

AUSTRALIAN BRIDGE FEDERATION 2015 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Novotel Hotel, Northbourne Avenue, Canberra

Saturday 18th April and Sunday 19th May 2015

Start Time: 9.30am both days

1. Identification of Attendees

1.1 Roll Call

ACT	R Nixon, M Bookallil
NSW	B Neill, John Scudder (Deputy Councillor 3 rd Vote)
NT	J Herring (2 Votes)
QLD	G Rusher (2 Votes)
SA	T O'Loughlin, P Gue
TAS	H Grosvenor, D Cooper
VIC	B Morgan, S Hinge
WA	N Dutton, A Stralow
General Counsel	R Harms
Supplemental	D Morgan
Minute Secretary	J Rasmussen

1.2 President welcomes new Councillors and thanks retiring Councillors and Office Bearers

President thanked Pam Nunn and Peter Kahler for their time and contribution on ABF Council, and welcomed Marianne Bookallil to Council.

1.3 Bona Fides of each person present voting or observing

Confirmed

1.4 Apologies

K McDonald, J Foster. L Kelso (Supplemental Councillor)

1.5 Appointment of Supplementary Councillors

Bruce Neill proposed the appointment of David Morgan as Supplemental Councillor, seconded by Allison Stralow. Council approved the appointment.

1.6 Chairman's power to vary Agenda as circumstances dictate

2. Minutes of Previous Annual General Meeting (24th and 25th May 2014)

2.1 Confirmation

Minutes of previous meeting were taken as confirmed.

Moved Bruce Neill, seconded Graham Rusher

2.2 Matters arising

Nil

2.3 Minutes of Previous Mid-Year Meeting (8 November 2014)

2.4 Confirmation

Minutes of previous meeting were taken as confirmed.

Moved Roy Nixon, seconded Marianne Bookallil

2.5 Matters Arising

3. Appointments

- 3.1 Public Officer – Julia Hoffman
Julia Hoffman re-appointed.
- 3.2 Auditors – Moore Stephens
Moore Stephens re-appointed
- 3.3 Delegates for Zone APBF
Bruce Neill was appointed delegate to the APBF
- 3.4 Delegates for Zone 7
Russel Harms and Julian Foster were re-appointed delegates for Zone 7

4. Notice of Motion

Proposed Amendments to Constitution and Bylaws of the Australian Bridge Federation Incorporated
Motion 1

To amend Clause 9 (2)(b) of the Constitution by adding immediately after the word “Committee” and before the words “(an Extraordinary Meeting)” the words:

“or at the request of any three State Associations addressed to the Secretary”

To amend Clause 9 (5) of the Constitution by adding immediately after the words “Management Committee” the following words:

“or in the request of the State Associations”

Proposed: Tim O’ Loughlin Seconded: Bruce Neill

Motion Carried

Motion 2

To amend Clause 9 of the Constitution by adding a further subclause 9 (11) as follows:

“9(11) The Council may impose from time to time such limitations as it sees fit on the capacity of the Management Committee to enter into any contractual obligations on behalf of the ABF or to commit the ABF to any future liability.”

Proposed: Tim O’ Loughlin Seconded: Bruce Neill

15 in favour, 2 against Motion Carried

Motion 3

To amend Clause 10 of the Constitution by adding a further sub-clause 10 (9) as follows:-

“10 (9) An officer shall, at the expiration of any term of election or appointment, be eligible for re-election or re-appointment save that no person may serve as an officer in the same capacity for more than eight (8) consecutive years except by a specific resolution of Council authorising such re-election or re-appointment notwithstanding the provisions of this clause.”

Proposed: Tim O’ Loughlin Seconded: Bruce Neill

12 in favour, 5 against Motion Defeated

Motion 4

To amend the Bylaws by adding the following By-Law after By-Law 4.13 as follows:

“4.14. Subject to the Constitution and these By-Laws, the Council or the Management Committee may create and make appointments to such other committees or sub-committees as either may see fit from time to time. Any such committee may be constituted in such manner and by such persons as the Council or management Committee see fit and will report to, and be directed by, the body which created it. Nothing herein contained shall enable the creation of a committee whose duties and responsibilities conflict with the duties and/or responsibilities of other committees created by the Constitution or by these By-Laws”.

Proposed: Tim O’ Loughlin Seconded: Bruce Neill

Motion Carried

Motion 5

To amend the Bylaws:

By deleting the following words from By-Law 4.4 “is chaired by a Councillor and”

By replacing the words “is chaired by a Councillor and its members” from By-Law 4.5 with the word “must”

By replacing the words “is chaired by a Councillor and contains” from By-Law 4.8 with the words “must contain”

Proposed: Tim O’Loughlin Seconded: Bruce Neill

Motion Carried

Motion 6

To amend the Bylaws by adding Bylaw 4.15 as follows:

Governance Committee

“4.15 The Governance Committee must be chaired by a Councillor and must include at least one other Councillor as a member. The function of the Governance Committee is to report directly to Council and make recommendations to it on matters of governance, including recommendations relating to the implementation of contemporary standards in best practical governance for incorporated associations. Notwithstanding the provisions of Bylaws 4.1 and 4.9 the members of the Governance Committee may only be appointed or removed by the Council.”

Proposed: Tim O’Loughlin Seconded: Bruce Neill

Motion Carried

The passed motions need to be voted on and approved by at least two-thirds of the States and Territories in writing to the Secretary, if the changes are to go ahead.

Action: Allison Stralow

5. Council Expectations

5.1 Adopt Statement of Expectations

Proposed T O’Loughlin, Seconded R Nixon

Motion Carried

5.2 Delegations of Authority

Proposed T O’Loughlin, Seconded R Nixon

Motion Carried

6. Executive Reports

6.1 The President

6.2 The Secretary

Reports for 2016 AGM to be submitted 5 days prior to the meeting with a reminder sent 7 days before.

Action: Jane Rasmussen

6.3 The Treasurer

6.3.1 ABF Financial Report

Council accepted the report.

6.3.2 James O’Sullivan Financial Report

Council accepted the report.

6.3.3 Review of Operations 2014 - income

6.3.4 Review of Operations 2014 – expenditure

6.3.5 Actual Vs Budget 2014

6.3.6 ABF Budget 2015

6.3.7 ABF P&L Jan-March 2015

6.4 The General Counsel – No Report

6.5 James O’Sullivan Foundation

7. Committee Reports

7.1 Tournament Committee – L. Kelso

Ongoing review of PQP allocation to ensure they are appropriate for the event. Chair of the Youth Committee requests the Tournament Committee oversees all decisions regarding the Youth Championships. Nigel Dutton asked for clarification of Board recommendations and if Leaders Butler was mandatory or recommended.

Action: David Morgan

7.2 Finance Committee – R Nixon

Treasurer to present the 4 year international representation cycle proposal to the Tournament Committee for input.

7.3 ABF Masterpoint Centre –D Weston

Marianne Bookallil suggested a breakdown of members by age would be useful as a marketing tool.

7.4 Systems Committee – L. Kelso

7.5 Ethics Committee – No Report

7.6 National Authority – No Report

7.7 Regulations Committee – L. Kelso

7.8 Masterpoint Committee – D. Anderson

7.9 Player Liaison Committee – No Report

Simon Hinge questioned the need for this committee. Governance Committee to look at removing references to Committees from the Constitution.

Action: Tim O'Loughlin

7.10 Youth Committee – P Gue

The Youth Committee to comprise of a representative from each of the 6 States and 2 Territories. Nigel Dutton expressed his thanks for this comprehensive report.

7.11 Newsletter Committee – D Cooper

Current printers will be adhere to the current prices for the next 12 months

7.12 National Directors Accreditation Committee – J. Brockwell

7.13 Technology Committee – S Hinge

Work is continuing on an online payments system for event management. National Tournament Coordinators are running tests on standards for scoring of events.

7.14 Library Committee – T. Bourke

Catalogue updated as new books have been purchased.

7.15 Governance Committee – T O'Loughlin

Council considered that it was desirable to review the usefulness of the current committees and the need for each to be mentioned specifically in the Constitution. It decided to refer the latter issue to the Governance Committee for a report to the next Council meeting.

7.16 Marketing Committee – No Report

Brian Morgan spoke to the reports submitted by NMO and NTC. 2 States have not submitted Marketing reports for 2014. Chair of Marketing to remind them report is overdue.

Action: Brian Morgan

7.16.1 National Marketing Officer – S. Mulcahy

NMO would like to send information direct to clubs. Contact States for permission.

Action: Allison Stralow

7.16.2 National Teaching Coordinator – J. Butts

A "Forum" has been added to the website for Bridge related questions. NTC is looking at how to manage the questions and replies.

7.17 Women in Bridge Committee – D Cooper

The committee welcomes Anna St Clair from Victoria, Naomi Waizer from NSW, and Elizabeth Zeller from Queensland.

8. ANC Calendar

- 8.1 2015 ANC Perth – S Young
- 8.2 2016 ANC Brisbane – C Page

9. Tournaments and Licensed Events

ABF Managed Tournaments

- 9.1 2014 (i) GNOT – J. Brockwell

Council thanked John for his 30 years as Tournament Organiser.

Council discussed the idea of moving the Butler to the GNOT. John Scudder stated that less than 40% of people playing in the Interstate Teams played in the Butler. Nigel Dutton and Dallas Cooper requested that the Butler remain tied to the ANC. Council asked the MC to investigate.

- 9.2 2015 (ii) Summer Festival – S. Mullamphy

TC are concerned with the decline in numbers. Tim O'Loughlin to focus on government relations and the MC will focus on venue relations.

- 9.3 2015 (iii) Australian Playoffs – S. Mullamphy

There was some discussion re: the decline in numbers and the format, TC to investigate if the format needs to be adjusted.

10. WBF Tournaments Etc

- 10.1 2014 Asia Cup

The President attended and reported that it was a good event

- 10.2 CNBC – Glasgow

The SFOB winning team attended.

QBA have agreed to hold the 2018 event at the Gold Coast in conjunction with the GCC. The QBA are seeking guidance re: sponsored teams.

11. Independent Organisations

- 11.1 ABDA Report – S. Mullamphy

12. Notice of Motion

- 12.1 Honoraria

- 12.2 Committees for 2015

Changes to be considered by Management Committee and promulgated.

- 12.3 Mid-Year ABF Meeting Date – 7 November 2015

Council discussed the need for this meeting. Decision to be made in August after consultation with Council and affiliates.

- 12.4 President's Meeting Date

Council saw no need for a President's meeting.

- 12.5 Naming of private teams competing overseas

ABF National representative teams will be called Australia, all other teams will use the Captains name or in the case of the APBF, Australia 2.

- 12.6 Any other business

Council accepted Queensland's request to move the Barrier Reef Congress to the beginning of May from 2016. This has been forced by the new Queensland Government's decision to cancel the June long weekend.

- 12.7 Meeting close

Allison Stralow
Secretary, ABF