

**Minutes of Management Committee Meetings  
January 26/27 2003.  
Meeting on 26 January held at Capital Tower Apartments, ACT.  
Meeting on 27 January held at ABF Office, Fyshwick ACT.  
The meetings commenced at 10am both days.**

**1. Present**

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

Eric Ramshaw present part meeting Saturday, full meeting Sunday.

Note by Minute Secretary.

The Chairman exercised his discretion to deal with items not necessarily in agenda order.

**2. Confirmation of meeting held 30 Dec/1Dec 2002**

Minutes confirmed

**3. Important matters arising.**

a) *PABF participation by Australia 2003.*

A general discussion took place.

b) *Nationwide Pairs*

Discussion deferred to Sunday meeting. Refer to item 10b.

c) *On line bridge*

DY spoke to his precirculated report. It was decided to invite Dennis Robson to address the Gold Coast Management Committee meeting. ACTION DY.

The Technology Committee to prepare a list of questions. ACTION DY.

d) *Playoffs 2003*

A preliminary discussion took place without the Chair of the Tournament Committee being present. (He is now playing in the Round of 16 of the NOT). The matter will be raised again when he joins the meeting.

During the Sunday meeting, a discussion took place re which ABF officials should be in attendance at the 2003 Playoffs. The Management Committee recommended that the Chairman of the Tournament Committee acquire the following people:

- Chairman of the Tournament Unit
- Chief Director
- Technical Manager
- Floor Manager
- Chairman of the Appeals Committee

e) *Newsletter. ABF right of reply.*

The President to write to the ABF Newsletter Editors expressing the Management Committee's disappointment that it had not received the right to give a reasonable reply in the same issue (to the Klinger article). ACTION KM.

f) *ABF Tournament Unit attendance at the Playoffs*

A budget from the Chair of the Tournament Unit requested. ACTION JS

g) *Eligibility of Seamus Browne*

There was a discussion on the eligibility of Seamus Browne to participate in our Playoffs. General Counsel asserted that in response to her direct question, that as S Browne has agreed to "show" his passport to a member nominated by General Counsel, the matter will then be closed. She further advised that Australian citizens do not need to meet residency requirements.

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h) *Subsidies for Zone 7 Championships*

Treasurer to determine player entitlements and any other associated financials. ACTION JS.

i) *Nomination of alternate*

In the event that the Chairman of the Tournament Committee is participating in an event and is unable to advise on technical matters pertaining to that event, advice should be sought from the Secretary of the Tournament Committee. (see note appended to Minutes). It was reaffirmed that the Convenor makes the final decision as stipulated in the regulations for that event. Secretary to inform convenors. ACTION DY.

Note by Minute Secretary re item 3(i):

For post-meeting clarification, refer to note appended to the end of these minutes.

#### 4. **President's Report**

a) *AGM*

The Management Committee supported the suggestion that L Kelso be appointed a Supplemental Councillor. Motion by EM required for AGM. ACTION KM/EM.

b) *Capitation fee rise*

Must be approved at AGM in 2003 to take effect for the capitation fee in 2004. The WBF fee will be \$1. It was decided to add another \$1 to help pay the cost of ABF liability insurance policy for clubs. The capitation fee therefore will be \$12 including GST. General Counsel to draft notification to be distributed to all States by Secretariat within the required time frame. ACTION EM/VB.

c) *Venue for AGM*

VB to liaise with Andrew Richman re his offer to provide a venue with discounted accommodation for delegates for the AGM, and to obtain a quote including a dinner on site on the Saturday evening for the delegates. ACTION VB

*d) Delegates*

The Secretariat to write to all State Secretaries requesting information of the status of those delegates due for re-election in 2003. ACTION VB.

**5. ABF Secretariat Report**

*a) Distribution to the Management Committee since December 2002 meeting  
(meeting notes in parentheses)*

- D Smyth's email re "advertorials" re Newsletter – (deferred)
- J de Ravin's query re new membership for clubs – (pending)
- WBF minutes and reports
- Final minutes of December Management Committee meeting
- J Damiani's Christmas message and reference to Ecats website
- Fwd from Grattan Endicott re minutes from Montreal. (to be distributed to States. ACTION VB).
- Australian Swiss Pairs report from 2002 Convenor, Norma Smith

*b) Other Secretariat Items*

*(i) Release of latest Tournament Committee minutes*

On hold pending advice. Refer item 8j.

*(ii) New Certificate of Currency*

Uploaded on to ABF website (with pointer on front page) for club officials to download.

*(iii) Montreal Seniors.*

Payment from J Borin noted. (See also item 6a)

*(iv) Sanction fee for 2002 ANOT.*

\$1500 received.

*(v) Masterpoint Centre Report*

The report (for the AGM) received and circulated to KM/JS. Treasurer to discuss item 4.6 with J Hansen. ACTION JS.

*(vi) ANC Fines*

All fines pertaining to the 2002 ANC are now paid.

*(vii) Email from Sartaj Hans "Observations on SNOT & GNOT Finals"*

Sent to ER, KM and the convenors.

*(viii) GNOT fees for 2003*

Memo sent to all State Secretaries. (The 2003 GNOT costs will be \$660 per team to the GNOT Final + \$10 for each club entry).

(ix) *Banking records of cheques issued and deposits made since last meeting*  
Tabled.

(x) *Insurance of ABF Library*

Treasurer to liaise with Tim Bourke and report to Management Committee.  
ACTION JS.

(xi) *Consideration of Australia hosting 2005 WJC*

Secretariat to obtain necessary signatures and send the letter dated 25/1/03 to Panos Gerontopoulos. ACTION VB

(xii) *Committee Reports*

The Secretariat requested reports from the Chairs of all Committees for this meeting. Reports received, with thanks, and tabled:

- ABF Youth Committee (D Lusk)
- Technology Committee (D Yovich)
- Library Report (T Bourke)
- Masterpoint Committee Report (D Anderson)

(xiii) *Committee of Honour*

It was suggested that the dates that recipients were elected to the ABF Committee of Honour should be recorded. ACTION VB.

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## 6. **Treasurers Report**

a) *Montreal Seniors*

Treasurer to obtain payment from the two players involved. ACTION JS.

b) *Hobart ANC.*

No financial report received. ACTION JS.

c) *Spring Nationals/GNOT*

Financial report sent to President.

d) *Darwin ANC*

Budget received by Treasurer.

e) *Helpers Paper*

Holding

f) *QBA teaching request*

Finalised

- g) *Credit Card facilities for ABF event entry*  
Pending.
- h) *Masterpoint Centre matters*  
Refer to Secretary's report  
Notice of Motion (Capitation fee). Refer to item 4b
- i) *ANC GST matter*  
Finalised

j) *Youth*

The Treasurer reported that the ABF funded \$515 re the January youth event in Canberra for a booking at Fenner Hall (to be floated as deposit for next year)

**7. Secretary's Report**

- a) *Hansen Contract.*  
Noted that the MP Centre Manager's contract is in place until 31 December 2004
- b) *PABF NPC Youth team report*  
Report still not received. ACTION DY
- c) *Web charges for ABF events.*  
DY to provide the Secretariat with information for the billing of events.  
ACTION DY.
- d) *Net impact of ANC – revision of Handbook*  
Revised ANC handbook to be available for mid year AGM. Secretary has provided Chairman of the Tournament Committee with preliminary modifications for his review. ACTION ER.
- e) *Kelso re Chairman of Alerts & Regs Committee.*  
Done
- f) *Technology issues re MP Centre.*  
Finalised
- g) *D Smyth re 10% fee*  
Done
- h) *Newsletter issues*  
DY to write to Andrew Richman to follow up resolution of his suggestion.  
ACTION DY.
- i) *Bridge Column starter pack*  
Done

j) *Forest BC*

Done However, DY to obtain the address of the Equal Opportunities Commission contact from JA. ACTION DY.

k) *Patent query*

General Counsel to follow up. ACTION EM.

l) *Publication of appeals*

Done

m) *Chariots*

Chariots have been returned from Hobart ANC.

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The meeting concluded at 4pm.

## 8. General Counsel

a) *Redraft of Declaration of Availability*

Minor changes completed. General Counsel to consider the legal implications of sending a team to a country deemed unsafe by the Australian Government.  
ACTION EM

b) *Eligibility regs for Playoffs*

Further discussion. No resolution. Agenda item for February meeting. ACTION DY.

c) *PQP Procedure*

Refer to 9a. Resolved.

d) *Youth Declaration of Availability*

General Counsel reported that this has been redrafted.

e) *Forest BC*

Refer to item 7j

f) *Privacy Legislation re web*

General Counsel reported that this has been actioned by JA. She advised that the number of masterpoints held by a player does not come under the category of sensitive information, thus the accessing of them does not present a problem.

g) *ABTA Insurance*

The ABTA advised its insurance policy has lapsed. Regarding the question of whether the ABTA would be covered under the ABF blanket policy, General Counsel advised that they would be covered if teaching in a club but would not be covered if teaching elsewhere. ACTION JS

h) *Rights of ABF Players*

Written opinion requested from EM. ACTION EM

i) *Licences*

9c also refers.

j) *TC Minute Circulation*

General Counsel has now provided the statement to accompany the release of the minutes.

k) *Summer Festival Bulletin*

General Counsel reported on an incident arising from issue #3 of the Summer Festival Bulletin which contained an article capable of being defamatory. The Committee decided to advise all convenors that, should a litigious matter arise by publication in a bulletin, ABF General Counsel must be contacted and her advice followed. ACTION DY.

l) *Publication of appeals procedures*

The first 6 months of appeals have been uploaded on to the ABF website. P Gue will send the next six months to General Counsel to vet for legal issues. Most SF appeals were published in the Summer Festival bulletins. Identities of players are suppressed, but not directors. It was reiterated that General Counsel should be the recipient of all appeals forms before copies are distributed. ACTION EM.

## 9. **Tournament Committee Report**

a) *PQP Management – collection of forms*

Any player seeking senior PQP will need to register DOB with the Masterpoint Centre effective from the 2003 Gold Coast Congress. Notification to be inserted in Newsletter and MP Centre to be advised. ACTION DY.

b) *Licence Matters*

ER reported that the ANC Convenor is keen to have the increase in ABPC entry fees and a licence fee associated with the increase in entry fees was proposed.

The Committee decided to establish a licence fee on the ABPC of 10% of the masterpoint fee for the year 2003. The matter will be reviewed for following years. ACTION DY/ER.

c) *PO Box*

Pending

d) *Spring Nationals/GNOT venue*

The Committee considered the request from K Crowe-Mai. DY to write to NSWBA to relay the decision to use Hakoah as a venue for 2003. The venue for 2004 to be an

agenda item at a Management Committee meeting later this year. ACTION DY.

e) *Australian Teams*

ER pointed out that there is an (unconsidered) result of the Tournament Committee policy not allowing the same team to represent in two events and the ABF policy on free entry to ABF events. The Management Committee agreed that two teams in each of the four categories could become entitled to free entry to one ABF event.

f) *Cartage*

Playoff material needs to be transported from Canberra to Sydney and return. The ABF needs to address payment to those concerned.

g) *Playoff Entry*

The entries are on the ABF website together with their PQP and ranking.

h) *Tournament Committee Meeting*

There was no Tournament Committee meeting during the Summer Festival.

i) *Summer Festival*

The feeling of the Committee was that the ABF imprint needs to be more visible at this event.

**10. General Business**

a) *Article in ABF Newsletter*

There was a lengthy discussion on the format of the Playoffs (having regard for recent comments published in the ABF Newsletter). The Management Committee, after careful consideration, reiterated its support for the Tournament Committee recommendations and regretted that it had not received advice from the Player Liaison Committee, which it requested in its minutes of June 2002. However, the Secretary of the Tournament Committee to be asked to prepare a brief statement to be vetted by the Chairman and General Counsel and placed on the ABF website. Secretary to implement all. ACTION DY

b) *ABF Nationwide Pairs* ([www.nationwidepairs.com.au](http://www.nationwidepairs.com.au))

JS reported that 500 brochures were distributed at the Summer Festival. The proposed commencement date is 29 March. Clubs need to register on the internet address for each event they wish to play. This registration is free.

The meeting concluded at 3pm.

*Post-meeting note to item 3(i)*

The MC Jan 03 minutes suggest that there is some confusion about my "alternate". There are three functions for an ABF event:

ABF Tournament Committee - sets up the general parameters of an ABF event. *The Chairman's alternate, although unlikely to be necessary, should be the Secretary of the TC whose decision should be final.*

Tournament Unit Chairman - mandates, in advance, the detail of running the event according to the parameters defined, in advance, by the ABF TC. Pontificates on problems of organisation arising during the event. *The convener's views need consideration but the decision of the alternate (Secretary of the TC) should be final unless the Supplementary Regulations mandate otherwise.*

Event Tournament Sub-Committee - mandated by the Supplementary Regulations to consider matters defined by the ABF Tournament Regulations. *Neither Chairman of this Committee nor the Convener need to participate in its deliberations. If involved it is normal for the Chairman to request the Convener's assistance in setting up the sub-committee. Note that the Convener could be "contaminated". The decision of the Committee can not be overturned by the Convener.*

## ACTION ITEMS FROM JANUARY MINUTES

### K. McDonald

Item	
3e	Newsletter, ABF right of reply
4a	Supplemental Councillors

### D Yovich

Item	
3c	On line Bridge (2 actions)
3l	Nomination of alternate
7b	PABF NPC report
7c	Web charges
7h	Newsletter issues
7j	Forest BC
8b	Eligibility regs for Playoffs
8k	Letter to all convenors
9a	Article in Newsletter
9b	Licence matters
9d	Spring Nats/GNOT venue
10a	Article in January Newsletter
10h	Klinger article – write to JB

### E Magner

Item	
4a	Notice for AGM
4b	Notification for AGM & advise time frame
7k	Patent query
8a	Redraft of Declaration of Availability
8h	Rights of ABF players
8l	Appeals procedures

### J Stark

Item	
3f	TOU at Playoffs
3h	Subsidies for Z7
5b v	MP Centre Report
5bx	Insurance for Library
6a	Montreal Seniors
6b	Hobart ANC
8g	ABTA insurance
9b	Nationwide Pairs

V Brockwell

Item	
4b	Capitation fee notice for AGM
4c	Liaise with A Richman
4d	Contact all States re AGM
5c	Fwd G Endicott's Minutes to States
5xi	Letter to Panos Gerontopoulos
5 xiii	Committee of Honour

E Ramshaw

Item	
7d	ANC handbook
9b	Licence matters