

**Management Committee Meeting 4/5 May 2002
Commencing at 10am at 26 Blair Street, Bondi.**

1 **Present**

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

The Chairman welcomed new Treasurer, Justin Stark.

2 **Confirmation of meeting held March 2002**

Confirmed.

3 **Important Matters arising**

a) *AGM matters:*

i) The decision that the ABF affiliation fee for players at clubs that are not currently affiliated to their State Associations be waived for 1 year to be followed up by DY with notification to States and publication in the Newsletter.

ACTION DY

DY to advise the Editor of the Newsletter of the election of office bearers and supply a profile of Justin Stark (Treasurer). **ACTION DY**

ii) Publication of appeals on the web - in progress. **ACTION EM**

iii) TC minutes to be circulated to councillors by VB after their approval by MC. **ACTION VB**

iv) Privacy legislation, legal implications of (web) email list. **ACTION EM**

v) Search facility – further investigation by webmaster as this facility is not easy to provide. **ACTION DY.**

vi) A Richman's ideas:

*Material for all ABF events to carry publicity for future ABF events – add to the conveners guidelines. **ACTION ER.**

*Trademark registration for ABF event names. **ACTION EM.**

*A kit for articles in the media to be investigated by the ABF Newsletter Committee. **ACTION DY**

vii) A starter kit for all clubs. DY to approach D Stern offering a fee of \$1000 to prepare such a kit. **ACTION DY.**

viii) Taiwan event – information sent to NPC of the current Australian Open Team. The question of whether to deal with the captain or the spokesperson in the future to be considered in conjunction with the paper on captains responsibilities
ACTION ER/DY

ix) Increase in MP fees. JS to look at increase in line with CPI - DY to prepare article for Newsletter. **ACTION DY/JS**

x) Playoff Issues – refer to 8b

4. **Presidents Report**

a) *Convenors Guidelines*

Referred to JS. **ACTION JS/ER**

b) *On line bridge article for Newsletter*

To be prepared when a response is received from Nick Justice. **ACTION DY.**

c) *Letter from J Mott/J Frazier re Spring Nationals*

Considered a Recorder matter – to be passed to National Recorder (NJ Moses) and - cc to Mott & Frazier. **ACTION EM.**

d) *Echelon Contract*

J Scudder had sent Echelon contract to KM. KM initialed page 1- 3 after advice from EM; cc to J Scudder, Secretariat to hold master copy - cc to JS and JA.
ACTION VB.

d) *Letter/invoices from J Hansen – 2000/01 youth files*

Refer to 5c.

e) *Insurance.*

KM passing to Treasurer renewal of Associations Liability Policy – has been paid – document needs to be returned to D Walker. All financial matters re insurance to be reviewed by JS. **ACTION JS.**

f) *Auditor's letter*

Norman Chan and Associates – 2000 – Chan requires response. **ACTION JS**

g) *World Wide Simultaneous Pairs*

Anna Gudge has entries from a few Australian Clubs – DY to advertise on the web that clubs willing to participate can contact AG. VB to forward Anna's email to DY. **ACTION VB/DY.**

g) *Systems Committee.*

George Cuppage to be advised that his request has been referred to the Systems Committee. **ACTION DY**

h) *PABF*

PABF Delegate, J Greenfeld requires a letter on the position of the ABF re hosting the PABF. It was decided that Australia is not in a position to host the event in the foreseeable future. **ACTION KM/VB.**

i) *Zone 7*

Delegates Meeting for Zone 7. Previous decision reaffirmed.

j) *Playoffs.*

Account received from Z Konig & J Wallis for the Playoffs. The subsidy to be similar to that provided for other players from Brisbane. **ACTION JS**

k) *Visit to Australia of WBF President & AOC Meeting.*

KM reported on J Damiani's visit and their meeting with Secretary-General of the AOC also attended by JA and VB. Bob Elphinston confirmed the letter dated 2 April from the AOC signed by President Coates rejecting the request of the ABF for membership of the AOC. JA to investigate ABF admission to the AIS.

ACTION JA

l) *Masterpoint Paper.*

VB to contact B Neill to confirm that the Neill review of the Gue masterpoint paper would be available for the ANC meeting of 3 August. **ACTION VB.**

5 **Treasurers Report.**

5a) *Financial Lists*

Payment lists submitted by Executive Secretary to all members of the MC; bank reconciliation as at 31/3, printout of ledger entries to 31/3 and monthly profit/loss from DW tabled and passed to Treasurer.

5b) *Payment for Tournament Director for youth event in Canberra.*

D Stern advised that the fee will be reviewed. DY will respond to M McManus and advise VB when to pay the account. **ACTION DY.**

c) *MP fees for Youth.*

MP fees for the youth to be entered as a book entry. **ACTION KM/D Walker**

d) *Honoraria*

Payment to M Willcox and C Diment will be made on submission of a tax invoice. Treasurer to write to both to advise correct amount. **ACTION JS/VB**

e) *Signing Authority & By-Laws*

Letter to NAB re JS's signing authority. \$5,000. **ACTION VB.**

EM to prepare a notice of motion to amend the Constitution to be put before the ANC meeting with the purpose of increasing this delegation and adding authority for the Executive Secretary. **ACTION VB/ EM.**

6. **Secretary's Report**

a) *World Junior Championships*

D Lusk proposed that the 2005 WJC be held in Townsville. DY to request copies of 1999, 2001 balance sheets and broad budget for 2005. **ACTION DY**

b) *Youth Captaincy*

The approval for the appointment of captains is delegated to the Youth Committee for the Hamilton test in New Zealand and the Triathlon in Montreal. However, the Management Committee seeks assurance that the Youth Committee has accepted the responsibility to check that the players meet the requirements of the sponsoring organisation. **ACTION DY.**

c) *PABF subsidy*

Email from P Gue re ABF subsidy for the PABF tabled. For the players involved from Canberra and Adelaide (only) an extra \$150 will be paid. DY to submit the list to VB and DY to write to captains. **ACTION DY/VB.**

The Management Committee carefully reviewed the subsidy for all players, and reaffirmed the previous decision, (\$1500).

d) *Newsletter from the Commonwealth Nations Bridge Championship*

Newsletter tabled and discussed. The team is G Gaspar, R Richman, I del' Monte and P Marston. It was agreed to subsidise each of the above players by \$2200 to defray airfare costs. DY to contact P Marston. Declarations of Availability required noting the expectation that players attend the Victory Dinner. **ACTION ER**

e) *Web Page*

Valerie Cummings advised that negotiations with Seamus Browne re a bidding forum for the ABF web page are still in progress.

f) *Masterpoint Committee*

An alteration in masterpoint characteristics of Novice Congresses requested in an email dated 28 March from the Chairman of the MP Committee was approved. **ACTION DY.**

g) *Technology Committee*

Upgrading of email at ABF HQ referred to Technology Committee for approval. **ACTION DY/JS.**

h) *Letter/invoices from J Hansen – 2000/01 youth files*

See 5c.

7. **Legal Counsel**

a) *Sandy Bay Bridge Club*

General Counsel gave a report on the Sandy Bay Bridge Club issues.

The National Authority meeting on 3 May ruled on three issues by way of stated cases. EM and ER, (as members of the National Authority), left the meeting.

After considerable discussion, proposed JA/DY that the MC confirm the findings of the National Authority in respect of these three issues without reservation.

Carried unanimously.

The President to write to RG Hebbard explaining the position of the ABF and emphasising MC support of advice from General Counsel. The MC completely refutes any claim. of lack of impartiality and rejects any allegation that improper purposes were involved. **ACTION KM.**

DY to notify RG Hebbard of the findings of the National Authority and their confirmation by MC. **ACTION DY**

(EM and ER rejoined the meeting).

b) *NTBA*

EM reported on her advice to Jody Tutty in respect of her resignation and replacement as President of the NTBA and the resignation of the full executive committee. EM has had correspondence with Eric Nunn, the new NTBA Secretary.

c) *NSWBA/Summer Festival*

Liquidated damages re replication for SF resolved. VB to repay the amount to SF Convenor and inform D Walker. Transfer to be handled by journal entry as money already banked to ABF account. **ACTION VB**

d) *Tender Documents 2003 Summer Festival*

Tender documents for 2003 SF to be opened by a separate sub-committee consisting of KM, EM and ER).

Two tenders received, from NSWBA for sections 4 & 5 and from Mary Mullamphy for sections 1,3,and 6. There was no tender for sections 2 and 7. The subcommittee noted that both tenders were defective in that they did not specify the procedure for checking hand replications. Subject to this deficiency being rectified, the sub committee recommended that both tenders be accepted.

ACTION EM.

Further, the committee recommended that J Scudder be authorised to arrange for the replication of sections 2 and 7 at a price to be not more than 40c per board

inclusive of GST. Moved, (JS/DY) that the MC accepted the recommendation of the sub committee. Carried.

e) *Insurance*

Professional Indemnity Insurance for General Counsel renewed by the ABF until 30 June. EM to supply KM with name of individual to follow up with regard to applying for consideration for special arrangements post 30 June. **ACTION EM.**

8 **Tournament Committee Report**

a) *TC Meeting*

The last meeting was at the 2002 Summer Festival. The next meeting will be at the ANOT in Adelaide.

b) *Playoff/PABF issues*

ER pointed out that the procedure for nomination to the Playoff required an ABF system card but not a WBF system card with the result that the ABF did not review and retain the system submitted to the PABF. The MC determined that future Australian teams must submit a WBF card to the TU for approval. ER noted that the transport of screens is a significant cost which may result in Canberra becoming the preferred venue for future Playoffs. Although items for the balance sheets for the Playoffs are not finalised the best current estimate of the cost of the Playoffs is \$15-20K. An increase in the entry fee is on the agenda for the May TC meeting.

c) *License fee for the ANC*

Although it was thought that it was not essential that this matter be discussed with the council, the MC considered that it was appropriate to consult both the Presidents and the Council. EM to draft a resolution for the ANC meeting. ER suggested that introduction of a license fee be tied to increases in the entry fees for the ABPC. **ACTION EM.**

d) *Tournament Unit Succession.*

No further information.

e) *Smith/Dutton letters*

On the agenda for the May meeting of the TC.

f) *Gold Point Allocation for Sydney Festival.*

DY to enquire from D Anderson whether the convenor's proposed gold point allocation for the Sydney Festival had been approved. **ACTION DY.**

g) *Darwin ANC*

Budget for 2003 ANC not received. JS to enquire. **ACTION JS.**

h) *Bidding Boxes.*

Despite the use of written bidding in the Senior Playoff, the MC reaffirmed the

principle that (finals of) events awarding PQP should use screens, chariots and bidding boxes when practical. **ACTION ER.**

i) Sponsorship (Buller). The enquiry concerning a sponsored event to be placed on the agenda for the next MC meeting. **ACTION DY.**

9 **Secretariat Report**

a) *PABF*

*Arrangements for J Greenfeld, the Australian Delegate, in place.

*The ABF subsidies have been paid to the Open, Women's, Senior and Youth teams.

*The official entry has been submitted.

*The PABF affiliation fees have been paid HK\$1560 (=AU\$395.61)

b) *WBF*

(i) Championships, Montreal

The ABF subsidy to the Senior Team for Montreal has been paid. (The team, consisting of W Haughie, J Borin, J Lester, G Lorentz, T Seres, R Klinger with Z Nagy NPC, did not take up the offer to attend the rescheduled WBF event in Paris).

VB reported on complaints from two players about the ABF's interpretation of the nomination mechanism to the open events which the WBF makes available every fourth year to bridge players from all over the world. The Committee decided that there is conflicting information issued by the WBF on the subject. DY delegated to contact Anna Gudge for clarification and notify the players accordingly.

ACTION DY.

(ii) WBF affiliation fees for 2002

Paid.

(iii) WBF Playing Cards

The Committee considered whether ABF Marketing would purchase WBF playing cards for re-sale to Clubs. Under review .

(iv) WBF Committee of Honour.

The Committee supported the recommendation of J Wignall that Mark Hoddler, Joan Gerard and Panos Gerontopoulos be nominated to the WBF Committee of Honour. **ACTION VB**

(v) World Bridge News, March 2002 Issue.

Received at the Secretariat in May and copies distributed to all State Associations and the Management Committee. Unfortunately, there are not enough copies to

also distribute to Councillors.

c) *Senior's Playoff.*

Comments received from participants indicate a well organised and well run event thanks to D Stern. The cheque distribution system worked well.

d) *Player Liaison Questionnaires*

All forwarded to P Gue.

e) *Planning*

VB indicated that a planning strategy is required for the Secretariat's involvement in tournament matters.

f) *Commonwealth Nations Bridge Championships.*

Email dated 8/4/02 received at the Secretariat (circulated to MC) from John Rudolf of the EBU Organising Committee . VB responded to #3 (history of the ABF) and referred the remaining queries #1 and #2 to ER and DY. **ACTION ER/DY**

g) *Meetings*

The Presidents meeting will be held at NSWBA on 15 June.

The Management Committee meeting will be held on 16 June.

The ABF ANC Meeting will be held at the Wrest Point Casino, Hobart, on 3 August.

The date for the ABF AGM for 2003 is 15/16 March, venue Canberra.

h) *Youth Fundraising.*

D Stern is remitting to the ABF instalments of money collected by fundraising for the youth. The total raised is \$7,260.00.

Gold Coast Youth Individual

M Wilkinson paid re Gold Coast Youth Individual.

i) *BAWA*

Notice received of new Executive Officer, John Beddow.

j) *G Quittner*

Email from G Quittner dated 21/4 tabled. To be an agenda item for June MCM. **ACTION DY.**

k) *Certificate of Currency.*

VB reiterated that this is available for downloading from the web site at

www.abf.com.au/clubs/insurance.html

All insurance queries to be referred to Treasurer Justin Stark, all claims to be

made by the claimant directly to the Broker.

l) *Request by Canadian player.*

Response from the ACBL tabled. Matter progressing. **ACTION VB**

m) *Public Officer*

The appropriate office in Canberra has been notified of the change of ABF Treasurer. Form from the Auditor required. **ACTION GJ/VB.**

10 **General Business**

a) *Remuneration review for Executive Secretary*

(VB left the room during discussion). A 3% increase in line with CPI backdated to the AGM approved.

b) *Policy re invitations to Australian teams to overseas events.*

To be considered in conjunction with the paper on captains responsibilities. *cf* 3 (viii).

The meeting closed at 3.00pm

Meeting of the James O'Sullivan Trust
Held at 26 Blair Street, Bondi.
Commencing at 3pm

Present :

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

Hervey Bay loan application \$20,000 approved subject to satisfactory response to J Stark's concerns. ACTION JS.

The trustees, noting that the bank balance of JOS was \$8800 on 28 March, request a further draw-down of \$20,000 from the ABF. Approved. ACTION VB

Port Macquarie Hastings Bridge Association.

Resolved that Port Macquarie Hastings Bridge Association be paid \$306.45 being overpayment of final settlement of loan repayment. ACTION VB

Sapphire Bridge Club

The Treasurer asked to follow up. ACTION JS.

The meeting concluded at 3.20pm.