

**ABF Management Committee Meeting 28 January 2001**  
**Commencing at 10.00am, Rydges Hotel, Canberra**  
**MINUTES (Short)**

**1) Roll Call**

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

**2) Confirmation of meeting held December 2/3, 2000**

Confirmed.

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

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

No report received from Chairman of Newsletter. No action from this Committee.

A motion that a contract to be drawn up between P Marston and the ABF for PM to take over the distribution of the Newsletter was defeated. The matter to be further discussed at the next meeting.

(b) *A Bach, S Burgess residency*

Dealt with.

(c) *Stern Calcutta*

DS sought approval to stage a Calcutta as a private event that would be run under the ABF imprimatur.

Motion: "The ABF MC does not oppose the scheme and approves that D Stern raises money for youth, but DS must obtain approval from NSWBA for the timing of such an event." *Carried.*

TB to discuss with DS whether he (DS) or the MC will refer the matter to NSWBA. To be considered at the next meeting. **ACTION TB**

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

The October MC determined that the franchise fee be 10% of the MP fee including GST and be collected by a Tax Invoice from the Masterpoint Centre. The December MC meeting determined that the franchise fee would apply to the NSW, Golden West and Barrier Reef events. Based on the EHR Notes DEC00 the characteristics of the franchise are:

the ABF provides a non-transferable license for a specified limited time to

- award PQP/GP
- award ABF medallions for 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup>
- access TU expertise
- the Host agrees to
  - an obligation to accept TU advice
  - follow the ABF policy on venue, hand generation, board replication, hand records, directors, recorder
  - follow the GP & Playoff Regulations
  - provide the ABF with all relevant material such as brochures & regulations

- provide a balance sheet with sufficient detail to identify items of income and expenditure

DY to advise the relevant conveners **ACTION DY**

(e) *Letter from Leden*

Action completed.

(f) *E Rassmussen*

DY sent this letter to M Kent in his capacity as Chairman of the Marketing Committee. In response to J de Ravin's letter, KM to emphasise that although the ABF is conscious of the good work being done by E Rassmussen, she is not an emissary for the ABF.

**ACTION KM**

(g) *Executive Secretary's Long Service*

Approval was given for VB's long service leave to accrue from February 1989. Provision is to be made in 2000 accounts. **ACTION TB/KM**

(h) *NSWBA Loan*

A note is required from the Treasurer that the interest rate paid by NSWBA is correct. It is a flexible rate according to the interest rate at the time. TB to write letter to NAB.

**ACTION TB**

(i) *Corporate Traveller*

AMEX bill still to be unravelled re GNOT travel in the 2000 accounts.

(j) *Burgess Request*

S Burgess not paid for travel to Christchurch in 1999. TB to pay SB and send D Walker a note accruing the 2000 accounts. An insertion to be made in the "Declaration of Availability that in future a penalty of \$200 on late claims will apply. (i.e. any claim made 3 months after the event closes).

**ACTION TB**

(k) *Web Development*

Visitor's Book not implemented. The MC decided not to proceed with this idea based on the recommendation of the technical advisers. DY wrote to State Associations drawing their attention to the State section on the Home Page.

(l) *Email from NZCBA re Seniors Playoff*

Zone 7 is entitled to send one Seniors team to the World Championships in Bali in October. Therefore it is necessary to hold a competition between NZ and Australia to determine the Z7 team. Correspondence from NZCBA was tabled advising that NZ would call for entries leading to participation in a Seniors Playoff in Sydney during Easter. The ABF proceeded to call its own entries and had announced the agreed dates for the Playoff. Since that time, the NZCBA had proposed an alternative arrangement. The changes suggested by NZ would cause serious organizational problems for the ABF and it cannot afford the cost of sending Seniors teams to Christchurch in addition to Open and Women's teams. Addressing the logistic issues, ER suggested that, if NZ could organise its trials in

time, one team from each country could meet head at Easter to head for a zonal playoff. The NZ delegates indicated that they would discuss the matter on an urgent basis at the NZCBA Management Committee meeting next Friday, seek a solution, and respond in writing to the ABF Secretariat forthwith.

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

(a) *Response to Klinger request re GNOT PQP's and Senior playoff*

PQP issue dealt with.

Senior Playoff refer to item 4p

(b) *Results on the Net*

It was noted that a number of people had had difficulty accessing the current results from the web page. Although the results have been updated quickly on the ABF website, the issue could be related to the Internet Service Providers (ISP's) of the people attempting to access the site. Referred to C Cummings. **ACTION DY**

(c) *Letter from D Stern dated 18/1*

(DS does not need ABF approval for the allocation of his discretionary funds). A payment of \$800 from these funds to be made to Dorothy Jesner to acknowledge the excellent result she is achieving with youth bridge. (Copy to BFACT). **ACTION VB**  
Approved \$200 for DS as token reimbursement of his expenses as Chairman and expenses of \$92 for DS attendance at the January TC meeting (approved ER).

**ACTION VB.**

It was also noted that the "Friends of Youth Bridge" contract needs to be drawn up. EM to liaise with DS. **ACTION EM**

(d) *Letter from Jean Hartley*

KM replied directly to Jean Hartley who was to refer the matter to the VBA. A list of potential teachers can be obtained via the ABTA.

(e) *Increase in Capitation Fee*

EM to draft the motion re the increase in the capitation fee pursuant to the increase in the WBF levy. The AGM notices need to be circulated to the States in good time. Noted that the WBF levy will attract GST. **ACTION EM**

(f) *Correspondence with WBF President*

Jose Damiani will visit Zone 7 immediately after the WBF Championships in Bali.

(g) *Correspondence with Rabbi Helman*

The President confirmed that, as well as his previous and general contribution, Rabbi Helman will make a further grant to the ABF in the order of \$3000.

(h) *Olympic Highlights*

The ABF application to the AOC (Australian Olympic Committee) for affiliation will be considered at their executive meeting in March and their AGM in May. JA to inquire about fees. **ACTION JA**

- (i) *World Youth Championships in Brazil*  
It was learned at yesterday's Z7 meeting that NZ will not be sending a youth team to Brazil. DY to write to D Stern about the possibility him finding a sponsor to fund a second youth team to take up the vacant spot if the President of Z7 can confirm that one NCBO may take up both places for Zone 7. **ACTION DY**
- (j) *International Bridge Festival in Israel.*  
The Chairman of the TC to contact the captains of the Australian Open and Women's teams to ask if their teams are interested in participating. This seems unlikely due to the clash in dates with the Gold Coast Congress. VB to respond to Israel Bridge Federation. **ACTION ER/VB**
- (k) *Balance Sheets for ABF Events.*  
The chairman thanked Sandra Richman for her ASP report. The event made a profit of about \$3000. She commented that the convenor's fee of \$200 was too low. ER pointed out that a policy review was needed but his paper had not been discussed by the Management Committee. **ACTION VB**
- The chairman thanked John Mottram for his SN report. The event made a profit of about \$7000.
- It was noted that a report on the HRMC was required from Sue Broad. **ACTION DY**
- (l) *Letter from BFACT to NSWBA*  
The BFACT proposal to stage a cross border teams event for restricted players in the ACT and NSW has been rejected by NSWBA. The Chairman has spoken to the Chairman and Secretary of NSWBA. They have undertaken to review the situation.
- (m) *Captains Report from Captain of the Women's Team in Maastricht.*  
The contents noted. VB to write to Seamus Browne thanking him.  
The MC will consider all captains reports from the last three years at its April/May meetings. **ACTION VB**
- (n) *Tender Contract for Replication of Boards for 2002 Summer Festival*  
Noted that the October MC meeting requested the J Scudder draft to be sent to EM by 1/3/01. **ACTION EM.**
- (o) *Selection of Youth Team*  
JA disclosed a conflict in interest and did not participate in the discussions.  
The youth event in January selected a team of four players. (Brayshaw/Brayshaw Dupont/Raisin). The MC did not have to hand the mechanism for augmentation and was not aware whether undertakings had been given by the Youth Committee to Robb/Nunn. TB to liaise with D Stern and report back to the MC. **ACTION TB**  
It was confirmed that the ABF would fund youth teams to WJC in Brazil and to the PABF in Singapore.
- (p) *Seniors Playoff*  
The augmentation of the 3<sup>rd</sup> pair was discussed. The TC recommendation that the regulation should not be altered to take account of any perceived special circumstances that might have arisen in relation to the 2001 Seniors Playoff was carried 3/2. The effect

of this is that a team of four must augment with a pair from the losing team.

(q) *Letter from Travis Team*

A letter from B Travis, the captain of the winning NWT team, was tabled concerning the withdrawal of J Courtney. DY to contact J Courtney to obtain verbal confirmation of her withdrawal. **ACTION DY**

(r) *Format of the 2002 Playoff*

The August TC meeting responded to the request from the MC to consider alternative methods of selection. It noted that "Selection of one team for one target, as is the case in 2002, can be achieved using a Butler-type event with minimum disruption to existing methods and can be used as an "experiment". The September MC meeting decided that this recommendation "lay on the table". In view of the importance of this matter, the TC reconsidered it at its January meeting and reaffirmed the decision after extensive consideration of the potential objections. Since it was of the greatest urgency to inform the players of this decision, ER was requested to contact the President forthwith seeking his concurrence with the proposal so that it can be promulgated in an early issue of the 2001 NOT News. The President acceded to this request. Some members of the MC felt that there could have been a poll (e-mail/fax) and expressed the view that the constitutional decision-making body of the ABF is the MC.

The TC recommendation was approved unanimously (TB declared a conflict of interest and did not vote) with the proviso that TC review the format after the 2002 Playoff.

*International On-Line Bridge*

At this point, as agreed, a meeting was held with Nicholas Justice of International-On-Line Bridge. M Willcox was invited to attend as technical adviser. A decision on the matter was postponed. To be listed as an agenda item for the February meeting. **ACTION DY**

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

(a) *Newsletter issues* – TB to recover quotations for printing and distribution from W Scott  
**ACTION TB**

(b) *GST issues relating to BFACT ex-gratia payment* (discuss with Scudder)  
TB to liaise with J Scudder. **ACTION TB**

(c) *Workers compensation renewal insurance*  
All insurance policies have been renewed.

(d) *Response to Forestville bridge club re voluntary workers insurance*  
Dealt with.

(e) *Issues to resolve with VB at ABF HQ.*  
Dealt with.

(f) *NSWBA loan interest rate and repayment terms*  
Refer to item 3g

(g) *Burgess claim for payment*  
Refer to item 3I

(h) *Zonal playoff travel costs*

TB has arranged a group travel price with CT that permits flexibility. (\$810 from Sydney, \$859 from Melbourne). The ABF travel subsidy was approved as the minimum bookable airfare through CT (normal penalty provisions for people not using CT). It was noted that the Open players no longer need ticket flexibility following the decision re format taken at yesterday's Z7 meeting,, but that the women still need an open-ended ticket. A subsidy of \$50 a day approved. (12th-19th = 8 days). This computes to \$350 for open and women team members plus \$100 to the women who make the final. TB will pay the extra \$100 at the event. Approval for JB (delegate for Z7 meeting) to receive the same subsidies.

(i) *E Magner D&O insurance cover*  
Dealt with.

(j) *Reimbursement*

All claims for reimbursement of expenses incurred on behalf of the ABF not received within 3 months of the expenditure will incur a penalty of \$200.

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

(a) *Using web for ANC system cards.* Liaise with V. Cummings  
DY wrote to each State. Only NSWBA had the courtesy to reply.

(b) *Discussions with L Edwards re online system card*  
Revert to using two files due to a complication with the software

(c) *Letter to Marketing Committee from Rassmussen*  
Refer to 3n

(d) *D Stern re "Friends of Youth" fund*  
Refer to 4c.

7) **TC Report** – E. Ramshaw  
TC Report not dealt with due to time constraints.

8) **Legal Counsel's Report** – E. Magner  
Legal Report not dealt with due to time constraints.

9) **Secretariat Report** – V. Brockwell  
This report not dealt with due to time constraints.

**10) General Business**  
Not dealt with due to time constraints.

The meeting concluded at 4.00PM.