

TC MINUTES SEPTEMBER 2004

ZONE 7 CHAMPIONSHIPS – 2005.

AUSTRALIAN TEAMS PLAYOFFS – 2005.

AUSTRALIAN INTERNATIONAL TEAMS – 2004.

AUSTRALIAN OPEN PAIRS

AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

VCC

FEEDER EVENT FOR THE FOR THE OPEN PLAYOFF.

GENERAL TOURNAMENT MATTERS Regulations, Scoring errors, Mobile phones, Bridge Base Online

DRUGS TESTING POLICY.

RESOLUTIONS OF THE MEETING.

09.04.01 Zone 7 Championships 2005

The 2005 Zone 7 Championships will be held in Christchurch from Thursday to Sunday 12-15 May. The tournament will comprise teams championships for Open, Women's and Seniors. Australia will be represented by one team in each championship. It was resolved that the Declaration of Availability should require the arrival in Christchurch of Australian players not less than 24 hours before start of **play**.

09.04.02 Dates for 2005 Playoffs

It was noted that the 2005 Playoffs will be played under a teams format and that each team must comprise six players. The dates for the Open and Women's Playoffs will be Thursday to Monday 17-21 March. The dates for the Seniors Playoff will be Thursday to Monday 14-18 April.

09.04.03 International target events for 2005

Playoff winners – their choice of (i) Zone 7 Championship and, if they qualify, the Bermuda Bowl/Venice Cup, or (ii) PABF Championships.

Playoff runners-up – the choice rejected by the Playoff winners.

09.04.04 Australian teams building weekend

It was resolved that an international teams building weekend become an annual event and that attendance at it be compulsory as a condition set out in the Declaration of Availability (to represent Australia in international events).

09.04.05 Australian Open Pairs Championship

The meeting recommended that an Australian Open Pairs Championship (AOP) become part of the Spring Nationals, held annually in Sydney, starting in 2005. It is proposed that the AOP should be a four-session event held on the first weekend of the Spring Nationals. The AOP can be accommodated by starting the Spring Nationals one day earlier, from the Wednesday before the second Friday in November.

09.04.06 Butler Pairs Championships (ANC)

It was resolved that, for future Open, Women's and Seniors Butler Championships, Stage 1 (A) be played with separate N/S and E/W fields over 12 ten-board rounds using "leaders' Butler" scoring.

09.04.07 ANC Pairs Championships

Currently, entry to the various ANC Pairs Championships is limited to 3 entries per event per State (plus reserves). It was resolved that the limitation should be lifted and that, for future ANCs, States should have unlimited entries to ANC Pairs Championships. In addition, pairs from within a state may enter of their own volition provided that they obtain endorsement from the State body. Non-state pairings will not be permitted.

09.04.08 New events for the VCC

Victoria has requested that, from 2005, it be permitted to stage a Women's Teams and a Restricted Teams to run concurrently with the McCance Seniors Teams (within the VCC tournament). It was resolved to give the proposal a one-year trial (2005) and to reconsider the matter at the first TC meeting following the 2005 VCC.

09.04.09 Pre-qualifier event for the 2006 Open Playoff (pairs format)

It was resolved to introduce an additional means of entry to the 2006 Open Playoffs (pairs format), *viz.* a pairs qualifying event. Temporarily, and for want of a better name, the event will be called Open Playoff Pre-Qualifier. Details are as follows:

- i. Entry will be open to any pair, free of any restriction relating to PQPs.

- ii. The event will be held in Canberra on Thursday and Friday 12-13 January 2006.
- iii. The event will conclude before the closing date for nominations for the 2006 Open Playoff.
- iv. The format will be Butler pairs.
- v. The event will qualify 2 pairs (or 3 pairs if the field is sufficiently large) to play in the Open Playoff in 2006. The 2 leading pairs must advise the ABF Secretariat of their intentions to participate in the Playoff by 4.00pm on 16 January 2006. (Qualification for the other 14 places in the 2006 Open Playoff will be, as usual, via PQPs.)
- vi. Pairs may enter the Pre-Qualifier even though they have no intention of participating in the Playoff. However, such pairs must advise the Convenor of their non-contending status before the event commences.
- vii. The entry fee will be substantial (approximately \$200 per player).
- viii. Qualification *via* the Pre-Qualifier does not absolve qualifiers from liability for the standard entry fee to enter the Playoff nor does it imply eligibility for travel subsidy.

09.04.10 Redraw in Swiss events following discovery of a scoring error

It was noted that the current tournament regulations do not make provision for a redraw in Swiss events after the draw has been posted. In certain circumstances, this regulation will be relaxed so that scoring errors that are the fault of tournament organisers do not result in injustices in the draw.

09.04.11 ABF Tournament Regulations

It was resolved that the ABF should employ some appropriate person to have an updated version of the ABF Tournament Regulations in final form and ready for implementation by 31 December 2005.