

MINUTES

ABF Management Committee Meeting

Rydges Lakeside Hotel, Canberra

Saturday 26th and Sunday 27th January 2008

Present: Keith McDonald (President), Richard Grenside (Secretary), Keiran Crowe-Mai (Treasurer)
Dianne Marler, Roy Nixon (Sat Only)

In Attendance: Eilis Magner (Legal Counsel) and Jane Rasmussen (ABF Secretariat)

Matters outstanding from previous minutes.

RN	Retainers for TU	Ongoing
MW	TC to review SNOT	Ongoing
EM	Supplementary Regulations to be vetted by legal counsel	Ongoing
KCM	Draft Captain's Letter 2008	Pending
RN	Remuneration for Directors	Pending
EM	Write to P Marston re: superannuation legal advice	Pending
RG	Write to Chairman of Youth Committee re: Colts home based	Pending
JR	Amend Handbook TU control of Swiss Pairs	Pending
JR	Duty Statements in Handbook	Pending
RN	Write to M McManus re: Tournament Unit	Pending
RN	Finance Committee to review Helpers Policy	Pending
KM	WBF increase in capitation fee	Pending
RN	Appeals Personnel	Pending

1. President's Report

- (a) Correspondence between DM and JB re: interstate holidays, rider to be placed in the ABF Newsletter, make sure the disclaimer is in the newsletter. RG will respond to JB.

Action: RG

2. Secretary's Report

- (a) Applications for the position of National Vu Graph Coordinator were received. Outcome of interviews will be dealt with under the report from Nick Fahrer.
- (b) Thank John Brockwell for Tournament Regulations. **Action: RG**
- (c) Youth Budget for 2008 received, query recorder payments. **Action: RG**
- (d) Management Committee agreed to proposal to name the trophy for the GNP the "Richard Grenside Plate" in recognition of the work done by Richard in getting this event off the ground. ABF will purchase a suitable salver/plate.

3. Treasurer's Report

- (a) Accountants produced an interim account. The amount currently in the suspense account needs to be expensed.
- (b) Tasmanian Swiss Pairs to be backdated to 2007.
- (c) VBA will take up the VCC license agreement. KCM to chase up balance as at 31.12.06 of \$7,961.32 against deposit received of \$6,333.

- (d) Clause to be added in license agreements re: recorders. **Action: KCM**
- (e) Financial report received from the ASP. To be acknowledged. **Action: RG**
- (f) State Associations to receive Australian Bridge, pay subscription for another 12 month period.
- (f) Interim invoice from Don Walker was approved for payment.

4. **Legal Counsel Report**

Activities since the last meeting include:

- (a) Sought advice on NSWBA loan and the need for further security – outstanding balance is \$150,000.
- (b) Looked at Youth Supplementary regulations amending same and returning to Matthew McManus.
- (c) Gave advice to TC re playoffs entry form. The matters pertaining to the playoffs were resolved.
- (d) Laws commission meeting held with general agreement from NZ that rules for Australia and NZ will be brought into line. More work to be done on Stop bid, Brown Sticker and Psyche bids.
- (e) Drafted letter to Paul Marston re bequest and legal fee issues
- (f) Agreed that Recorder reports for all ABF and licensed events are to be sent to ABF Secretariat then on to Legal Counsel.
- (b) MC approved the signing of the contract between the ABF and Migration Path Pty Ltd.

5. **Secretariat Report**

Tabled

6. **Tournament Unit Report**

No report was available

7. **Tournament Committee Report**

No report available.

Roy Nixon raised the issue of mobile phones. A paper had been put to the MC for discussion. The proposed recommendation was declined. After further thought and discussion with a member of the TC, Roy suggested that the matter be discussed further (refer to TC Report for August 2007). It was agreed that the recommendation of the TC be upheld on a trial basis. The recommendation was:

08.07.12 Mobile phones

It was resolved that mobile 'phones must be switched off during session time. If a player's mobile 'phone rings during session time, that player, his/her partnership or team shall receive a warning for the first offence and shall be penalised 3 VPs (9 IMPs) for each subsequent offence in teams events (including Butler pairs)."

8. **Central Masterpoint Centre Project**

DM presented a report outlining progress to date and moving forward to the April 1st changeover.

9. **Youth Committee Report**

Chairman of Youth Committee (Cathy Mill) presented a report including a budget for 2008. She committed to placing profiles for State Coordinators in the ABF newsletter soonest.

10. **ABF Events**

- (a) Playoffs Open/Women's – subsidies on the web page – must improve on timing here – to be on Web in November in future. Report of Playoffs to be sought from Convenor for February meeting **Action RN**
- (b) Seniors – Stern has under control. Subsidy list sent to David.

- (c) ANC Gold Coast – QBA to be advised that the running of the Swiss Pairs will come under the directorial control of the TU. **Action: RG**
- (d) SFOB – Some issues with length of matches. TC to look at changing format and adjusting number of boards. Report from Convenor of SFOB sought for February meeting. **Action: RG**

Sean Mullamphy joined the meeting on Sunday to update the MC orally on plans for the 2009 event regarding venue hire, amendment to format of some events etc. He will provide further information in his report at the next meeting.

- (e) Gold Coast Congress – 300 teams entered to date and 400 pairs. Running well.
- (f) Licensed events:
TBA to be advised that licence will be back-dated to 1.1.07 – balance of funds as of 31.12.06 to be send to the ABF. **Action: KCM**
- (g) g) GNOT ran very well – Canberra won final. A query was voiced about the weighting of the PQPs for this event. A response to be prepared for the ABF newsletter. **Action: RG**
- (h) GNP going very well. Many Regional Final dates set in the calendar. John and Di are handling many and varied queries by email.

11. **Women's Committee Report**

Di Marler advised that the Women's Committee of the WBF have circulated the paperwork for the first on-line bridge tournament using BBO. Will be sent to all Zone 7 contacts and advertised widely in Australia.

12. **International Events**

- (a) PABF 2008 – Sponsorship issue a Queensland problem. Entries are rolling in.
- (b) Mind Sport Olympiad – all in hand.
- (c) Bermuda Bowl – a rundown of the numbers of teams likely to participate, the number of officials and staff to be accommodated, the duration of the event and the general timing were conveyed to the newest members of the Management Committee.

13. **Other Matters**

- (a) CARDS Ranking scheme - RN met with Paul Marston. Management Committee approved RN/ EM working on an agreement for the Australian rights to the scheme, which will augment the Masterpoint Scheme at nominal cost.
- (b) Licence agreements – A clause regarding the need for Recorders to send reports (irrespective of action taken) to the Secretariat for copying to Legal Counsel will be added to the Regulations of each licensed event. Other matters re VCC and QBA will be finalized by KCM.
- (c) Bridge for Brains – emails and literature sent by Angela to all clubs and state bodies.
- (d) ABF – to start at 9.30am on March 15th giving attendees enough time to catch flight home the same day. Jane will circulate this information. Paperwork for meeting will be sent out soonest with deadline for discussion topics etc 29th February.
- (e) New Laws – it was agreed that the ABF would assign the right to State to make their own regulations for a period of 5 years.
- (f) BBO Coordinator – Nick Fahrer and Richard Grenside interviewed 2 of the 3 candidates. After discussion it was agreed that Nick offer the position to all three to “share” for the first year with a modest remuneration of \$1,000 each plus expenses. Split of duties would be Justin Brown – Queensland; Michael Wilkinson – NSW; Willem Willemsse – SA.

Action **Nick Fahrer**

13. **Forthcoming Meetings**

Gold Coast – March 1st and 2nd
Canberra – AGM March 15th