

ABF Management Committee Meeting
3/4/ November 2001
26 Blair Street, Bondi

The meeting commenced at 10.10AM

1. **Present**

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

2. **Confirmation of meeting held 15/16 September 2001.**

Amendment to 3(b) – “hand dealing fee to be set at the **maximum** rate of the host state”.

Amendment to 6 dealt with under 6(e) – The MC has given tentative approval to the proposal for the Bridge Shop link to the ABF Web subject to the conditions for a period of 2 years; provision of quarterly reports; banner approved by The MC; formal agreement supplied by Nick Fahrer for assessment by the MC

3. **Important Matters Arising**

a) *Bridge on the Web*

111 members signed up with IOBC in the period 11/10 – 31/10; refer all queries and problems to DY. Award of MP dealt with in 6(k)

b) *ABF Manual*

Ad to appear in the next ABF News with a closing date of 25th November.

c) *Committee to review Gue Report*

Bruce Neill has agreed to chair the Committee which should be sufficiently balanced as to be able to withstand accusations of bias. DY to collate all relevant material and send to BN. The MC would like a report for presentation to the AGM next March.

ACTION DY

d) *Wilkinson and PQP issue*

EM to send “hobby form” to MW. The eligibility declaration for players has been completed and needs to be posted on the web. EM to insert a clause outlining players responsibilities, e.g. obtaining the correct visa in declaration of availability. **ACTION**

EM

4. **Presidents Report**

a) *BB/VC in Paris*

A number of contingent issues arose that became very messy. The President wrote to the WBF expressing disappointment that the cancellation of the Bali event placed Australia at an extreme disadvantage. This sentiment was also communicated to J

Wignall/Z7. Note that the ABF should request the repayment of the entry fee for the Senior event for which Australian team could not reschedule its attendance. A suggestion that the Open and Womens teams could share a captain was not supported by the players

b) *Telco Gold Points*

The resignation of V Muntz as Gold MP co-ordinator was accepted with regret. The Secretary will write to VM expressing the ABFs appreciation of his service over many years and requesting that he distill his experience into a job description.

ACTION DY

KM advised that he had offered the position to D Anderson.

D Anderson advised that he did not see a problem with provision of Gold Points for the Telco (VCC). ER to correspond with DA on this and the resolution of the MP awards for the 2000 & 2001 Youth Championships. **ACTION ER.**

c) *Letter to be written to Chinese with invitation to 2002 Summer Festival*

Free entry but no other finance to be offered to 1 Open and 1 Womens team. **ACTION KM/VB**

d) *Letter to Ron Lorroway*

The President advised that he had replied to R Lorroway's letter re the masterpoint scheme.

e) *Complaint re Australia Wide Pairs*

A Queensland player has advised that the hands for the Australia Wide Pairs, an approved ABF event, are available on the net before the event is played..

DY authorised to write to the owner/publisher of "Australian Bridge" outlining that the ABF cannot be placed in a position where the integrity of this event is placed into question. DY to respond to the Queensland player (Robin Palmer). **ACTION DY**
ER to write to DA to find out how the event is masterpointed.

f) Email from Dennis Robson (Chairman of EBU Computer Working Party) re ABF "IT" scoring and the McKinnon Windows program. Referred to DY as Chairman of the Technology Committee. **ACTION DY**

g) *Canadian Bridge Federation*

KM sent a detailed response to a questionnaire by the Canadian Bridge Federation.

h) *Letter from D Stern re capitation fees*

Email noted and filed. DY will acknowledge. **ACTION DY**

i) *Email from P Marston re his ranking scheme.*

Contents noted. KM has responded. VCC issue referred the Secretary of the TC.

5. Treasurers Report.

Discussion deferred until Sunday.

a) *Profit/Loss* at end September shows a loss of \$78,000. Full listing of all cheques written by VB and deposits plus JOS transactions tabled and noted. The BAS for the ABF for September has been lodged by the due date. Notification received from ATO re income tax status of ABF. Clarification being sought.

b) Workers Compensation.

JA briefed the Committee on action taken to date and is progressing the matter.

c) *Economic Activity Survey*

Completed and submitted to Bureau of Statistics.

d) *Letter from P Marston re ABF Newsletter ads.*

Noted. Costs of advertising to be reviewed for the next meeting.

6. Secretary's Report

a) *Convenors Guidelines*

The events that have been ceded do not necessarily need to adhere to convenors guidelines but they may prove useful as a checklist (so far these are ANOT, Gold Coast, Barrier Reef and Sydney Festival).

b) *SABF interim director* (letter in response)

The ABF is satisfied with SABF's current program but progress reports required.

c) *ABF Manual* (advert)

See 3(b)

d) *Youth Committee Issues*

The funding approved for 2002 events are PABF (6 players + NPC), NZ Nationals (maximum 6 players incl. captain), \$5000 in total for the 2 other international events recommended by Youth Committee. The Chairman's discretionary fund for 2002 approved as \$2000.

Expenses : The following general expenses noted so far for 2001 – Matthew McManus \$1595: Dorothy Jesner \$727: David Stern \$181: ANC ABF Youth (Colts) \$455: Youth Camp in Poland \$500. Total \$3459. The MC was concerned that expenses seemed to occur without regard for any budget allocation.

Nevertheless in view of the considerable work done by P Gill the MC agreed to an *ex gratia* payment of \$500 on this instance. As from end December VB to cancel P Gill's automatic bank payments. **ACTION VB.**

State Bridge. The MC noted the comments by the Chairman of the Youth Committee re the involvement of state bodies and will ask him to produce a statement to be sent to state bodies for their comments. The report from the Youth Committee should include specific details of their commitments in each state.

The MC noted the team selection process for 2002. ER will attempt to attend the Youth Committee meeting during the Spring Nationals. In regard to a separate letter received from D Lusk the ABF's preference is not to appoint a 2nd youth coordinator and will seek advice from the Chair of Youth Committee on arrangements suggested for 2002.

Youth Championships in January – the MC will reinforce to the Youth Committee that this event must be self funding. **ACTION DY**

- e) *Bridge Shop Affiliate Program* – General Counsel expressed reservations on several aspects of the contract submitted by the Bridge Shop. The MC will give approval when given clearance by EM. **ACTION EM**
- f) *IOBC*
DY to speak to N Justice re allocation of masterpoints and whether he intends to run a competition during the trial period and query him on the press release for masterpoints for general sessions. Mechanisms of avoiding on-line cheating to be investigated (is it a problem?) **ACTION DY**
- g) *Busch/Systems Committee*
We thank Reg Busch for taking up the challenge and particularly his promise to provide a report for the 2002 AGM.
- h) *Letter from President of NSWBA* re request for allocation for NSW youth to attend country congresses. Regrettably there was no clear recollection of the arrangements allegedly agreed to during the Simpson era. Secretary to ask Keiran Crow-Mai for copies of correspondence.
- i) *Webmasters account.*
Payment account approved. DY to ask for a more detailed allocation of hours. Monthly usage statistics of the ABF website noted. **ACTION DY**

7. Legal Counsel Report.

- a) *Regulations Committee*
Pending
- b) *Wilkinson and PQPs* Referred to in 3(d).
An appointment letter for 2 year period to be signed by Wilkinson; details duties of maintaining the Declaration on a link from the ABF page; classifying the status of players; quarterly report (XL) to ABF HQ. Payment due after the last Playoff.
- c) *Workers Compensation*
Discussed under 5(b)

- d) *Notice of Motion for 2002 AGM re sanction fee*
When sanction fee issue is resolved EM can draft notice of motion.
- e) *Jane Tyson letter re a player's non-attendance at a session of the ASP*
Comments from convenor (Barry Kelly) and director (Simon Edler) required.
ACTION VB
- f) *Sandy Bay Bridge Club issue* EM briefed the MC on a very complicated entanglement between the Sandy Bay Bridge Club, the TBA and several players. There are principally three issues involved. After lengthy discussion EM authorised to proceed. **ACTION EM**
- g) *Echelon contract*
EM approved contract in principle (subject to some clarification and redrafting) for 5% gross entry fees plus 5% average session fees above 6750 tables. **ACTION EM**

The Saturday meeting concluded at 5.05PM
The Sunday meeting commenced at 10.15AM

8. Tournament Committee Report

a) *Tournament Committee Meeting*

Minutes of the meeting 13th September – some of this was reported verbally at the last MC meeting (the next TC meeting is 11th November)

2003 Playoff is teams format – not necessarily concurrent with Z7 - Open and Women concurrent with Senior about 40 days later.

PQP allocation for 2002 Senior: Sydney and McCance as 2001; Gold Coast 1st: 10; 2nd: 5. It is desirable that the minimum number of boards excluding final series be 112 (at least 100)

Playoff Subsidies. Concern about the escalating cost of the international program lead the TC to recommend that the policy of full subsidy be replaced with a partial subsidy based on remoteness and possibly PQP awarded.

Carryover should not occur from an earlier stage with an imperfect movement to a later stage. To address apparent player concerns the carryover for the 2002 ABPC Stage II/A to III /B will be according to place 1st – 6th: 8, 6, 4, 3, 2, 1 VP.

Chariots.

DY advised that BAWA would store their chariots at ABF Headquarter with freight the responsibility of the ABF.

b) *Z7 Laws Commission article for Newsletter*

Pending.

c) Tournament Unit Succession

Collection of information and preparation of a work schedule progressing

d) Gue proposal re Z7 and Playoffs

To be discussed at the next TC meeting.

e) Bagchi letter re eligibility

J Hay's eligibility is a contingent issue. The requests of Bagchi and Hay to enter the 2002 Playoffs approved subject to approval from the WBF Credentials Committee. VB to seek reply from JW to her letter dated ? July and request clarification of Bagchi status. DY to respond to KB and JH. **ACTION VB & DY.**

f) Fiona Brown and selection for Queensland youth team (email from QBA)

Letter from the President of NSW noted that he has problems with representation outside state boundaries. VB to write to KE that under the current ANC regulations such an arrangement could not be sanctioned by the ABF. The ABF would, however, allow this arrangement if approved by all states.

ACTION VB

g) Entry fee for 2002 Butler

Entry fee for Stage I and Stage III of the ABPC increased by \$5 in 2002. An increase in entry fees for 2003 to be considered at a later date.

h) Hans Rosendorff Memorial Womens Team.

ER (TU) has not received any information or the balance sheet. **ACTION DY.**

i) Publishing of appeals

It is ABF policy to publish appeals in a timely manner. EM advised that it should not be under control of the bulletin. Content should be emailed to EM for approval prior to printing in the daily bulletins. Or appeals could be published separately and displayed. This would take the pressure off the bulletin editor. Latter option agreed.

j) Proposed Calcutta event in Sydney.

DS to draft the application to gaming body for review by EM on behalf of the MC. Then it will be signed by resolution of the MC. **ACTION DY** to write to DS. Separate support letter to be written to DS by the President. **ACTION KM.** Exempt from sanction fee whilst the funds go to a cause approved by the ABF MC. When format of the event approved request should be sent to Chair of MP unit for consideration of MP issues.

9. Secretariat Report

(VB presented 26 items. Below are the items not covered elsewhere)

a) Request from P Fordham re Bali

Request denied. DY to answer PF's letter. **ACTION DY**

b) G Quittner's request

The idea has been overtaken by events. **ACTION DY** to respond to GQ.

c) New Tasmanian Councillor.

Andrew Richman new Tasmanian Councillor (to replace J Bailey on Newsletter Committee) **ACTION VB**.

d) ABF Library

Tim Bourke's request to purchase books for the ABF Library in whilst in UK granted. Expenditure of approximately \$3000 envisaged.

e) Kylie Robb's claim for Playoffs/Z7

Players received \$350 (standard subsidy \$50/day) – we need to know dates of arrival/departure

f) Email from Brian Souter

Referred to Tournament Committee (**ACTION ER/VB**)

g) VB's Leave

Approved.

10 General Business

a) Newsletter and broader issues (as raised by Stern)

DY tabled letter received from D Stern and a letter from D Cooper (Chair of Newsletter Committee).

DY will write an article for publication in the ABF Newsletter in general terms. DY will reply to D Stern. **ACTION DY**

b) Public Liability issue (as raised by Stern)

EM will respond to DS cc Management Committee **ACTION EM**

c) Committee Reports

VB to ask for a report from all Committee Chairs for the December MC meeting (15/16 December, last meeting of the calendar year) **ACTION VB**

d) World Wide Pairs 2002

Agreed that there would be no participation by Australia in 2002.

e) J Hansen's Claim for review of remuneration (verbal to DY)

Will be considered when proposal received from J Hansen. **ACTION DY**.

f) P Smith's Captains Report

Report tabled and discussed. DY to send copy to Youth Committee Chair. The suggestions contained in the report are admirable but it is a question of time and financial constraints. DY to thank PS for report. **ACTION DY**.

g) Target events.

For the year 2002 youth determined in 6(d); all 4 teams to play in PABF in Thailand; Commonwealth Games for the Open Team. Announcement in web and Newsletter

ACTION DY

The Committee decided to offer the nominated Senior team (as a unit of 6 players & NPC) unable to play in Bali/Paris a grant of \$5000 in total to attend the NZ Nationals. Dissention noted from ER. **ACTION DY.**

h) Playoffs

After a lengthy discussion, the consensus of the meeting was that airfare subsidies would be continued for the 2002 Playoff. ER will draw up a budget for target events for the next four years. **ACTION ER**

The meeting closed at 3PM.