

MINUTES OF MEETING OF VBA COUNCIL

Held 19 June 2013. (Meeting 7 2013)

At the VBA Clubrooms, 131 Poath Road, Murrumbena & by SKYPE

Chairperson: Mr B. Thompson

The meeting opened at 5.35pm

Present:

Mr B. Thompson	President
Ms K. Frazer	Secretary
Mr N. Ewart	Treasurer
Ms J. Thompson	
Ms T. Kay	
Mr. D. Morgan	
Mr R. Berlinski	
Ms J. Hackett	
Ms P. Dingwall	

In attendance:

Ms C. Lachman

1. Apologies:

Mr P Fent

The meeting also noted the resignation of Mr Robert Stewart from the council. The meeting formally recognised Robert's extensive work on the IT setup & website administration at the club.

2. Confirmation of Minutes of Previous Meeting

Motion 1:

That the minutes of the meeting of 8 May 2013 be accepted:

Moved: Mr B. Thompson

Seconded: Ms T. Kay

CARRIED

2.1 Matters Arising from the minutes & review of action items

The list of names of new members put forward for ratification should be added to the minutes.

Due to commitments with the National Team & VCC, many action items are carried over to the next meeting.

K. Frazer reported that a quote on side tables had been obtained however at \$100 per table these would be too expensive. Further quotes will be sought.

The MTC minutes were tabled for approval & will be uploaded to the website.

3. Correspondence

Correspondence In:

1. ABF: Revised constitution for ratification (deferred to General Business)

2. Responses in favour to VBA proposal on changes to capitation fee date received from Northern; Lakes Entrance; Paynesville; Traralgon; & Geelong. (Note that clubs have until 30 June 2013 to respond).
3. Responses in favour to Proposal on Marketing Grant from Paynesville & Sale.

Correspondence Out:

1. Affiliated Clubs - new approach to state selection
2. Affiliated Clubs - State Capitation Fee proposal
3. Affiliated Clubs - Proposal to ABF for Marketing Grant
4. ABF: Response on Byes at the ANC

4. Sub-committee & Other Reports

4.1 Club Manager Report

The club manager tabled a report on activity for discussion.

Motion 2:

That the following new members: Nathan Kohn (reactivated following census), Adam Santilli (been inactive since 2008); Maryellen Peppard (new); Timothy Peppard (new); Annette Richardson (new, from crash course); Sandra Farber (new); Ronald Aarons (new); Annette Maluish (associate); Richard Lew (new), Ruth Lew (new), Janet Hill (txf from Waverley)

be accepted as members of the VBA.

Moved: Mr N. Ewart

Seconded: MR. Berlinski

CARRIED

Mr D. Morgan joined the meeting at 5.55pm

The outstanding list of clubs owing State Capitation Fees was reviewed, and a course of action agreed by council.

- Waverley - agreed payment plan in place. Balance of payment due prior to end of financial year.
- Melbourne Contract Bridge - President to follow up with call to ascertain status of outstanding percentage of payment
- Kings & Queens - refusing to pay. President to follow up again with a phone call advising a letter of demand will be sent.
- Simply Social - a legal dispute over the payments exists between the prior owners & the new owners. 50% of fees are outstanding. Simply Social to be approached regarding a settlement amount.
- Tricks & Trumps - payment plan in place - reminder call that payment by end August required.
- Sale - Several deceased members led to a discrepancy in the number of current members versus the capitation amount billed. The invoiced amount will be adjusted.
- Eltham - to be disaffiliated; C. Lachman to action.

Selection Trials: It was suggested that the seniors selection events be moved to daytime slots in 2014 given that many Seniors were retired. MTC to consider this in preparation of the calendar for 2014.

Daytime teams event - MTC to review date & suggest an alternative date due to clash with ANC event.

VBA Representation at the Croft Teams. VBA to subsidise 50% of entry. Members to nominate for participation, and teams will be filled on a first come basis provided compliance with the rules governing team composition are met.

4.2 Treasurer Report

The treasurer's report was presented. YTD the accounts are running at break even.

Duplicate table numbers continue to decline, however state bridge is slightly ahead. The VCC is likely to return a small loss due to lower participation than expected.

The meeting discussed some options for reinvigorating the club. It was generally agreed that car parking was a significant issue in increasing player numbers.

The meeting agreed that the next meeting would be spent on the club participation topic, including a rigorous exploration of future options.

Motion 3:

That the Women's team of Jeannette Collins, Laura Ginnan, Cathie Lachman, Helen Snashall, Tania Gariepy & Marian Obenchain with Laurie Kelso as non-playing Captain be ratified.

Moved: Mr D. Morgan

Seconded: Mr N. Ewart

CARRIED

The meeting noted that Martin Willcox has withdrawn as Captain of the Open Team. The meeting was advised that the MTC recommendation was that Chris Hughes had successfully led the pennant team through the qualification & the playoffs and was suitably qualified to captain the team.

Motion 4:

That Chris Hughes be appointed as Captain of the Open Team.

Moved: Mr D. Morgan

Seconded: Mr B. Thompson

CARRIED

Motion 5:

That the Senior Team of Stan Klofa, Dee Harley, Felicity Beale & Robbie van Riel, Sam Arber & Michael Chrapot be ratified.

Moved: Mr D. Morgan

Seconded: Mr B. Thompson

CARRIED

Motion 5:

That Justin Howard, Peter Hollands, Ella Pattinson, Jamie Thompson, Peter Bolling & Elena Moskovsky be ratified as the Junior Team with Grant Kilvington as the non-playing Captain.

Moved: Mr D. Morgan

Seconded: Mr B. Thompson

CARRIED

Mr D. Morgan advised that MTC was of the view that a playing Captain of a team selected via a Butler process was not appropriate, and therefore Stan Klofa's application for captaincy of the team should not be approved.

Council resolved that either of the non-playing Captains previously approved, i.e. Laurie Kelso or Grant Kilvington, could be appointed as Senior Team non-playing Captain.

Mr D. Morgan was asked to write to the Senior team advising them of this decision and requesting their preference for captain from these two candidates.

4.3 Rules Review Committee

Ms K. Frazer advised that dates for member briefings on the proposed changes had been determined & communicated to the membership via VBA Checkback. A briefing pack would be developed for dissemination to VBA members prior to that.

5. General Business

5.1 ABF Constitution ratification.

Ms K. Frazer had circulated a summary of the proposed changes agreed at the prior to the meeting. The ABF meeting had already rejected some of the proposed changes and those remaining were mostly superficial.

Motion 6:

That we ratify the changes to the ABF Constitution revision as proposed.

Moved: Mr D. Morgan

Seconded: Mr B. Thompson

CARRIED

Mr D. Morgan commented that the feedback offered by Mr R. Berlinski would be worth considering in any substantive review of the constitution and as such should be submitted to the ABF for consideration. This recommendation was endorsed by the meeting.

5.2 Marketing Officer contract

Mr B. Thompson noted that Laura Ginnan's contract had expired at the end of May, and that she had been paid on a week to week basis since that time. He noted the key achievements to date: ie.

- development of the 1 Day Crash Course and follow-on workshops, which is planned for roll out across the states once the format is finalised
- development of the Marketing website and marketing support materials for clubs
- development of the new state-wide Victoria Cup event
- support for state activities such as VCC, Teacher Training Program, Youth Bridge activities, the Ritchies Community Benefits program, and Grant proposals
- support for VBA club activities & promotion

The regional councillors commented that Laura's work wasn't as visible to them as they would like. Laura to be advised to send councillors copies of the regular club marketing reports, and monthly activity.

The Marketing sub-committee was requested to develop sensible KPI's for the Marketing Officer.

Funding for the position is drawn from the ABF Marketing Grant and VBA funds. It is hoped to attract further grant money to support the position.

Motion 7:

That the Marketing Officer Contract be extended for 1 year.

Moved: Mr B. Thompson

Seconded: Mr D. Morgan

CARRIED

5.3 IT support

Following the resignation of Mr R. Stewart, Stephen Weisz has offered to assist with IT support at the VBA.

5.4 Victoria Cup info

Mr B. Thompson noted that entries had been slow. Some final promotion over the next week is planned.

Next Meeting: July 3rd commencing at 5.30pm

The meeting closed at 7.30pm

Chairperson

Mr B. Thompson