

ABF Management Committee Meeting
May 10/11 2003
26 Blair St Bondi

1) Present

K McDonald (KM) (Chair), D Yovich (DY), J Stark (JS), E Ramshaw (ER), J Arkininstall (JA), V Brockwell (VB)

Apology
E Magner

2) Confirmation of March meeting.

Minutes confirmed.

3) Matters arising from February Minutes

a) *ANT entry form corrections*

Age error for Seniors has been corrected.

b) *NPC Duties*

Not yet finalised. **Action DY.**

c) *Commonwealth Games.*

General discussion. JS to contact Dennis Robson re how the Manchester event started. JS will again liaise with G Gaspar to see if he will consider taking on role of Convenor. **Action JS.**

d) *Edwards convention card problems.*

Refer problems to Technology Committee. **Action JS.**

e) *GNOT*

DY to contact J Brockwell to ascertain regional GNOT winners, then to inform J Hansen to issue certificates. **Action DY.**

f) *Online Bridge*

Pending response/information from Nick Justice. **Action DY.**

g) *Summer Festival*

DY to advise J Scudder that the Echelon contract is extended until 2005. **Action DY.**

h) *Drug Policy*

JA to send copy of WBF Drug Policy to DY. Drug Policy to subsequently be placed on the website. **Action JA/DY**

i) *SNOT venue 2003*

Completed.

j) *ANC License fee*

DY to advise J Hansen that Butler licence fee is 10% of masterpoint costs. J Hansen will invoice the ANC convenor. **Action DY.**

License fees re the Butler to be communicated to all State Secretaries. **Action DY**

List "license fee" as topic for Presidents Meeting. **Action DY**

k) *Newsletter Matters*

(i)KM to liaise with D Smyth re right of reply. **Action KM**

- (ii) Email from P Lavings.
Tabled. Matter not finalised. Advice to be sought from General Counsel. DY will acknowledge P Lavings's letter and KM to communicate with D Smyth. **Action DY/KM.**
- (iii) On-line newsletter size increase to be referred to D Smyth. **Action DY.**
- l) *Web charges for ABF events.*
DY to notify the Executive Secretary of invoices and amounts. **Action DY**
- m) *Nomination of alternate*
Finalised.
- n) *PQP Coordinator*
Points are now on line.
- o) *ABTA Insurance*
Completed.
- p) *Hobart ANC*
Balance sheet received at AGM.
Thank you letter received from TBA re the ABF's one-off payment for engraving Hobart ANC trophies.
- q) *Subsidies for PABF & Zone 7*
Completed.
- r) *Patent Query*
Pending. **Action KM.**
- s) *Subsidy for WA players to Playoff.*
Pending. **Action KM.**
- t) *Eligibility form improvement.*
Pending . Noted the confusion between availability forms vs eligibility forms. The Declaration of Availability needs to be discussed under PABF. The system for Eligibility needs to be listed for the next meeting as there is still tuning to be done. **Action DY.**
- u) *PABF*
Due to the SARS threat, the PABF organisers have postponed the event from May to early September.
- v) *ABF brochures.*
Not finalised. Secretary to contact Chair of Marketing Committee. **Action DY.**
- w) *Response to Klinger on Playoff.*
Resolved.
- x) *Playoff*
Trophies still required. ER to obtain quotes. **Action ER**
Open = Tim Seres Trophy. Womens = Lidia Beech Trophy. Seniors = Ivy Dahler Trophy. Youth = Helman Trophy. President to contact Rabbi Helman **Action KM.**
- 4) Matters arising (March minutes)**
- a) *Next MC invitees.Meeting.*
Completed.
- b) *Issues arising from 2002 AGM.*
Finalised.

5) Presidents Report.

a) *Dates for Presidents Meeting and next MCM (Sydney).*

Presidents meeting – 28 June – Sydney from 10am-4pm. VB to inform Presidents of parameters (CT etc..) and also request agenda topics. **Action VB.**

JA to investigate conference facilities near to the airport. **Action JA.**

The next Management Committee meeting will be 29 June.

President ABDA

At this stage, 12:00 Saturday, John McIlrath, President of the ABTA joined the meeting. He tabled a bound presentation compendium and discussed the relationship between the ABF and the ABDA.

- Need to have briefing for directors prior to the commencement of events. This is especially apparent in major events with system cards rules, alert regulations etc.
- Need to feed information via the bulletin.
- Masterpoint training required with State Masterpoint Secretary. The director prepares masterpoints. Need a “FAQ” on masterpoints for small clubs.
- Need uniformity for state directors. Panel arrangement for accreditation.
- Would like a TD session prior to the commencement of the Summer Festival.
- Uniform standards across the State Associations. Accreditation transferable between states if national accreditation.
- Looking at a fast track scheme for directors to state accreditation. NSW has a three month programme. Must have a training process.
- Handbook for regulations, information etc.. for directors.
- Funding not requested from ABF.

The Chair thanked John McIlrath who then left the meeting.

6. Secretariat Report

a) *List of significant emails to MC since last meeting.*

- ◆ D Stern (18/3) re Tasmanian Youth team. Discuss in General Business.
- ◆ D Anderson (26/3) Re Australian/NZ masterpoints. Discuss in General Business.
- ◆ D Pocock (28/3). Discuss in General Business.
- ◆ R Solomon (8/4). Discuss in General Business.
- ◆ Bill Haughie (28/4) re D Stern as captain of the Seniors Team for Monaco. Appointment ratified. DY to inform Bill Haughie, cc D Stern. **Action DY.**

b) *Executive Secretary*

In discussion, the Executive Secretary advised her availability until at least the 2006 AGM. The Management Committee confirmed its commitment to retaining the ABF headquarters office in Canberra.

c) *Hand Generation costs.*

Hand generation fee raised to 15c per deal, minimum order \$25 (plus GST).

d) *Email from Daniel Neil, Lexington*

Concept approved in principle provided no cost involved. **Action JS.**

e) *MP Centre bills.*

Payment approved for masterpoint bills for the youth event in Canberra in January and the Playoffs.

Action VB.

f) *Newsletter*

A query arose about how Newsletter inserts and ads are costed. The methodology is that the Secretariat receives all costs for each issue from the Editors and sends out invoices accordingly. (Likewise, the

Editors supply the names, addresses and amounts to be paid to people who write articles. Cheques are then mailed out from the Secretariat).

g) Management Committee Minutes

The distribution of original Management Committee minutes is unresolved. To be an agenda item for the June meeting. Advice to be sought from EM on distribution and access to players, states, councillors, committee members etc. **Action DY.**

7. Treasurers Report

a) Journal entry sheets

Bank reconciliation as at 30 April tabled.

b) Hobby Forms

It was reinforced that Hobby Forms for taxation purposes need to be retained by the ABF. The form does not need to be lodged on an annual basis. The responsibility for the declaration is with the person claiming the status.

c) Youth Coordinator

GST query re invoices from Youth Coordinator . **Action JS.**

d) Ozemail Account for webmasters.

The Treasurer has cancelled the Ozemail email account and arranged for refund. The \$50 annual dialup account has been retained for the webmasters and paid for by the ABF.

8. Secretary's Report

a) Web Report

The Secretary tabled the latest monthly website statistics report.

b) Letter from Human Rights Commission regarding the foreign language issue.

DY received a letter from the Commission thanking the ABF for our assistance. There have been quite a number of inquiries and positive comments from players concerning this issue.

9. Legal Counsel's Report.

No items discussed in EM's absence.

However, (i) noted that Licence Agreement is not yet under control. **Action EM** and (ii) General Counsel needs to resolve the issue of 9H on the February minutes. **Action EM**

10. Tournament Committee Report.

a) Meetings

The Tournament Committee has not met so far this year. A decision was taken that the Tournament Committee should hold weekend meetings in Melbourne or Sydney twice a year, five people being the unit size. The meetings are not to be held in conjunction with a bridge event. It is the view of the Management Committee that these meetings need their own time slot. Suggested timing May and September/November. **Action ER.**

b)Playoff Format for 2004

A Pairs format for 2004 was approved at the September 2002 TC Meeting, the minutes of which were circulated to all State Secretaries. DY to promulgate in next issue of Newsletter. **Action DY**

c) Format for Summer Festival

Format for 2004 will remain basically unchanged. The Convenor has approval for timing changes for session times if thought desirable. A questionnaire will go out re the format of the 2005 Summer Festival.

d) *Clash of dates.*

(i) The ANOT organisers are concerned that there will be a clash of dates with the NSWBA Waterfront Congress in Sydney. There is no policy regarding the clash of events. The Management Committee understood the concerns of the ANOT organisers, but believed it was not an issue that the Management Committee could change. The situation will be kept under review.

(ii) For the 2004 calendar, the WBF BB/VC is close to ASP and Spring Nationals. The latter has a fixed date, but as the ASP is flexible, ER to write to Tasmanians organisers re the date of the 2004 ASP with a request for consideration of separation from the BB/VC. **Action ER**

e) *ANC Handicapping System for smaller states.*

The Tournament Committee is considering Bill Jacob's suggestion of running a handicapping system in conjunction with the main event. ER pointed out that there would be a cost in human terms. It was decided not to use handicaps in 2003 but refer this suggestion to President's Meeting. **Action DY**

f) *Bidding Boxes in ABF Finals.*

The Committee decided to revert to written bidding instead of using bidding boxes. This gives journalists such as R Klinger a written record. DY to speak to R Klinger about getting a link to his website. **Action DY.**

g) *Helpers Paper*

The Treasurer will produce a draft revision of the Helpers Paper for the June meeting. **Action JS.**

h) *Playoff Trophies*

Standard wording as on previous trophies should be used on new ones.

i) *Zone 7 Invoices*

VB to write to J Wignall supplying member numbers of the ABF (as per WBF) and requesting invoice for membership. Also to request invoice for team entries to Zone 7 in Tahiti. **Action VB.**

j) *Rights and responsibilities of kibitzers*

This subject to be referred to the National Authority. **Action DY.**

11. **General Business**

a) *ABF Committee Deliverables for 2003*

Each committee structure discussed. The Secretary to make the agreed changes and circulate. **Action DY**

b) *Commonwealth Games in Melbourne*

Refer to item 3c

c) *ABF MP Newsletter*

The Committee expressed concern with some of the membership figures in the latest Masterpoint Newsletter. DY to write to Presidents of BFACT and BAWA asking for feedback on membership decline and to Tasmania congratulating them on their membership increase. **Action DY**

d) *Executive Secretary remuneration*

VB left the room during this discussion. An increase of 3% approved backdated to last AGM, (15/16 March). There was an unresolved query as to whether national wage case has an effect.

e) *Nationwide Pairs*

JS to write a letter to all clubs. **Action JS**

The Committee felt there is a need for a formal contract with Q van Abbe (75% ABF/25% organisers) to be vetted by General Counsel. A report from the organisers is required on a quarterly basis. **Action JS.**

- f) *Web charges for Convenors*
Done.
- g) *Web liaison with webmasters*
Noted that communications with webmasters should be via the ABF Secretary. DY to prepare a document similar to the ABF Committee deliverables that covers the webmasters and the Newsletter editors. This document to be compiled with reference to respective Committees.
Action DY.
- h) *Clashes between ANC & NZ Congress (K Crowe-Mai, R Solomon correspondence)*
No changes for 2003.

NZ does not intend to change its future dates for the NZ Nationals which are:
July 3-10 2004: July 2-9 2005, July 1-8 2006.

ER has responded to R Solomon on the issue of ANC dates. Dates to be sent to K Crowe-Mai.
Action JS.

The ABF is not willing to be involved in the proposed Trans Tasman Masters Games because it clashes with our Playoffs. **Action ER.**
- i) *Manufacture of chariots*
Chariots have been recovered. It was agreed that these chariots were the property of BAWA. Decision taken to courier from NSWBA to Perth if BAWA wanted the chariots.. **Action ER**
ER to review ABF tournament equipment requirements across Australia. **Action ER.**
- j) *Delegate for PABF*
VB to query J Greenfeld's availability for early September. If Joe is unavailable, P Gue has volunteered. **Action KM**
- k) *D Pocock letter re ABF*
DY will respond to D Pocock as the delegate representing WA. KM will respond as President of the ABF. **Action DY/KM.**
- l) *Reciprocity of NZ and ABF Masterpoints (correspondence from Hansen and Anderson)*
The Secretary to write to D Anderson (cc J Hansen) that the Management Committee considered the correspondence and determined that players, irrespective of rank and nationality, could convert two A points (New Zealand) for one gold point (Australia). **Action DY.**
- m) *Credit Card payment for entry to ABF events.*
Approval granted for JS to organise through the National Bank. Expected bank fees of 2.1% to be paid by each event. JS will also produce a letter for convenors. **Action JS.**
- n) *Contracts with States for licensed events*
DY has constructed two documents for the new Perth events. Two year period. Contracts need to be drawn up for all licensed events. **Action JS.**
- o) *TBA Youth Funding*
Completed.
- p) *Summer Festival*
J Scudder was allowed to negotiate directly with the successful 2003 tenderers. Tendering will recommence in 2004.
- q) *PABF*
Assuming the event is held in early September, the same teams will be the ABF representative teams. If a team does not go, the standard policy of handing down the rights to the next team will be implemented. VB to write to captains (J Roberts for Open & Womens and A Walsh for Seniors) that the ABF needs to know whether the whole team is willing to participate in early September. The ABF will decide the subsidy closer to the event. **Action VB.**

Each member of the team is expected to return the signed waiver and Declaration of Availability by 25 June. ER to liaise with EM on an urgent basis. The ABF will not enter a Youth team. JA to get insurance quotes for cancellation costs. **Action ER/JA/VB.**

The QBA is prepared to host a future PABF Championship in Queensland subject to appropriate contracts. PABF delegate to be asked to raise at Delegate's meeting. **Action KM.**

Indemnity Agreement

Whereas the team members have indicated a desire to take the opportunity to play internationally and to receive the subsidy designated for that purpose by the Australian Bridge Federation

I hereby agree to indemnify the Australian Bridge Federation against any claim for liability in negligence that might arise out of any injury or illness I might sustain by reason of or in the course of my travel overseas for this purpose.

- r) *Should states run a veteran's event in the MP scheme.*
The Committee decided (JA dissenting) to advise D Anderson that the ABF is considering the creation of a veterans (65+) category and enquire what red point scale is appropriate. There will not be a veterans event at the ANC. **Action DY**
- s) *GNOT/Spring Nationals relationship*
Following a meeting between KM, JS and Frank Budai, it was decided that the GNOT Final and Spring Nationals should be re-structured as two separate events with two separate convenors and two separate accounts. Convenors to negotiate directly with the Tournament Unit.
- t) *D Stern query re Bermuda Bowl subsidies*
The event is in Monaco from 3-15 November. (13 days duration). The ABF will send three teams. A subsidy of \$4000 per player agreed. Players responsible for insurance. Players to sign same waiver and Declaration of Availability as the PABF teams.
- u) *Letter from GH Coope r re Australian Bridge and ABF Newsletter*
The President to respond. **Action KM.**
- v) *ABF Manual Copies*
Forward hardcopy (or electronic copy if possible) to those Management Committee members who do not have a copy and include a deadline for receipt of comments. **Action VB**
- w) *Strategic planning*
The Secretary to write to J Hansen. **Action DY.**
- x) *ANC review*
VB ask Julia Hoffman if a draft of the ANC Review Committee could be available for the Presidents Meeting. **Action VB.**
- y) *Increase in MP Fees*
Agenda item for next meeting. **Action DY.**
- y) *WBF Simultaneous Pairs.*
Noted
- z) *Single Member Clubs.*
Defer to next meeting. **Action JS**
- aa) *Restricted events*
Sent to MP Centre.

There being no further business, the meeting concluded at 3pm.

