

Minutes (Short)
ABF Management Committee Meeting
28/29 October 2000
Qantas Club, Sydney Airport

1) **Roll Call**

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

Apology: E Magner

2) **Confirmation of meeting held September 16/17, 2000**

Confirmed.

3) **Matters arising** (significant issues)

(a) *Cards proposal and email*

P Marston's email dated 17 October was discussed. It was agreed that the ABF does not wish to reduce its commitment to the ABF Newsletter and does not wish to become the publisher of Australian Bridge. It considers it important that Australian Bridge should remain as an independent publication and not be part of the ABF structure. Advertising rates for the ABF Newsletter will be reviewed. The Chairman of the Newsletter Committee, W Scott, has been asked to review all issues relating to the Newsletter. DY to respond in writing to P Marston noting that the ABF provides support for AB via the Australia-Wide Pairs events **ACTION KM**

(b) *Encyclopaedia request from Truscott*

VB to send all bios received by 30/10/00 to Alan Truscott. Entries received after that date are deemed too late for inclusion in the new edition.

ACTION VB

(c) *Newsletter issues* (printing, etc)

TB to liaise further, and with all due haste, with the Chairman of the Newsletter Committee.

ACTION TB

(d) *A Bach residency*

T Brown absented himself from the room for the entire discussion on 3(d). The ABF Secretary instructed to write to Bach (and Burgess) seeking satisfactory evidence concerning their claim to meet residency requirements in Australia. The replies are required to reach DY by 5.00PM on 8 November, 2000.

ACTION DY

4) **President's Report** – K McDonald

(a) *Zonal issues* (meeting with Wignall and WBF levy)

Note of explanation: There will be 3 meetings;

- ▶ A Zone 7 meeting in Canberra (JW)
- ▶ An ABF/NZCBA meeting in Canberra (KM)
- ▶ A Zonal Laws Commission meeting in Surfers Paradise (ER)

KM to write to J Wignall re the Z7 biennial meeting to be held at the 2001 Summer Festival.

Correspondence between KM/NZCBA was tabled re (i) the three proposed meetings; (ii) the difficulties in communication between NZCBA and the President of Z7; and (iii) the WBF Women's Committee. As well, the report received from the WBF Women's Committee meeting in Maastricht was discussed. The ABF view of not wanting any specific delegate for women's or senior affairs was reinforced. VB to request the CD on teaching available from the WBF

(b) *Increase in WBF Levy*

The decision voted through at the Congress Meeting in Maastricht to increase the WBF levy to 50 (US) cents per player, was noted. The MC believes that this increase can not be sustained from existing revenue and proposes an increase in the ABF capitation fee for 2002. For convenience, it was agreed to round the \$8.70 figure up to \$9.00 inclusive of GST. A motion will need to be precirculated in good time prior to the March 2001 ABF AGM

KM/VB

ACTION

(c) *Olympic Committee*

The ABF will set up an Olympic Committee. The President will respond favourably to a request from Peter Gill to act on this Committee

(d) *Zonal Seniors Playoff*

On the issue of a Zonal Seniors Playoff, a counter proposal was made that the other Zonal Seniors teams compete in the ABF Senior Playoff scheduled already for Easter 2001 in Sydney. ER to write to J Wignall.

ACTION ER

(e) *Minutes of 3 meetings of WBF Laws Committee in Maastricht*

Gratton Endicott's letter dated 25 October and the attached Minutes was referred to ER as Chair of the Z7 Laws Committee. The need to advise our Tournament Directors noted.

ACTION ER

Dick Cummings Blue Ribbon Pairs

At this stage, the Convenor of the Dick Cummings Blue Ribbon Pairs, John Mottram, joined the meeting to report on arrangements for the new event. At the conclusion of play on Sunday 12 November, there will be two presentations, (i) the admission of Dick Cummings to the ABF Committee of Honour, and (ii) the presentation of the SMH trophy to the winners. Letters of invitation will be issued by the Secretariat. As well, a formal letter of thanks to be sent to Mr Ian Hicks, of the SMH, acknowledging the provision of \$550 plus \$330 for the trophy. The SMH will be asked to provide a photographer for the presentation ceremonies. Denis Howard will be invited to be MC. It was noted that the Final, the Plate and the A Consolation will be held at the Vista. The organisers will announce the presentations (accompanied by nibbles and drinks) by a flyer on each table requesting their attendance.

It was noted that the ABF policy of student discounts would apply to this event.

ER to send full details to the Convenor.

ACTION ER

In an effort to keep costs down, credit card facilities will not be available for the RCBRP. (The matter of credit card facilities at ABF events is one for individual Convenors.) John Mottram was thanked for his attendance and his report as he left the meeting.

5) **Treasurer's & Finance Report** – T. Brown

(a) *NSWBA loan*

The Treasurer received two cheques from NSWBA the first for \$6856 being the third interest payment, the second for \$25,000 reducing the principal.

(b) *Newsletter costs*

Dealt with. Refer to 3b

(c) *GST issues relating to BFACT ex-gratia payment*

The GST issues raised by John Scudder in his letter to DY must all be resolved before payment is made to BFACT. The letter referred to TB. **ACTION TB**

(d) *GST re John Hansen contract and remuneration (3% increase)*

As a contractor, John Hansen will need his tax invoices to the ABF from 1 July. TB to ascertain whether JH is registered for GST. **ACTION TB**

(e) *GNOT*. Due to problems encountered this year, it was agreed that in future the payment of GNOT travel subsidies would revert to the method used in previous years.

(f) *ASP Convenor*, Sandra Richman had addressed various queries to the Treasurer. It was agreed that the ATO hobbyist form could be used where possible especially for caddies. TB to respond in writing. **ACTION TB**

(g) *Application Software bill* (\$5,500 including GST) approved for payment.

(h) *Tax Invoice from Elisabeth Rasmussen* re her visit to Jackie Kelly in Canberra approved for payment.

(i) *Fees for New Registrations*. The MC agreed that the \$1 rebate applied to all irrespective of the quarter in which they are registered.

The Saturday meeting closed at 5.15pm.

The Sunday meeting opened at 10.30am

6) **Secretary's Report** including incoming and outgoing mail.

(a) *Web development* and updating of results

DY reported on his meeting last evening with the Catherine and Valerie Cummings.

▪ Now is a reasonable time to revamp the look of the Home Page.

▪ Ozemail is a satisfactory provider.

▪ CC will send DY a *pro forma* document, a standard disclaimer, for credit card payments.

▪ The issue of systems for the next ANC was discussed.

▪ The Spring Nationals information has all been posted.

The Committee suggested the addition of a counter and a visitors book **ACTION DY**

(b) *ABF Newsletter mailing list*

It was agreed that DY and ER would analyze the database. The existing policy was reiterated that all Councillors, Supplementary Councillors and Office Bearers are entitled to receive a personal copy in the mail. The print-run (previously approved) is 9,000 copies. Clubs requesting additional copies may not be aware that each issue of the Newsletter can also be read on line or downloaded. VB to produce a list for the MC of payments to contributors and costs of advertisements.

ACTION VB

(c) *A Bach residency*

Dealt with (refer to 3d)

It was noted that for each ABF event, players need to complete Declarations of Availability. Following the ANC, (in mid August), letters need to be sent to those who ticked the "Residency" box.

(d) *Medallions*

All new medallions are at ABF headquarters.

(e) *SF tender document for 2002*

J Scudder to submit the tender document for 2002 to General Counsel (Eilis Magner) by 1 March.

ACTION DY.

(f) *NSWBA letter.*

DY tabled a letter from NSWBA re the directing of the Spring Nationals. Inaccuracies noted. KM will reply to NSWBA Secretary (K Crowe-Mai).

ACTION KM

7) **Tournament Committee Report** – E. Ramshaw

(a) *Dick Cummings Blue Ribbon Pairs*

Entries to date indicate a smaller field than expected. It was agreed that arrangements for the two venues would proceed. The correct name of the SMH Trophy is needed. JA to copy ER with the relevant correspondence.

ACTION JA/ER

(b) *Open/Womens Butler format in Brisbane*

Pending.

(c) *Franchise/Sanction Fee for PQP events*

Although no submission has yet been received, a decision was made that the proposed NSW Seniors event would be franchised. The sanction fee to be 10% of masterpoint costs plus 10% GST. In future, J Hansen will send a Tax Invoice to the Convenors of all franchised events.

A franchise fee of a similar nature for Telco was discussed and it was noted that a naming fee may be required also but no decision taken in the absence of a formal proposal.

It was suggested that an instruction be issued to Convenors that hotels are not to be booked by other bridge events for one week either side of an ABF event.

ER to present a discussion paper on franchise fees for the next meeting. **ACTION ER**

- (d) *Stern Calcutta*
Awaiting further advice from DS. **ACTION ER**
- (e) *Seniors age limit proposal*
The MC approved the revised determination from the Tournament Committee that players who satisfy the age criterion before the commencement of the event are eligible. For the 2001 Gold Coast Congress the Seniors age is 55 years by 20.02.01.
- (f) *ASP.*
ER reported that the ASP (14/15 October) was a good field. It attracted an entry of 122 pairs including several New Zealanders (4 inactive)

8) **Legal Counsel's Report**

- (a) *Ethics matter arising from Brisbane ANC*
The Committee endorsed the report received from the Ethics Committee. E Magner to write to the parties concerned. **ACTION EM**
- (b) *2002 SF dealing tender*
Refer to Item 6e.

9) **General Business**

- (a) *ANC Helpers*
ACT is currently selling tickets for their second raffle. At this stage, there are no plans to sell ACT raffle tickets at the 2001 Summer Festival, but it will be drawn at that event. Tasmania is still considering its options.
- (b) *Convenors Fees*
Deferred
- (c) *Captains Reports from Maastricht*
Report from Open Team Captain, DW Howard, noted and accepted with thanks.
Report from Seniors Team Captain, RE Evans, noted and accepted with thanks.
VB to request report from Women's Team Captain. **ACTION VB**
- (d) *Committee Reports*
In addition to the reports noted above, the following Committee reports were received with thanks and contents noted.
- Masterpoint – no activity from MSN; SF Mixed Pairs awarded A2 status
 - Youth
 - Technology * see note.
 - Newsletter
 - Marketing
 - Library

*(The scorer's fee for the ANC to be \$150/day but \$50/day is an incentive fee payable on the approval of the Convenor that the results had been sent to the Web in a timely manner. This necessitates a change to "Costs to the Event" from the September MC Minutes.

The meeting was declared closed at 3.30pm.

The next meeting to be held at Qantas Lounge, Sydney Airport, 2/3 December 2000-11-01

MINUTES
JAMES O'SULLIVATION FOUNDATION
Sunday 29 October
Qantas Lounge, Sydney Airport.

The meeting was declared open at 10.05am

Present:

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

- TB to get a new loan schedule from Don Walker. ACTION TB
- A problem being experienced by the Sunnybank Bridge Club was noted.
- TB reported that there is \$30,000 in the bank of the \$45,000 ABF loan to JOS as at end September. The Foundation currently has loans out to 8 clubs.
- A discussion ensued re tax returns and audited financial reports. Advice required from General Counsel.
- A draft JOS activity page to September 2000 was tabled and discussed.

The meeting closed at 10.30am.