

# ABF TOURNAMENT COMMITTEE

## MINUTES OF MEETING HELD IN CANBERRA, 10 MAY 2008

### 1. PRESENT

Kim Morrison (chair), Eric Ramshaw, Peter Reynolds, Marcia Scudder, John Brockwell. The meeting started at 10.00 am.

The meeting congratulated Kim Morrison on his appointment as Chairman of the ABF Tournament Committee. Outgoing chairman, Martin Willcox, was thanked for his contributions.

The meeting noted that the committee was one person short and that ABF President, Keith McDonald, had asked the committee to seek an additional member. Advice was given that David Smith had been invited to fill the vacancy and that he would make his decision about whether to accept the invitation next month (June). Meanwhile, Neville Francis was asked to join the TC as an observer.

### 2. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

A correction was made to item 2. The item now reads:

#### 2008 PLAYOFFS

##### a. Splitting ties in qualification for the Women's Playoff.

It was affirmed that, in order to separate entrants to the 2008 Women's Playoff who were tied in PQPs, the criterion is points won in the 2007 Women's Playoff.

### 3. SUMMER FESTIVAL OF BRIDGE IN CANBERRA

#### a. Venue

It was noted with approval that the Summer Festival venue for 2009 will be the National Convention Centre. Notwithstanding, the Convenor is at liberty to run the Last Trains and the NOT final in a smaller venue (perhaps the Canberra Bridge Club premises at Deakin) should he deem it prudent to do so (see also below – items 3d, 6e, 8b).

#### b. South-West Pacific Teams (S-WPT)

##### (i) One field

It was noted with approval that the S-WPT would be run as a single field.

##### (ii) Seeding Committee (for the S-WPT)

The S-WPT seeding committee will remain in place, although the need for it is less significant now that the event will be run in one field instead of two. The question of reallocation of seeded teams from the venue of their choice, which became an issue in 2008, will not arise again as long as there is a single field.

#### c. NOT

A proposal that the NOT be run along lines similar to those that obtain for the EBU Spring Foursomes was considered favourably by the meeting. The thrust of the proposal is that 20 teams, instead of 16, qualify from the S-WPT for the NOT. The major advantage of the system is that all higher-ranked teams have a double chance in the earlier rounds of the final series (NOT). The timetable for a Spring Foursomes-

type format is identical to the format used for the 2008 NOT. No resolution was made regarding the proposal; it will be an agenda item for the next meeting. (This arrangement should impose no constraints on forward planning for the 2009 Summer Festival.)

**d. Last Trains**

It was noted that the Open, Women's and Seniors Last Trains were becoming increasingly popular with players. Accordingly, it was resolved that the Last Trains should be retained (see also below – items 6e, 8b) as permanent features of the of the ABF tournament calendar as part of the Summer Festival.

**e. Fees for NOT and the finals of the NWT and NST**

It was resolved that there be no additional fees imposed on S-WPT contestants who qualify for the NOT, and that there shall be no additional fees imposed on contestants in the NWT and NST who qualify for the respective finals. (John Brockwell to advise Sean Mullamphy once the MC has endorsed the resolution.)

**f. Senior Women's and Veterans events**

It was resolved that, at the convenor's discretion and pending ABF endorsement, a Senior Women's event and a Veterans event (see also below – item 4) be added to the Summer Festival. It was suggested (i) that a Senior Women's Teams (without a final) might run concurrently with the NWT, and (ii) that a Veterans Teams (a 10-round two 20-board sessions per day event, no final) might run concurrently with the S-WPT.

**4. NEW EVENTS**

It was noted that substantial proportions of ABF playing members fell into two categories for which there were no independent events on the ABF calendar, *viz.* (i) Senior Women, i.e. women born before 1.1.1950, and (ii) Veterans, i.e. players 70 years and over. Accordingly, it was recommended to the ABF Management Committee that two new categories, Senior Women's and Veterans, should be added to the list of categories of ABF events. The committee is aware that an inconsistently defined veterans' category already exists for the purpose of award of special prizes given in certain ABF events; however, the thrust of the recommendation is that Senior Women and Veteran can have independent ABF events.

**5. CATEGORISATION OF ABF EVENTS**

Categorisation of events is used for purposes of awarding PQPs, for determining the level of National Tournament Director required as Chief Tournament Director for a particular event, and for certain tie-breaking procedures.

**a. Playoffs**

It was resolved that the Playoffs (previously uncategorised) be category B events.

**b. Last Trains**

It was resolved that the Last Trains (previously uncategorised) be category D events.

**6. PLAYOFF QUALIFYING POINTS (PQP)**

**a. Policy**

It was affirmed that allocation, and the extent of allocation, of PQPs for an ABF event was dependent (i) on the strength and size of the field and (ii) on the integrity of the

format of the event. Thus, an ABF event with a smaller, stronger field may be allocated the same number (or more) PQPs as an analogous event with a larger, weaker field. Likewise, an ABF event with a shorter final may be allocated fewer PQPs than an analogous event with a longer final. (It was noted that it is ABF tournament policy that finals of ABF events should be played over 64 boards.) Also, an ABF event run with Swiss qualifying rounds and a final (or a final series) should have a sufficient number of qualifying rounds to ensure, insofar as is reasonably possible, that the qualification of finalists is meaningful and non-random.

**b. PQP Compiler**

It was resolved, pending ABF endorsement, that John Scudder be appointed as PQP Compiler. It was noted that the position carries a small emolument (since determined to be \$500 per year).

**c. Outright awards for S-WPT, NWT and NST**

It was resolved that, from 2009 onwards and for as long as the S-WPT is played as a single field, first place should receive 36 PQP and second place 18 PQP. It was resolved that the awards for the winners of the NWT Swiss qualifying segment and the NST Swiss qualifying segment should remain unchanged at 24 PQP for first place and no award for second place. The rationale for these resolutions is that, when previously the S-WPT was run in two fields, there two winning teams each of which received PQP awards, whereas the qualifying rounds of the NWT and the NST have always been run in single fields.

**d. Independence of PQP awards at the Summer Festival**

It was reaffirmed that PQP awards for the South-West Pacific Teams, the Swiss qualifying segment of the National Women's Teams, and the Swiss qualifying segment of the National Seniors teams are absolute in their own right and independent of and unaffected by PQP awards for the National Open Teams, the finals of the NWT and the finals of the NST .

**e. PQP awards for the Last Trains**

It was resolved that, from 2009 onwards, the PQP awards for Open, Women's and Seniors Last Trains shall be: first 24, second 18, third 12, fourth 6.

**f. PQP awards for the Gold Coast Teams**

The meeting considered that, in its present format – one very large field, 10 qualifying rounds – the Gold Coast Teams had an insufficient number of qualifying rounds to ensure insofar as is reasonably possible, that the qualification of finalists is meaningful and non-random. Therefore, it was resolved that, for future Gold Coast Teams, the PQP awards should be: 12 qualifying rounds – first 36, second 18, third/fourth 9; 10 qualifying rounds – first 24, second 12, third/fourth 6.

**g. Transport of PQPs won in Open events to the Women's and Seniors lists**

The meeting considered that players who wish to represent Australia in Women's and/or Seniors international competition should demonstrate some commitment to the circuits of ABF Women's and/or Seniors events. Therefore, it was resolved that (i) before being eligible to transport PQP won in Open events to the Women's PQP list, a women player must win at least 6 PQPs in Women's events (operative from 2009),

and (ii) before being eligible to transport PQP won in Open events to the Seniors list, a player must win at least 12 PQPs in Seniors events (operative immediately).

**h. Seniors PQP register**

The PQP compiler will make every endeavour to ascertain which players are eligible for Seniors PQPs. Notwithstanding, it is the responsibility of Seniors players themselves to ensure that their names are on the Seniors PQP register and that the number of Seniors PQPs that they have been awarded is recorded on the Seniors PQP list. (As a rule, once a Seniors player's name has been recorded, the PQP compiler will require no further prompting.) (The TC considers that it may be interpreted as an invasion of privacy should the committee or the PQP compiler initiate enquiries about a Seniors player's eligibility.)

**i. PQP for the Golden West**

ABF secretary, Richard Grenside, asked the TC to consider an application from BAWA that PQP be allocated (reallocated) to the Golden West. The meeting recommends to the ABF that BAWA's application be rejected on the following grounds:

- (i) That the strength of the Golden West field is incommensurate with the award of PQPs
- (ii) That the Golden West is an open pairs event and PQPs are already awarded to another open pairs event staged in Western Australia
- (iii) That the total number of PQPs awarded for ABF events staged in Western Australia is not substantially more or less than for those awarded for ABF events run in other states
- (iv) That, in these days of cheap airfares, the cost of travel from Western Australia is no longer the constraint that it was once.

The meeting directed John Brockwell to draft a reply to BAWA apropos its application.

**j. PQPs for international events**

The meeting is prepared to consider the award of PQPs to Australian players who perform well in international events. The matter will be an agenda item for a future TC meeting. Meanwhile, John Brockwell was directed to request Paul Marston to resubmit his recommendations about PQP allocation for international events .

**7. BRIDGE BASE ONLINE (BBO)**

It was noted that the new Tournament Regulations make specific reference to the responsibilities of Tournament Organisers (convenors) of ABF events regarding BBO, *viz.* that the Tournament Organiser shall specify BBO schedules and that, once advertised on BBO, those schedules must be adhered to. The TC has sympathy for convenors regarding the sometimes conflicting issues of BBO schedules, the integrity of ABF events and the desires of players to meet airline timetables. The meeting took the liberty of suggesting (i) that convenors carefully consult airline timetables before framing their bridge timetables, and (ii) that, where it is necessary to expedite the final, consideration should be given to very short between-session breaks with luncheon (sandwiches) provided. In the case of the ANOT, it may be prudent to play one 16-board stanza of the 64-board final on Sunday night to reduce Monday play to 48 boards.

**8. PLAYOFFS – GENERAL**

**a. Date and location of 2009 PABF Championships**

Since the meeting, it has been ascertained (*per* kind favour of Richard Grenside and Tadashi Yoshida) that the 2009 PABF Championships in Macau will be held in May, almost certainly 17-28 May.

**b. Last Trains**

The meeting considered that the teams formed by Last Trains had not been competitive in Playoffs with a teams format. Therefore, it was resolved that Last Trains no longer be used as vehicles for selecting teams for Playoffs with a teams format; however, Last Trains shall continue to supply two pairs to Playoffs with a pairs format. Notwithstanding, the meeting regards Last Trains as significant events worthy of the allocation of PQPs (see also above).

**c. Experimental format for the 2009 Open Playoff**

The new format for the 2009 Open playoff is regarded as experimental. Until the experiment is properly appraised, there is no intention of using the new format for either Women's or Seniors Playoffs. Should the appraisal be favourable, consideration will be given, sometime in the future, to replacing Playoffs using a pairs format with Playoffs using the new teams format.

**d. Pairs Playoffs – 2010**

Based on feedback following the 2008 Playoffs (pairs format), consideration apropos the 2010 Playoffs will be given to (i) using stage I to reduce the field from 16 pairs to 10 pairs (instead of from 16 to 12 ), (ii) playing stage II as a double round robin over three days, (iii) for each pair, merging the IMP scores of each match (pair against pair) of the stage II double round robin with the IMP scores of the relevant matches of the stage I (single) round robin, and (iv) converting the merged IMP scores into a single VP score to obtain a final result. This matter will be an agenda item for a subsequent meeting.

**e. Breaking ties between pairs/teams with equal PQPs**

It was resolved that, in determining the make-up of fields for Playoffs, critical ties between pair/teams with equal PQPs will be broken according to the number of PQPs obtained by the tied contestants (pairs or teams) in PQP events arranged in order of category. That is, the contestant with the greater number of PQPs from category A events shall be ranked higher; if still tied, the contestant with the greater number of PQPs from category B events shall ranked higher; and so on. If the tie remains unbroken after application of the schedule of events for the current PQP year, the procedure shall be repeated using the schedule of events from the previous PQP year, and so on. (It is noted that the Playoffs are category B events – see also above, item 5.)

**9. PROPOSALS FOR 2009 OPEN PLAYOFF**

The following proposal for the 2009 Open Playoff is copied from the minutes of the TC meetings of July/August

**(a) Timetable**

That the 2009 Open Playoff be played as a teams format over five days comprising five stages, *viz.* a Swiss knockout stage, a qualification stage, a repechage stage, semi-finals and a final.

**(b) Entry**

That entry be open to teams of four or six (but not five) players irrespective of PQP holding. There will be no automatic entry from the Last Train.

**(c) PQPs and exemption**

That the four teams ranked first through fourth in PQP holdings (“exempt teams” 1, 2, 3 & 4) be exempted from the Swiss knockout stage.

**(d) Location**

That the preferred location is Sydney.

**(e) Schedule**

That the schedule be Saturday & Sunday (qualification stage & Swiss knockout stage), Monday (repechage stage), Tuesday (semi-finals), Wednesday (final).

**(f) Format**

(i) Days 1 & 2

*Qualification stage*  
Exempt teams 1, 2, 3 & 4 play a double round-robin of 20-board matches. First and second proceed direct to the semi-finals; third and fourth proceed to the repechage stage

*Swiss knockout stage*  
All other teams play an 8-round, 16-board Swiss. First and second proceed to the repechage stage; the remaining teams are eliminated

(ii) Day 3

*Repechage stage*  
The third and fourth teams from the qualification stage play first and second from the Swiss knockout stage in two independent 64-board matches (with the third team from the qualification stage having choice of opponents from first and second in the Swiss knockout stage). The two winning teams proceed to the semi-finals

(iii) Day 4

*Semi-finals*  
The first and second teams from the qualification stage play the winning teams from the repechage stage in two independent 64-board matches (with the first team from the qualification stage having choice of opponents from the winning teams in the repechage stage). The two winning teams proceed to the final

(iv) Day 5

### *Final*

The winning semi-finalists play a 64-board final

**(g) Augmentation**

In cases where augmentation is required, i.e. to a team of four or if a pair from a winning team of six should become unavailable, the aim is to select the best possible team to represent Australia. A Selection Committee of three eminent players will select a third pair from a list of nominees.

- (i) The ABF Tournament Committee will appoint the Selection Committee.
- (ii) Pairs from the semi-finals will be invited to nominate themselves.
- (iii) The ABF Tournament Committee in its absolute discretion may invite other pairs from the Playoff or from the 2008 PQP list to nominate themselves.
- (iv) The selection Committee will consider:
  - 1. Form of the nominated pairs in the Playoffs and other major events
  - 2. Compatibility with other members of the winning team
  - 3. PQPs earned during 2008
  - 4. Potential to optimise the winning chances of the Australian team in the 2009 Target Event

**(h) Ratification**

The team will be subject to ratification by the ABF Management Committee .

**(i) Conclusions**

It will be appreciated that the foregoing is merely a proposal, albeit a serious proposal, that represents a starting point for debate by the wider bridge community. Firm decisions about the format for the 2009 Open Playoff and for the 2009 Women's and Seniors Playoffs will be made in due course and will be influenced by the outcomes of the debate and by any relevant submissions that might be made to the ABF Tournament Committee.

## **10. OPEN PLAYOFF – 2009**

The TC proposes to proceed with plans for the 2009 Open Playoff as set out above. Feedback from interested parties has been generally favourable. The only suggested modification of any note is that the final be increased from 64 boards to 96. An attempt will be made to ascertain the extent of support for that suggestion. (Enquiries made since have not disclosed the extent of support.)

**a. Target events**

The target events for the Australian Open team for 2009 are the PABF Open Championship, the Zone 7 Open Championship (played concurrently with the PABF Championships) and the Bermuda Bowl.

**b. Date**  
Saturday 21 March to Wednesday 25 March.

**c. Location**  
Sydney; venue to be determined.

**d. Format**  
See above — item 9.

**e. Entries**  
  
Entries close at 4.00 pm on Friday 8 February.

**f. Other matters**  
To be determined at a future TC meeting.

## **11. WOMEN'S PLAYOFF – 2009**

**a. Target events**  
The target events for the Australian Women's team for 2009 are the PABF Women's Championship, the Zone 7 Women's Championship (played concurrently with the PABF Championships) and the Venice Cup.

**b. Date**  
Saturday 21 March to Tuesday 24 March.

**c. Location**  
Sydney; venue to be determined.

**d. Format**  
The format will be similar to the one used for the 2007 Women's Playoff. Entries will be accepted from six teams. Those six teams will play a qualifying segment comprising a double round robin of ten 10-board matches. Six 10-board matches will be played on the Saturday and four matches on the Sunday. These matches will be played concurrently with the qualification stage of the Open Playoff (see above). The four leading teams will enter 64-board semi-finals. The semi-finals will be played concurrently with the repechage stage of the Open Playoff (see above). The two finalists will play a 64-board final. The final, over 64 boards, will be played concurrently with the semi-finals stage of the Open Playoff (see above).

**e. Entries**  
Entries close at 4.00 pm on Friday 8 February.

**f. Other matters**  
To be determined at a future TC meeting.

## **12. SENIORS PLAYOFF**

**a. Target events**  
The target events for the Australian Seniors team for 2009 are the PABF Seniors Championship, the Zone 7 Seniors Championship (played concurrently with the PABF Championships) and the Seniors Bowl.



**b. Team selection**

It was noted by the meeting that, in the recent past, several Australian teams have found places in PABF Senior Championships. John Brockwell was directed to request Richard Grenside to contact Anthony Ching to determine whether a similar situation would obtain in 2009. (Subsequently, Anthony Ching responded that it was likely that Australia would be offered multiple Seniors places in 2009 but he didn't specify how many.) Assuming that Australia is offered three or four places in the PABF Seniors Championship, there are alternative options. The ABF MC is asked to decide, at its June meeting, which option is apt. Whatever the ABF's response to this question, it is recommended that the Australian team that finishes in highest place in the Zone 7 Senior Teams Championship should represent Australia in the 2009 Seniors Bowl.

- Option 1. Do not hold a Seniors Playoff at all. Instead, offer four (or three) places in the PABF Seniors Championship to the four (or three) teams of six players (that "enter the Playoff") with the most PQPs. The amount of subsidy to be paid would be determined by the ABF. (A sliding scale based on numbers of PQPs might be used as a benchmark to determine subsidies.)
- Option 2. The format will be similar to the one used for the 2007 Seniors Playoff. Entries will be accepted from six teams. Those six teams will play a qualifying segment comprising a double round robin of ten 10-board matches. Six 10-board matches will be played on the Saturday and four matches on the Sunday. The four leading teams will enter 64-board semi-finals. The two finalists will play a 64-board final. The final will be played over 64 boards.

**c. Date**

Saturday 18 April to Tuesday 21 April.

**d. Location**

Sydney; venue to be determined.

**e. Entries**

Entries close at 4.00 pm on Tuesday 31 March.

**f. Other matters**

To be determined at a future TC meeting.

**13. PUBLICATION OF MINUTES OF TOURNAMENT COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

It was resolved to recommend to the ABF that the minutes of TC meetings be published in full on the ABF website. At present only extracts of the minutes, comprising substantive resolutions of the meetings, are published.

**14. NEXT MEETING**

The meeting finished at 4.30 pm. The meeting thanked Peter Reynolds for making his home available. The next meeting will be held at a date in July or August yet to be determined.

## **15. RESOLUTIONS OF THE MEETING AND OTHER MATTERS DEALT WITH**

What follows is a précis of the proceedings of the Tournament Committee meeting in Canberra on 10 May 2008. More detail can be obtained by reference to the full minutes.

### **05.08.01 Last Trains**

It was resolved that the Last Trains should be retained as permanent features of the of the ABF tournament calendar as part of the Summer Festival.

### **05.08.02 Fees for NOT and the finals of the NWT and NST**

It was resolved that there be no additional fees imposed on S-WPT contestants who qualify for the NOT, and that there shall be no additional fees imposed on contestants in the NWT and NST who qualify for the respective finals.

### **05.08.03 Senior Women's and Veterans events**

It was resolved that, at the convenor's discretion and pending ABF endorsement, a Senior Women's event and a Veterans event be added to the Summer Festival. It was suggested (i) that a Senior Women's Teams (without a final) might run concurrently with the NWT, and (ii) that a Veterans Teams (a 10-round two 20-board sessions per day event, no final) might run concurrently with the S-WPT.

### **05.08.04 New events**

It was noted that substantial proportions of ABF playing members fell into two categories for which there were no independent events on the ABF calendar, *viz.* (i) Senior Women, i.e. women born before 1.1.1950, and (ii) Veterans, i.e. players 70 years and over. Accordingly, it was recommended to the ABF that two new categories, Senior Women's and Veterans, should be added to the list of categories of ABF events. The committee is aware that an inconsistently defined veterans' category already exists for the purpose of award of special prizes given in certain ABF events; however, the thrust of the recommendation is that Senior Women and Veteran can have independent ABF events.

### **05.08.05 Categorisation of ABF events**

Categorisation of events is used for purposes of awarding PQPs, for determining the level of National Tournament Director required as Chief Tournament Director for a particular event, and for certain tie-breaking procedures. It was resolved that the Playoffs (previously uncategorised) be category B events. It was resolved that the Last Trains (previously uncategorised) be category D events.

### **05.08.06 PQP**

#### **a. Policy**

It was affirmed that allocation, and the extent of allocation, of PQPs for an ABF event was dependent (i) on the strength and size of the field and (ii) on the integrity of the format of the event.

#### **b. PQP Compiler**

It was resolved, pending ABF endorsement, that John Scudder be appointed as PQP Compiler.

#### **c. Outright awards for S-WPT, NWT and NST**

It was resolved that, from 2009 onwards and for as long as the S-WPT is played as a single field, first place should receive 36 PQP and second place 18 PQP. It was resolved that the awards for the winners of the NWT and the NST should remain unchanged at 24 PQP for first place and no award for second place. The rationale for these resolutions is that, when previously the S-WPT was run in two fields, there two winning teams each of which received PQP awards, whereas the qualifying rounds of the NWT and the NST have always been run in single fields.

**d. Independence of PQP awards at the Summer Festival**

It was reaffirmed that PQP awards for the South-West Pacific Teams, the Swiss qualifying segment of the National Women's Teams, and the Swiss qualifying segment of the National Seniors teams are absolute in their own right and independent of and unaffected by PQP awards for the National Open Teams, the finals of the NWT and the finals of the NST .

**e. PQP awards for the Last Trains**

It was resolved that, from 2009 onwards, there shall be PQP awards for Open, Women's and Seniors Last Trains: first 24, second 18, third 12, fourth 6.

**05.08.07 Date and location of 2009 PABF Championships**

The 2009 PABF Championships in Macau will be held in May, almost certainly 17-28 May.

**05.08.08 Last Trains**

It was resolved that Last Trains no longer be used as vehicles for selecting teams for Playoffs with a teams format; however, Last Trains shall continue to supply two pairs to Playoffs with a pairs format. Notwithstanding, the Last Trains are regarded as significant events worthy of the allocation of PQPs.

**05.08.09 2009 Open Playoff**

The following is a firm proposal:

**(a) Timetable**

That the 2009 Open Playoff be played as a teams format over five days comprising five stages, viz. a Swiss knockout stage, a qualification stage, a repechage stage, semi-finals and a final.

**(b) Entry**

That entry be open to teams of four or six (but not five) players irrespective of PQP holding. There will be no automatic entry from the Last Train.

**(c) PQPs and exemption**

That the four teams ranked first through fourth in PQP holdings ("exempt teams" 1, 2, 3 & 4) be exempted from the Swiss knockout stage.

**(d) Location**

That the preferred location is Sydney.

**(e) Schedule**

That the schedule be Saturday & Sunday (qualification stage & Swiss knockout stage), Monday (repechage stage), Tuesday (semi-finals), Wednesday (final).

**(f) Format**

(i) Days 1 & 2

*Qualification stage*  
Exempt teams 1, 2, 3 & 4 play a double round-robin of 20-board matches. First and second proceed direct to the semi-finals; third and fourth proceed to the repechage stage

*Swiss knockout stage*  
All other teams play an 8-round, 16-board Swiss. First and second proceed to the repechage stage; the remaining teams are eliminated

(ii) Day 3

*Repechage stage*  
The third and fourth teams from the qualification stage play first and second from the Swiss knockout stage in two independent 64-board matches (with the third team from the qualification stage having choice of opponents from first and second in the Swiss knockout stage). The two winning teams proceed to the semi-finals

(iii) Day 4

*Semi-finals*  
The first and second teams from the qualification stage play the winning teams from the repechage stage in two independent 64-board matches (with the first team from the qualification stage having choice of opponents from the winning teams in the repechage stage). The two winning teams proceed to the final

(iv) Day 5

*Final*  
The winning semi-finalists play a 64-board final

**05.08.10 2009 Women's Playoff**

It was resolved that the 2009 Women's Playoffs will be held in Sydney from Saturday 21 March to Tuesday 24 March. The format (teams) will be similar to the format used for the 2007 Women's Playoff.

**05.08.11 2009 Seniors Playoff**

Two (alternative) proposals for the 2009 Seniors Playoff were put to the ABF Management Committee for its consideration.

**05.08.12 International Target Events for 2009**

The target events for the Australian teams for 2009 are:

- a. **Open**  
PABF Open Championships  
Zone 7 Open Championship  
Bermuda Bowl
  
- b. **Women's**  
PABF Women's Championships  
Zone 7 Women's Championship  
Venice Cup
  
- c. **Seniors**  
PABF Seniors Championships  
Zone 7 Seniors Championship  
Seniors Bowl

The PABF Championships and the Zone 7 Championships will be held in Macau in May 2009.

**05.08.13 Transport of PQPs won in Open events to the Women's and Seniors lists**

It was resolved that (i) before being eligible to transport PQP won in Open events to the Women's PQP list, a women player must win at least 6 PQPs in Women's events (operative 2009) and (ii) before being eligible to transport PQP won in Open events to the Seniors list, a player must win at least 12 PQPs in Seniors events (operative 2008).