

Minutes (Short)
ABF Management Committee Meeting
24-25 June 2000
Qantas Club, Sydney Airport

The meeting commenced at 10.00AM

1. **Present**

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

2. **Confirmation of meeting of 21 May**

Confirmed

3. **Matters arising**

(a) *Cards proposal*

Deferred for discussion until Sunday.

DY to send a letter (as drafted by JA) to P Marston. ER's opposition to the proposal noted. **ACTION DY**

(b) *Audit of ABF Events*

Pending.

(c) *Method of Selecting Australian Teams*

Ben Thompson will collate the input received from players and submit a report to the Tournament Committee.

(d) *Dick Cummings Blue Ribbon Pairs*

It should be noted that the correct title for the new event is "The Dick Cummings Blue Ribbon Pairs".

The Secretariat issued a press release written by DWH on 19/6/00.

The Management Committee confirmed that that the event is controlled by the TC with J Mottram as convenor: W Lazer to produce a flyer for Sydney congresses:

W Lazer to propose a format to the TC **ACTION ER.**

The ABF President will present the award for Dick Cumming's induction to the ABF Committee of Honour at the DCBRP.

Further reference in item 7.

(e) *Mixed Teams Issue*

The issue was reviewed. The decision of the Ethics Committee was reaffirmed.

DY to write again. **ACTION DY**

(f) *Medallions*

Samples of each medallion were tabled. The price confirmed at \$15 each (inclusive of GST), plus postage, to be handled by ABF Marketing. To be supplied for ABF events and BRT as previously: other events may apply to the MC for medallions.

(g) *Youth Bridge Club and Youth Event in Canberra.*

The ABF Masterpoint Centre has completed arrangements for setting up the Youth Bridge Club. It appears that no deposit for \$1200 was issued for the youth

event in Canberra in January 2000. Cheques for \$290 entry fees received. TB to write to A Mill for further clarification with copy to the Chairman of the Youth Committee. **ACTION TB**

4. President's Report

(a) *Gill nomination for Youth Coordinator*

A recommendation was tabled from D Stern that Peter Gill be appointed the new joint youth coordinator.

It was resolved that P Gill replace the resigned A Mill for the balance of the experimental period with expires on 31.12.00. (Prop ER, 2nd TB) Carried).

ACTION DY/TB

(b) *ABF loan to JOS Foundation*

Motion:

In response to a request from the JOS Trust Fund, the ABF approves an advance up to \$100,000 by the Trustees. (Prop TB, 2nd DY Carried)

(c) *Funding of Marketing Video*

Discussion deferred until Sunday.

DY to obtain a costing for a 5 minute video. No action at this time. To be listed as an agenda item for the July MCM. **ACTION DY**

(d) *Correspondence with ABF President and Mr Tadayoshi Nakatani*

KM sought TN's opinion on the Editorial of the May 2000 ABF Newsletter. TN's reply emphasised that Australia was a member of the PABF before the WBF zones were created. Australia remains a member of the PABF but is not a member of Z6.

(e) *Playoffs and Zone 7*

A letter was tabled from J Wignall requesting confirmation for Christchurch as the venue for the 2001 Zone 7 event. It was agreed that the ABF would accept the Christchurch venue for 2001 on the proviso that entry fees for Australian teams be reduced to off set the high cost of airfares. **ACTION ER**

Further reference see item 7.

The residency application from Ashley Bach was discussed. If he is genuinely residing in Australia he is entitled to participate in the 2001 Playoffs. On the first occasion that he wins playoff points he will need to reaffirm that he is a resident.

5. Treasurer's Report

(a) *Audit for SF and Spring Nationals*

No action

(b) *Corporate Traveller and Mastercard Issues*

MasterCard not yet issued.

The MC approved policy guidelines for recipients of ABF travel subsidies that are available through the CT. It was resolved that players who do not use Corporate Traveller will receive 90% of the airfare component. Carried unanimously.

(c) *Application for ABN and GST Registration for ABF.*
ABN number not yet received.

(d) *GST Issues*

A letter from the convenor of the ASP requesting GST advice was discussed.

- A convenor will need to open a bank account at a local NAB branch.
- The ABF will supply each convenor with the ABF ABN.
- All correspondence must carry the ABN (as well as the ARBN).
- All receipts issued will need to be in the *pro forma* format provided by the Treasurer.
- Entry forms must state that the entry fee is GST inclusive. The form is to be submitted to ER for approval from a tournament point of view and to TB for financial approval.
- Convenors paying for services must apply the withholding fee (48.5%) if the provider does not have an ABN.

The Treasurer obtained a quote from KPMG for further GST advice. The amount, (\$2100), was considered too costly to justify proceeding.

(e) *Insurance of Events*

Under control. When equipment not owned by the ABF is used the supplier should charge a hiring fee that includes provision for its insurance.

(f) *Newsletter*

W Scott designated to investigate reducing the costs of the Newsletter. DY to write to the Lusks requesting the mail-out list for updating. **ACTION DY**

(g) *1999 Financial Report*

The 1999 Report was tabled and approved for signing. The total audit figure of \$6500 accepted. The Treasurer authorised to pay Don Walker's fee of \$6,000. The Treasurer and President authorised to sign the 1999 ABF Financial Reports. (ER/DY). Carried.

6. Secretary's Report

(a) *OK Bridge*

Good response. All 12 places allocated. J Hansen and D Anderson have everything in place for masterpointing. DY to write short report for Newsletter. **ACTION DY**

(b) *Medallions*

Dealt with under 3(f)

(c) *Web Development*

DY to meet with Catherine & Valerie Cummings later today.

It was reaffirmed that any bridge contact on application to the ABF Secretary may have approval for a link to the ABF web page.

The inclusion of a "Club News" feature was discussed.

The statistics of the web page are impressive, e.g. 300 hours of people looking at the site per month.

Following a request from Valerie Cummings for a token reward for the volunteer helper with PQP updating, it was decided to offer Michael Wilkinson one free entry to the inaugural Dick Cummings Blue Ribbon Pairs. **ACTION DY**

(d) *Email from Alan Truscott*

DY to liaise with AT concerning the updating of the Australian entry for the Encyclopaedia. **ACTION DY**

The Saturday meeting closed at 4.30PM

The Sunday meeting commenced at 10.00AM.

7. Tournament Committee Report

- The ANT in Adelaide in May attracted 62 teams, which meant an increase from two to three tournament directors.
- The VCC in Melbourne in June increased to 70 teams. A different, (more up-market) hotel was used. A survey showed that the players were happy with this, but the event may lose in the vicinity of \$600.
- The MC reaffirmed that ABF events should budget for a profit of 10% of the entry fee.
- The TC should consider whether a seniors event should be added to the VCC and, if so, advise whether it should be a selection event with PQP.
- The event in Melbourne prior to the VCC had generated interest. The TC to address whether this should be an ABF event. The webmasters had received enquiries about the non-listing of results.
- The TC to set the fee for the Dick Cummings Blue Ribbon Pairs.
- ANC entries are under control, but ER noted some problems with (i) system cards and (ii) youth representation (re Arian Lasocki and Tim Johnson). The Youth Committee to address (ii) urgently. **ACTION ER/DS**

Following a query from the floor, ER emphasised that it is the State's responsibility to nominate pairs. The ABF will not pay the bill for existing titleholders. They are entitled to a place, not invited.

The TC will meet in August. International commitments for 2001 will be confirmed. It was emphasised that Australia wants to stage the 2003 Zone 7. **ACTION ER/KM**

8. Legal Counsel's Report

No report.

9. Sub-Committee Reports.

VB received two Committee reports. (i) from D Anderson indicating "nil activity" for the MP Committee. (However, it was noted that J Hansen is ready to receive masterpoints from MSN. A "club" (9-950) has been set up for the purpose of billing and reporting) and (ii) from D Lusk in the form of the Minutes of the Youth Committee meeting held in Melbourne in June.

It was noted that, if desired, the YC could use its discretionary funds as partial relief for some of Dorothy Jesner's costs.

The MC discussed the concept of "Friends of Youth Bridge" and approved the establishment of an account within the ABF. Objections noted from TB and ER for

the YC Minute “*In the event that the Junior Committee is disbanded then any funds at that time are to continue for youth bridge under the administration of one ABF representative and two representatives not then on the ABF*”.

The ABF needs a budget for proposed international youth events. DY to write letter to DS also outlining (i) raising money in the ABF name and (ii) GST issues.

The request from the YC to change the nomenclature from “Youth” to “Junior” to be discussed by the ANC Council Meeting since the council had instructed that the name be changed from “Junior” to “Youth”. D Stern requested to prepare a paper for the ANC Council Meeting. **ACTION DY**

10. Correspondence

A letter from Bunbury Bridge Club was tabled re the ABF year in relation to capitation fees. TB to reply and also write a par on the subject for the Newsletter.

ACTION TB

An email from J Hansen was tabled re the WBF Charity Pairs event (22-23 August). It was agreed the ABF would support the event and promulgate it on the home page. DY to ask J Hansen if he would accept a Convenor’s fee of \$250. The ABF would charge the WBF fee of \$US3 per person but take no extra fee as it is a charity. **ACTION DY**

Malcolm Mayer’s classification in the masterpoint scheme as an overseas player was raised. Legal opinion is that there may be different criteria for who can represent Australia and who can be a member of one of our clubs. DY to write to M Mayer, cc J Hansen and A Mill (Alphington BC). **ACTION DY**

11. General Business

(a) SF Tender

JA left the room while a discussion took place on a verbal appeal from the NSW Treasurer, Tony Hutton regarding the tender process for the 2001 Summer Festival. In order to refer this matter to Legal Counsel, DY to write to T Hutton that a formal letter was required. **ACTION DY**

(b) Olympic Issues

A letter from Sue Lusk was tabled. Special leave of absence is available for people representing Australia if the sport is recognised on the official Olympic list. To date, bridge is not recognised. JA (as Acting Legal Counsel) to send a letter to the Australian Olympic Committee. **ACTION JA**

(c) Further issues re masterpoints (Westlake)

Dealt with

(d) Marketing Proposal

Some concern was expressed about the viability of the J Rothfield/M Kent proposal. To be placed on the agenda for the July MC **ACTION DY**

(e) Recorders for the Olympiad

The Committee agreed that DW Howard be authorised to place an ad for volunteers @ AUD25.00. Any shortfall in Recorders to be made good by use of the WBF service at the prevailing rate. VB to advise DWH **ACTION VB**

(f) *Payment for PQP Updating*
Dealt with under 6(c)

(g) *Players Not Using Corporate Traveller*
Dealt with under 5(b)

(h) *Quittner Report*

The Quittner report as presented at the May MCM was discussed and each point noted.

- Apropos GQ's comments on the reactivation fee, it was felt that people who are tardy fall into a different category to people who lapse for a genuine reason and later reactivate. It was decided to seek J Hansen's view on a two-tiered approach – that the reactivation fee for 0-13 months should remain at \$7.00, but after 13 months be \$1.00. A decision would then be taken at the July meeting.

ACTION DY

- GQ's idea of a renewal commission in the form of a \$1 rebate in capitation fees for clubs/teachers to bring in new members to the ABF was reviewed. The definition of a new member is the person who pays the \$7 capitation fee. DY to write to J Hansen for his views on implementing a rebate. To be listed as an agenda item for the July meeting.

ACTION DY

DY to write to GQ informing him of the above and also that his marketing proposal was under consideration by the MC.

ACTION DY

(i) *Presidents Meeting*

The Minutes of the Presidents Meeting (20/5/00) were reviewed.

(j) *Delegate for Olympiad Meeting*

It was moved (ER) and seconded (KM) that DW Howard be the Delegate.

Carried unanimously.

(k) *GNOT Travel Costs*

The changing to the starting date of the GNOT Final in Sydney may adversely affect travel costs. Airline bookings should be made through CT. The following memo for release by the Secretariat on the Home page and to State Secretaries.

Memo to all Zones:

In accordance with the travel policy of the ABF, participants in the GNOT Final in Sydney (9-11 November 2000) are required to book their flight arrangements through the Corporate Traveller. If players elect not to use Corporate Traveller, they will be entitled to 90% of the minimum bookable airfare. To assist with these arrangements, I need the names of your team members as soon as possible. Please underline the team captain's name and provide contact details for each captain.

ACTION VB

(l) *Summer Festival of Bridge*

Report from J Scudder discussed and noted. DY to thank JS

A proposal to make an *ex gratia* payment of 1% of the SF profit to BFACT (with a review after 3 years) was left to rest on the table until the next meeting. **ACTION DY**

(m) *ABF Helpers*

ER's working paper on payments for ABF Helpers to be placed on the agenda for the next meeting. **ACTION DY**

The meeting concluded at 3.35pm

Dates for meetings (following the ANC meeting in July) are:

16-17 September in Sydney

28-29 October in Sydney

JAMES O'SULLIVAN FOUNDATION MEETING MINUTES

The meeting commenced at 11.30AM on Saturday 24th June at the Qantas Lounge, Sydney airport.

Present:

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

- As at 31 May 2000, the JOS Foundation has \$130,059.11 on loan to clubs throughout Australia. The bank balance being \$46,702.00. JOS has borrowed \$62,000 from the ABF. The bank reconciliation has been completed.
- A loan of \$30,000 to the Sunnybank Bridge Club approved.
- Interest rates would hold at 6% for as long as possible, but may be increased if rates rise.
- Don Walker advised that the JOS Foundation does not need an ABN.
- The Trustees instructed T Brown to repay \$22,192.36 to the ABF. This will leave a balance of \$40,000 owing.

There being no further business, the President declared the meeting closed at 11.45AM