*

In light of the current policy position, Burgess is approved to play. We require system information as soon as possible. Letters to be sent to Burgess, Marston and Thompson.

Action: DY

ER prepared the attached paper on eligibility and residency for presentation and final approval at the AGM.

Action: ER

It was noted that the WBF Regulations on residency do not apply to youth players.

(e) *Drinking at the Bridge Table in ABF Events*

This matter was raised and discussed by MC following a Recorder complaint at the Gold Coast. It is considered a director issue and should be handled as a potential misbehaviour issue.

(f) *Youth event in New Zealand*

If there is to be a Zonal event at the Youth event, J. Wignall is to initiate the invitations.

Action: VB

(g) *Seniors*

The ABF will support Seniors as strongly as we have done with the Youth. The TC will look at events, and a calendar for Seniors. A rationalization of budgets is required. The Seniors Playoff will be a match concurrent with the Playoff Finals; subject to normal Playoff Regulations (50% board rule, submission of systems, declaration).

Action: ER

(h) *2000 VCC*

An increase was noted in the entry fee for the 2000 VCC caused by the increase in venue costs following the forced change of venue.

10. General Business.

(a) *Paul Marston Proposal*

Some discussion on the paper presented by JA took place, but no final decision was made as there were questions on JA's document.

Action: JA

(b) *Dick Cummings Tournament*

There were some difficulties with this proposal and were referred to the TC for further recommendation.

Action: ER

(c) *Helman Klinger Trophy*

KM to handle the organization of a trophy.

Action: KM

(d) *Naming Rights for ABF Events*

To be referred to Promotions Committee. KM to discuss with M. Kent.

Action: KM

(e) *2003 ANC*

NT Delegate to provide detailed report.

Action: DY

(f) *Youth Committee Subsidy*

The \$1200 entry fee for the Youth Championships in Canberra to be collected from A. Mill.

Action: TB

(g) *MC Expenses*

No refunds of expenses will be made after 3 months.

(h) *Overseas Event Invitations*

Invitations received formally to send Australian teams to overseas events will be passed to Australian Open and Women's team contacts in the first instance. Other invitations to be put on web site directly.

Action: DY

(i) *Email from George Cuppiage*

No formal response as yet. Send email to both Cuppiage and Ziggy on what regs are being prepared for residency.

Action: DY

(j) *Fees for Maastricht*

VB to send \$2500 for each of Open and Women and \$1400 for Seniors.

Action: VB

(k) *Letter from Fran Jenkins re Cormack*

Dealt with By ER.

(l) *Information for Truscott on Bridge Encyclopaedia*
KM to sort out.

(m) *Received from an Interested Party*
Matter of General Manager discussed. DY to prepare a reply.

Action: DY

The meeting closed at 4.00pm.

Next meeting to be held at Rydges Lakeside, Canberra on 10th March 2000 at 7.30pm.

D. Yovich
Secretary, ABF

Discussion with M. Kent and J. Rothfield (Marketing Committee)

Michael and Jessel were invited to address the meeting on Saturday at 12.00 noon.

Jessel asked the MC what their charter was:

- To increase bridge playing number?
- To obtain corporate sponsors?

KM said we would like to have both matters addressed. Jessel stated that bridge did not have corporate appeal as we currently exist. The profile of the average bridge player (middle age, reasonably well off, good level of intelligence) could be used with the right sponsor (Insurance, Investment, Travel).

Jessel suggested a charity bridge event – it would give us exposure, celebrity players would be involved, and we could attract sponsors.

He thought people might learn to play bridge by video on long flights (use Qantas).

Rubber bridge contest was a possibility also – however, needed States endorsement as there was a lot of work and promotion to do.

What the ABF needed to do was:

1. Attract interest from young people to play bridge
2. Work out ways to grow the number of players in weaker states (e.g. Victoria)
3. Pass a resolution to change the proxy voting rules in State Constitutions (thought not possible)
4. Have States accept greater responsibility for raising the number of players
5. Use more effective teaching strategies for increasing player numbers

It was resolved that Michael and Jessel would provide an outline of a celebrity event to be run by the ABF.

Jessel said it was vital to get effective marketing of Masterpoints. A photo of winners of events (particularly of the lower ranked players) was vital.

KM thanked Michael and Jessel for their interest and contribution.

James O'Sullivan Foundation
February 24, 2000, ANA Hotel, Gold Coast
Minutes of Meeting

The meeting commenced at 1.50pm.

1. Roll Call

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

2. Apologies

John Arkinstall

3. General Business

Payment of all loans to be prepared with capital and interest components shown.

Action: TB

The trustees note that:

The ABF has loaned the JOS \$15,000 for use as general loan funds as part of the \$100,000 agreed to in 1999.

It was moved that:

A loan of \$15,000 to the Brisbane Bridge Centre as recommended be approved.

Carried.

A loan to a club should be published in the ABF Newsletter, without the financial details being published.

The meeting closed at 2.05pm.

D. Yovich
Secretary.