

MINUTES

ABF Management Committee Meeting

NSWBA, Goulburn Street, East Sydney

Saturday 9th April 2011

1. ROLL CALL

Keith McDonald (President), Dianne Marler (Secretary), Roy Nixon (Treasurer), Allison Stralow, Simon Hinge

In Attendance: Ellis Magner (Legal Counsel), Jane Rasmussen (ABF Secretariat)

Observer: Bruce Neill

2. CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES –5/6 March 2011

Minutes amended and confirmed.

3. MATTERS OUTSTANDING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

EM	Draft protocols from Ethics Meetings for web	Pending
DM/RG	License Agreement Reporting Proforma	Pending
EM	Abusive behavior issue – players vs Directors/Officials	Pending
RN	Sharing of reports, form to be created	Ongoing
DM/SH	Archival of event data	Ongoing
SH	Board Security Protocol	Ongoing
KM	ANC 2011 targetted events	Pending
KM	Amount raised for Disasters on website	Pending
EM	AWRS agreement	Pending

4. MC REPORTS

(a) President's Report

- (i) Queensland would like to field and ANC Youth team. As 3 of the players are over the age of 25, the President asked whether permission would be given to allow this team to participate. MC agreed to this in principle and the Secretary will send this information to the States.

Action: DM

- (ii) New affiliated clubs, waiver to be amended and placed on website.

Action: DM

- (iii) Correspondence received from the former Chair of the Tournament Unit re: Honoraria. MC discussed the correspondence and agreed to an ex-gratia payment of \$7000.

Action: KM

(b) Secretary's Report

Matters as listed in agenda.

(c) Treasurer's Report

- (i) Meeting with JB re: GNOT and GNP cost cutting. Agreed to a reduction in subsidies for 2011 of at least 10%.
- (ii) New financial package at ABF HQ moving along.
- (iii) Budgets from all areas are being compiled.

- (iv) Financial policies for all areas are to be implemented after distribution to all parties concerned for comment. **Action: RN**

(d) Secretariat Report

Nothing to report.

(e) Legal Counsel

- (i) Ron Clapham, on behalf of the ABF, has been corresponding with Migration Path in the matter of recouping of costs and intellectual property matters. Migration Path is willing to repay \$90,000 in three instalments but not willing to relinquish the intellectual property. Clapham would like to place a charge on Migration Path's assets. Legal Counsel, President and Migration Path to meet at a mutually convenient time. **Action: KM/EM**
- (ii) Geoff Schaller has been circulating information on what the ABF would or would not do with regards to clubs and website information. Secretary to circulate email to other MC members. Legal Counsel to source info for Clapham to send letter to Schaller. **Action: DM/EM**
- (iii) Representation of a State in the ANC whilst being a resident of another State was discussed. Legal Counsel will document. **Action: EM**
- (iv) An ABF Visa card was used inappropriately. The financial institution discovered the misappropriation and cancelled the card, issuing a new one. The Treasurer has lodged a form with the financial institution and is awaiting the outcome.
- (v) Legal Counsel will investigate further the Ranking scheme and write to AWRS informing them that the ABF would like to terminate the agreement with the ABF reserving its rights to negotiate with other providers. Treasurer to send all relevant information to Legal Counsel. Treasurer to send ranking scheme rates to AWRS. **Action: EM/RN**
- (vi) Correspondence has been received from the former Chair of the Tournament Unit re: Honoraria. MC discussed the correspondence and agreed to an ex-gratia payment of \$7000. **Action: KM**
- (vii) Draft policy on cross gender to be circulated. Secretary asked that the proposed policy be set to an interested party for review prior to circulation to others and posting on the web site. Legal Counsel agreed. **Action: DM**
- (viii) Information on drafting club constitutions will be placed on website. The [NSWBA](#) have information on their website which they are happy to share. **Action: BN**
- (ix) Tournament Organiser's would have the right to reject an entry to their event, as long as the refusal did not break any discrimination laws and that it was clearly stated on the event entry form.
- (x) Webmaster asked if there was a breach of some sort re: International website clearly a copy of the ABF website results. Legal Counsel will consult with an independent advisor. **Action: EM**
- (xi) Legal Counsel to amend Bridgemate hiring agreement and send back to Secretariat. **Action: EM**
- (xii) Correspondence received from Ross Crichton, Legal Counsel to pursue other alternatives for the role of National Recorder. **Action: EM**

5. COMMITTEE REPORTS

(a) Tournament Committee

- (i) Tournament Committee meeting minutes were amended. 4.7 to be re-worded. **Action: BN**
- (ii) Tournament Regulations to expand on substitution rules. **Action: EM/LK**
- (iii) ABF Calendar is being reworked. Suggestions have been to move Barrier Reef to May. ASP, ANOT and GNOT to be moved.
- (iv) Mentoring for teams. TC to make recommendations. **Action: BN**

(b) National Tournament Coordinator

Reports received.

(c) Central Masterpoint Project

Report received.

(d) Youth Committee

- (i) Minutes were reviewed. Role of Honour not appropriate. Chairman to be informed of his responsibilities as Chair - removing inappropriate comments in minutes. Minutes to be sent to EM for vetting prior to posting to the web site. **Action: EM**
- (ii) Two teams to attend 2nd World Youth Congress in Opatija, Croatia in August. MC approved. **Action: DM**

(e) Women's Committee

Nothing to report.

(f) BBO

- (i) Succession plan – policy dictates that we advertise the position and encourage MW to apply. **Action: DM**
- (ii) A further \$300 was requested for bbo'ing VCC. So approved.

(g) National Marketing Coordinator

- (i) The issue of non-bridge related advertisers in the ABF Newsletter was raised. The MC decided that it was not to be done at this time and that the matter would be revisited in 12 months time. **Action: AS**
- (ii) Sponsorship of ABF events, ABF will allow. Licensed events should be left up to the Tournament Organiser.

(h) National Teaching Coordinator

- (i) Teacher Accreditation. ABTA have a teacher accreditation. Await report from Nick Hughes. **Action: DM**
- (ii) Send teaching report from 2008 to MC. **Action: JR**
- (iii) Role of Teaching Coordinator should be a reference point for all Teachers and be the framework for teaching teachers.

6. AUSTRALIAN EVENTS

(a) Playoffs 2011

MC discussed entry fees and subsidies. Zero entry fees and subsidies be assessed on geographical regions. TC to comment on all playoffs, they should all be conducted in the same way. **Action: BN**

(b) GNOT

See Treasurer's Report

- (c) **GNP**
See Treasurer's Report
- (d) **Bridge for Brains**
Migration Path will score the event in 2011.
- (e) **Nationwide Pairs**
Nothing to report
- (f) **Licensed Events**
Nothing to report
- (g) **SFOB**
Report received from Tournament Organiser. Awaiting financials.
- (h) **ANC 2011**
Inform States of 6th Youth team but with the team from NZ there will be a BYE.
Secretary to notify all states. **Action: DM**

7. INTERNATIONAL EVENTS

- (a) MC endorsed Barbara Travis as Captain for the Women's team for the APBF 2011 and the Venice Cup. **Action: DM**
- (b) MC endorsed George Bilski as Captain of the Open Team for the Bermuda Bowl. **Action: DM**
- (c) MC requested nomination for NPC for the Open Team for the APBF urgently. Will be dealt with on email. **Action: DM**
- (d) Richard Grenside to pay entry fees and subscriptions to the APBF. **Action: JR**

8. GENERAL BUSINESS

- (a) **David Stern joined the meeting**
 - (i) As Chairman of the Youth Committee, reported to the MC that the new National Marketing Coordinator was organizing an event in Queensland promoting bridge to the youth. Sydney High School is interested in running a teaching program and now searching for a teacher. MC suggested that the Youth page on the ABF website be updated.
 - (ii) As Tournament Organiser of the Senior Playoffs, reported that the event was running smoothly. The lack of interested senior players resulted in a lack of teams willing to participate in the playoffs and that perhaps in future years if only 4 teams were willing to participate, the event would run with 4 teams. MC would like the TC to comment. **Action: DM**
- (b) **Policy re: Equipment required for ABF Work**
Agenda item for next meeting. **Action: DM**
- (c) **Team Subsidies, Open, Women, Seniors and Youth**
Agenda item for next meeting. **Action: DM**
- (d) **Clash of Dates**
MC agreed to allow I Del'Monte to depart early from APBF. **Action: DM**

Forthcoming Meetings

21st and 22nd May – Sydney
25th and 26th June - Sydney
31st July – Melbourne
10th September Mid Year Meeting – Adelaide
11th September - Adelaide

ACTION ITEMS APRIL MEETING

4a (i)	QLD Team for ANC Youth	DM
4a (ii)	New Clubs Waiver for Website	DM
4a (iii)	Ex-Gratia Payment	KM
4c (iv)	Financial Policies	RN
4e (i)	Meet with Mig Path	EM/KM
4e (ii)	Geoff Schaller	DM/RM
4e (iii)	Representation in ANC	EM
4e (v)	AWRS	EM/RN
4e (vi)	EHR to be notified of ex-gratia payment	KM
4e (vii)	Cross Gender policy	DM
4e (viii)	Club Constitutions	BN
4e (x)	Webmaster – international website	EM
4e (xi)	Bridgemate Hiring agreement	EM
4e (xii)	Alternative National Recorder	EM
5a (i)	Amend 4.7 TC Minutes	BN
5a (ii)	Tournament Regulations	EM/LK
5a (iv)	Mentoring	BN
5d (i)	Youth Minutes	EM
5d (ii)	Youth Croatia	DM
5f (i)	Replacement Operator	DM
5g (i)	ABF Newsletter Advertisers	AS
5h (i)	Teacher Accreditation	DM
5h (ii)	Send last ABTA Report to MC	JR
6a	Playoffs	BN
6h	BYE in Youth ANC	DM
7a	BT endorsed as Captain	DM
7b	GB endorsed as Captain BB	DM
7c	NPC for Open Team via email	DM
7d	RG to pay APBF and Entry Fees	JR
8a (ii)	4 Teams for Senior Playoffs to TC	DM
8b	Agenda item next meeting	DM
8c	Agenda item next meeting	DM
8d	Clash of dates I'DM allowed	DM