

ABF TOURNAMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES
NSWBA, SYDNEY, 10am, Saturday 15th October 2011

1. PRESENT

Kim Morrison (chair), Peter Kahler, Bruce Neill, Eric Ramshaw, Peter Reynolds, Marcia Scudder.

2. ABF EVENTS

(a) Summer festival of bridge (SFOB)

- i. New Event.** Sean Mullamphy is invited to propose a new event commencing in 2013 to run concurrently with the NST & NWT when the Last Train is cancelled. **(KM)**
- ii. Swiss Pairs.** The Tournament Committee (TC) has no firm opinion about the suggestion from the ACT that the weekend of the Swiss Pairs at the SFOB be ceded to the ACT. The matter needs to be raised with the Management Committee in the first instance. **(PK)**
- iii. Blue Ribbon Pairs (BRP).** Considerations, which include masterpoint awards for most (if not all) pairs and avoidance of messy drop-out regulations, suggest that the optimum format is a matchpoint Swiss (*cf* DCOP) followed by a matchpoint Barometer. Assuming the entry is more than about 100 pairs, the TC prefers
 - ◆ Qualifying Stages 1 & 2: Swiss format based on matchpoint scores
 - ◆ Final: Barometer format for 14 tables/28 pairs with matchpoint scores

To be discussed with Sean **(ER)**

- iv. Timing of screen play at the SFOB.** (*cf* #6) Based on the TC recommendation of 8 minutes per board for screen play possible schedules for 4x16=64 boards are
1000-1210; 1230-1440; Lunch; 1530-1740; 1800-2010 **or**
0930-1140; 1200-1410; Lunch; 1450-1700; 1720-1930

Although it is preferable that all days start at the same time, the latter schedule could be used for the final only to maximise the ability of players to leave on the final day.

In the latter case the shorter lunch break requires lunch to be provided.

The schedule for these events must be advertised in the brochure as it affects the departure plans of the players; changes are allowed only with the approval of the BBO co-ordinator. To be discussed with TO, SFOB. **(ER)**

(b) Playoff

- i.** To ensure its **integrity** (the most important characteristic of the Playoff) the TC must approve all changes in entrants or conditions before their implementation by the Tournament Organiser and/or the National Tournament Co-ordinator. **(BN)**
- ii.** The time allowed for **screen play** is 8.75 minutes per board; note that the schedule for the final (2 days of 48 boards) allows departure on the last day.
- iii.** The Tournament Organiser should submit **schedules** for approval by the Tournament Committee after entries close.
- iv. Calendar.** There are significant difficulties in changing the time of the Playoff. Consequently, the TC recommends that the Playoffs retain their existing position on the calendar. Potential problems with the APBF may be avoided if the ABF commits to a specified number of entries before the Playoffs.

See recommendation from Calendar committee

- v. Target Events** The withdrawal of Manchester from the WBF event (Mind Sports) leaves the Playoff without a target event as yet but it is anticipated the Olympiad will go ahead somewhere. The TC considered a number of alternative events in Europe and USA but none were attractive – mainly due to difficult timing. A possible target event could be the APBF for the following year.

(c) Australian National Championships (ANC)

The TC recommends that byes be eliminated from the ANC Teams.

Potential solutions by changing the length of matches, employing triangles or a team from other sources such as a President's team or a New Zealand team were not favoured.

- i.** To avoid byes for the Open, Women's & Senior series the TC recommends addition of a second team from the Home State or, if not possible, from another state in a defined rotation. The second team must be produced by the normal selection process of its State. Only the higher-placed team is entitled to qualify for the final i.e. there must be an interstate final.

- ii. To avoid byes for the Youth series the TC seeks advice from the Chairman of the Youth Committee. **KM**

(d) Australian Butler Pairs Championship (ABPC)

- i. **Carryover** The TC determined that carryover into the last stage of the ABPC be 25% of the difference between the scores of the first and last qualifiers.
- ii. **Calendar** The consensus was that the separation of the ABPC from the ANC was a desirable goal. A separate, new date would congest the calendar so several options for attachment to or replacement of an existing events were canvassed. The most attractive option was to combine the ABPC with the Finals of the GNOT National Final Series by commencing the latter on Thursday. The matter is to be discussed further by the Calendar Review sub-committee. **(KM)**

(e) VCC

The modification for 2012 proposed by the Tournament Organiser (addition of a restricted event and a restricted category) were approved..

The request to award PQP to the Wally Scott Open Swiss was not approved. The TC did not wish to increase the availability of PQP, especially as an award to this event could be seen as a precedent for applications from other similar events. **(KM)**

3. TIES

When time prevents the play of extra boards to break a tie for the title the tie is broken by the ranking in the qualification (as determined by their supplementary regulations). PQP are always shared.

4. TIMING

Unless otherwise specified in the Supplementary Regulations, the draw is made 5 minutes after the actual time of conclusion of the stanza based on the table below.

Scores not entered are treated as average; players who have not completed the board at that time may be penalised for slow play; the missing data entered with other corrections during the next round.

Unless otherwise approved by the TC the standard rate of play is:-

series	minutes/board	minutes/10 boards	minutes/16 boards	minutes/20 boards
qualifying series	7.5	75	120	150
final series (screen)	8.0	80	128	160
Playoff final	8.75	87.5	140	175

When there are facilities to monitor the score input and minimise slow play, the Director may apply to the TC for a faster rate of play

This minute requires amendment of the Tournament Regulations **(KM to LK)**

5. OTHER MATTERS

(a) Correspondence

Addressed above are matters raised by Ron Klinger (ABPC carryover), Ross Crichton (ANC byes), Kim Frazer (VCC) and Sartaj Hans (Playoff)

In response to a suggestion that team matches (in la local club) be scored by win/draw/loss it was noted that this was a matter for the club not the ABF **(MS or KM)**

(b) Reports

Reports on the ANC (Laurie Kelso) and the Territory Gold (Matthew McManus) were received.

6. NEXT MEETING

The meeting closed at 3.30pm.

The meeting at the SFOB has become ineffective and any matters requiring decision before the next meeting can be resolved *via* e-mail.

The next meeting is scheduled for Sunday 12th February 2012 at the NSWBA

ACTIONS:-

KM

- Discuss event to replace Last Train with Sean.
- ABPC for Calendar Review
- Seek advice from the Youth Committee on the avoidance of byes in the Youth ANC.
- Advise Kim Frazer of VCC decisions.
- Respond to query about match scoring

(ER Notes:

- *It may be appropriate to retain the Provincial Pairs as the majority of its entrants may not wish to play in the ABPC*
- *Another venue may be required as well)*

PK

- Advise the ACT to raise the ownership of the SFOB Swiss Pairs directly with the Management Committee

BN

- Add to the NTC duty statement the requirement to seek approval for all potential changes to the Playoff.
- Send eligibility to represent Australia ?and definitions? to EM

ER

- Discuss with Sean: Blue Ribbon Pairs format, timing of screen play in the finals & NOT

PR

- Revise the definitions of eligibility

MS or KM

- Response to correspondence