

ABF Management Committee Meeting

26/27 January 2002

Commencing at 10.00am at ABF Headquarters, Canberra.

1) Present.

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

Apology:

E Ramshaw. (Noted that Dr Ramshaw is playing in the NOT Round-of-Sixteen. The Committee wishes his team well).

Note: ER joined the Sunday meeting.

2) Confirmation of meeting held December, 2001

Minutes confirmed.

3) Important Matters arising

(a) *ABF Manual* (any further applicants)

(VB left the room during discussion of this item).

This matter had been deferred from the December meeting. No further expressions of interest were received. The Committee decided that an offer would be made to John Brockwell. DY delegated to hold preliminary discussions with JB. The Committee hoped that the manual would be available for the 2003 AGM. That necessitates the work to be complete by the January meeting. The MC hopes to have a progress report/profile for the ANC meeting. DY to notify R Klinger and S Allen. **ACTION DY.**

(b) *Final Items re Salt Lake City*

Noted that a team to play in Salt Lake City consists of Phil Gue, Terry Brown, Paul Marston and Ishmael del Monte. It is hoped that favourable publicity for bridge will ensue. JA authorised to approach R Klinger in an attempt to get broader press notice. **ACTION JA.**

(c) *Playoff 2002* (finalise entrants list)

Deferred until Sunday meeting.

The sub-committee had met earlier and recommended that all three applicants for the Womens be accepted.

There were four entries for the Open. The pair of Lester-Lorentz have been added to the field and the other three pairs listed as reserves.

DY to arrange for full list to be put on the net. **ACTION DY.**

PRESS RELEASE

SELECTION OF TEAMS TO REPRESENT AUSTRALIA

Seed	OPEN	PP	WOMEN	PP
1	Del'Monte-Marston	256	Cummings-Feitelson	197
2	Chua-Hinge	182	Booth-Shiels	138
3	Dyke-Klinger	176.5	Lusk-Tully	114.4
4	McManus-Nunn	126.95	Folkard-Stern	82.5
5	Markey-Peake	126	Nailand-Pitt	72
6	Neill-Roberts	109	Glanger-Scudder	76
7	Gaspar-Richman	93.75	Kalmin-Urbach	60
8	Haffer-Reynolds	76.8	Bourke-Hay	60
9	Lee-Robson	72	Del Piccolo-Smith	52
10	Antoff-Simpson	72	Bird-Creet	48
11	Bilski-Gue	62.6	Church-Hoffman	48
12	Lester-Lorentz	60	Herden-Neale	48
13	Konig-Wallis	58.5	Driscoll-Greenfeld	40
14	Beauchamp-Lester	57	Frankel-Krasenstein	36
15	Griffin-Hughes	56	Shilbury-Touyz	36
16	Brown-Noble	49.1	King-Wright	30
Reserve 1	Brifman-Browne	58		
Reserve 2	Fordham-Prescott	45.6		
Reserve 3	Nagy-Seres	44.8		

Playoff 2002 – Open and Women

The venue for the Open and Womens Playoff for 2002 is the NSWBA, Sydney. The first round commences at 11.00am on Thursday 7th March and the last round is scheduled to conclude at 5.40pm on Sunday 10th March.

Playoff 2002 - Senior

There is a change to the entry conditions that were published previously on the ABF web site. In the first instance, entries require only the entry form with Playoff Points but submission of an entry implies acceptance of the declaration of availability. This entry must be received by post at the ABF Secretariat marked Playoff before 4.00 pm on Friday 15th March; an e-mail entry is acceptable if it provides the same information and its receipt by the same time at martinw@migrationpath.net.au is confirmed. On acceptance of the entry into the field pairs must provide all the supplementary information

(system hard copy & disc and declaration of availability).

The venue for the Senior Playoff for 2002 is the Sir Stamford Hotel, Double Bay, Sydney.

The first round commences at 11.00 am on Friday 26th April and the last round is scheduled to conclude at 5.40 pm on Sunday 28th April.

Future Playoff Qualification.

At the Summer Festival PQP are available for eligible players after lodging their declaration of eligibility (available from the Director or the ABF web site) with Michael Wilkinson.

- Seniors 1st - 6th in the NST; Women 1st - 6th in the NWT; Open 1st - 8th in the NOT
- Open PQP are counted on the Senior and Womens list

The entry conditions for the 2003 Playoff and the players on the panel are published only on the ABF web site. Players receive no other notification.

The Convenor of the Open and Womens Playoff is Eric Ramshaw.
The Convenor of the Seniors Playoff is David Stern.

(d) *Newsletter*

Ongoing. Further action by DY to progress the matter. **ACTION DY.**

The Committee also considered a letter received from Bob Auld. His suggestion will be considered in quotes to be obtained. DY to reply to Mr Auld. **ACTION DY.**

4) President's Report

(a) *Convenor Guidelines to be revised*

Carried forward.

(b) *Seniors event for 2002* – final resolution of the cancelled Bali trip.

Following a submission by the Seniors team the MC agreed to supplement their current offer with an additional \$1500. **ACTION DY** to write to the NPC, Z Nagy.

(c) *Online bridge article for Newsletter*

Carry forward.

(d) *Echelon contract*

Document prepared and ready to be signed.

(e) *Meetings.*

The President reported on several informal meetings held since his arrival in Canberra.

5) Treasurer's Report

(a) *Payment to NSW for Youth to attend country Congresses*

The ABF has a policy (buried in history) of sponsoring youth players to attend country congresses. The NSWBA has lodged a claim for 2001. The Committee agreed to payment. **ACTION VB.**

The MC seeks advice from the Youth Committee whether this policy should continue and, if so, on what basis. (\$ for \$ is compulsory, maximum \$1500 per State). **ACTION DY.**

(b) *Public Liability Costs*

The premium has been paid (\$31,000) and publicised in the January 2002 Newsletter. A copy of the Certificate of Currency to be displayed on the web. DY to provide pdf files if available from the Broker. **ACTION DY**

(c) *Other issues*

Other issues were discussed. The reconciled bank balance was tabled.

6) Secretary's Report

(a) *Bridge Shop Affiliates program*

Too early to assess but procedure is in place.

(b) *Youth Committee issues*

DY tabled the response from D Stern re the queries addressed to him.

An edited copy of the Youth Report will be sent to States for comments.

Funding for the NZ Test match is part of the original agreement (for 6 players including a captain). **ACTION DY**

Noted that, in response to a request from the WBF, the ABF Masterpoint Centre provided information that there are approximately 220 active youth players in Australia (under 25). DY to write to D Stern addressing the issue of ABF expenditure on youth and pointing out that there are some priority issues. **ACTION DY**

(c) *Online bridge – end of trial period*

Trial period extended to 30 April. DY to publicise this in Newsletter. **ACTION DY.**

(d) *Gold Masterpoints*

D Anderson has been appointed Gold Point Coordinator. DY tabled a report from DA.

The Committee endorsed the contents and recommendations. A schedule of gold masterpoint events and the allocation of masterpoints will be put on the net. **ACTION DY.**

(e) *Letters to V Muntz, D. Anderson*

Done.

(f) *NPC duties (ACBL document on NPC's)*

DY will present a draft to the next meeting. **ACTION DY.**

- (g) *NSWBA Youth funding*
Dealt with in 5a.
- (h) *Convenor breaches of conditions of Franchise events*
Deferred.
- (i) *Darwin ANC update*
No reply received. **ACTION DY.**
- (j) *Meeting between DY and Webmasters*
*The front web page has been redesigned.
*Suggestion that D Beauchamp's work on the bidding forum be recognised. DY to write offering him free personal entry (entry fees to be paid by ABF) to the Summer Festival teams, Spring National Open Teams, Australian Swiss Pairs and Victor Champion Cup. **ACTION DY**
*S Browne may be prepared to run a bidding forum on the ABF web site. The MC is keen to have further details of such an arrangement. **ACTION DY**
* The Committee would like to suggest to the SMH that their bridge column appear on their web site with a link to the ABF web page. cc Ron Klinger. **ACTION DY**
- (k) *PQPs on the Web.*
The Management Committee clarified that Michael Wilkinson was not specifically being paid to put current PQPs up on the web but had a broader contact controlling eligibility documents. The Committee instructed that PQP s would be up on the web in 2 parts, one showing clear approval from the Secretary of the Tournament Committee and a dated current listing which included a proviso that it was subject to verification and was put on the site pending approval. **ACTION DY.**
- (l) *Tournament Unit Equipment*
The Management Committee will receive a report on Tournament Unit equipment at its February meeting. Immediate approval is given for the purchase of a lap-top for use by C Diment with the superseded machine being used by the Unit as spare parts. ER to arrange. **ACTION ER.**
- (m) *Service account of webmasters.*
Invoice presented for 24/10/01-23/1/02. Payment approved. **ACTION VB.**

7) **Legal Counsel Report**

- (a) *Sandy Bay Bridge Club issue*
Sandy Bay Bridge Club issue is still ongoing – General Counsel presented a verbal report updating the Management Committee on the ongoing unresolved legal matters. She drew attention to the fact that the National Authority could not meet until at least April 2002 and that she would chair the meeting but not vote. **ACTION EM.**
- (b) *Public Liability (Stern question)*
EM will respond to D Stern. **ACTION EM.**

- (c) *Contract with Echelon.*
Refer to item 4d.
- (d) *Salt Lake City*
EM prepared an analysis in terms of the legal position to the background of the SLC event.
- (e) *Playoff*
EM advised DY about the reopening of the Playoff entries.
- (f) *Summer Festival hand dealing*
EM has been advised by the Convenor of the Summer Festival that a problem had occurred with the hand dealing. She will need to correspond with the contractor about the application of the liquidated damages clause. **ACTION EM.**

Summer Festival tender document 2003.

Unless the Management Committee receives advice from General Counsel that the yet uninvestigated problem from hand dealing in 2002 warrants a change in procedure, the Convenor of the Summer Festival of Bridge is requested to prepare the tender document for consideration at the February meeting.

ER to advise J Scudder **ACTION ER.**

The Saturday meeting closed at 4.00PM
The Sunday meeting commenced at 10.15AM

8) **TC Report**

- (a) *January Tournament Committee meeting*
Deferred to February meeting.
- (b) *Z7 Laws Commission article for Newsletter*
Pending
- (c) *Tournament Unit succession*
Ongoing
- (d) *Smith/Dutton letters*
The Tournament Committee has asked Nigel Dutton to present a formal written proposal.

9) **Secretariat Report**

- (a) *Masterpoint enquiries.*
The Secretariat is receiving an increasing number of masterpoint enquiries. DY to insert the Masterpoint Centre contact details in the ABF Newsletter and on the web page. **ACTION DY.**

- (b) *VB's leave*
Approved.

(c) AGM (16/17 March). ACTION VB.

*Notice of meeting to be sent to Councillors and States.

*EM's notice re Councillors terms (as below)

The documents maintained by the ABF Secretariat over the past several years have suggested that Councillors are elected for two years. This suggestion is incorrect. Clause 6 (1) of the ABF Constitution provides that Councillors are to hold office "until the commencement of the third succeeding AGM". The Management Committee apologises to all Councillors who have been deemed to end their terms prematurely. The Management Committee recommends that we should deal with the anomaly by correcting our current documents to show that Councillors in Column One are elected to March 2003 and those in Column Two are elected to March 2004.

The general meeting will be asked to approve this decision and to pass the following resolution to condone the irregularity.

1. The General Meeting of the Australian Bridge Federation notes that the documents maintained by the ABF Secretariat over the past several years have suggested that Councillors are elected for two years and further that this suggestion is incorrect.
2. The General Meeting approves the proposal that the anomaly should be dealt with by correcting the current document to show that Councillors in Column One are elected to March 2003 and Councillors in Column Two are elected to March 2004.
3. The General Meeting further resolves to ratify all actions of the Australian Bridge Federation that might conceivably have been affected by this irregularity.

*Notice for appointment of proxies or deputy councillors.

*Write to VBA for name of K Lee's replacement.

*Notice for nomination of office bearers (Management Committee)

*Call for reports to be sent to DY by Friday 1st March 2002.

* Travel arrangements (also applies to the Playoffs)

VB to send Corporate Traveller a list of Councillors names and point of origin.

Councillors are advised that the facility to use Corporate Traveller is available (1800 999 601) but are free to make alternative arrangements. The ABF will only reimburse the minimum bookable airfare. If airfares are not booked through Corporate Traveller the ABF will require proof of purchase.

10) General Business

(a) *Policy re invitations to Australian teams to overseas events*

The Management Committee was not unaware of the significance of this topic in light of recent events. The Player Liaison Committee will be sending a report asap and hopefully the matter will be reviewed at the February meeting.

- (b) *Franchise events*
Deferred.
- (c) *PABF for 2002* – financial details to be decided
Event date 13-30 June.
Funding support to be decided at February Management Committee meeting.
- (d) *Committee Reports (Player Liaison, Youth)*
Youth matters discussed under 6(b). No other committee reports.
- (e) *First World University Championship*
Email from Anna Gudge tabled and discussed. Matter not resolved.

The meeting concluded at 3.30PM.