

## **MINUTES OF MEETING OF VBA COUNCIL**

Held 15 July 2013. (Meeting 8 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
Ms J. Thompson	
Ms T. Kay	
Mr R. Berlinski	
Mr. D. Morgan	
Ms J. Hackett	
Ms P. Dingwall	
Mr P. Fent	

#### **In attendance:**

Ms C. Lachman

#### **1. Apologies:**

Mr N. Ewart

#### **2. Confirmation of Minutes of Previous Meeting**

##### **Motion 1:**

That the minutes of the meeting of 24 June 2013 be accepted:

Moved: Mr B. Thompson

Seconded: Ms J. Thompson

**CARRIED**

#### **2.1 Matters Arising from the minutes & review of action items**

Mr D. Morgan outlined the proposal sent to Mr B. Morgan regarding the proposal for Southern Region clubs to participate in the pennant. This will create two places for teams outside the pennant competition - one for metropolitan teams & one for country teams.

Ms Frazer outlined the responses received on the capitation fee proposal put to clubs. The responses were generally in favour of aligning the capitation dates.

##### **Motion 2:**

That the capitation fee date changes in line with the proposal put to the clubs, including the transitional arrangements as outlined.

Moved: Mr P. Fent

Seconded: Ms K. Frazer

**CARRIED**

Mr B. Thompson summarised the responses to the VQP system - 16 in favour; 3 neutral.

Ms J. Hackett queried the funding model required to run the VQP system as proposed. Mr Thompson advised there were no incremental costs associated with this proposal. Ms Hackett also queried whether the proposal would actually enable any country players to get a pathway into the playoff system. Ms Frazer responded that some country players who

currently travelled to Melbourne to play in the playoffs, and who played in congresses would be expected to qualify under the new system.

**Motion 3:**

That the VQP system as proposed be implemented for the Open Team selection system in 2014, and for the Women & Senior teams from 2015.

Moved: Mr D. Morgan

Seconded: Mr P. Fent

**CARRIED**

The effective date was discussed and is likely to be from the conclusion of the Open Team playoff event annually. It was agreed that MTC will confirm the details, implementation process & communication plan.

MTC also advised that timing & format for senior selection trials is on the MTC agenda to be reviewed.

**3. Correspondence**

**Correspondence In:**

1. Responses to VBA proposal on changes to capitation fee date & VQP System from Yarrowonga, Benalla, Melbourne Bridge Centre & Wodonga. Note MBC was not in favour of compulsory CPI increases.

2. MBC - Application for Marketing Grant

Melbourne Bridge Centre applied for an unspecified amount of funding for an unspecified purpose. Mr B. Thompson outlined the response to MBC which requested them to apply for a specific event & amount.

3. David Thompson - Expression of appreciation to VBA for Youth Training Weekend
4. Bairnsdale - Support for Marketing Grant proposal
5. B. Morgan: Summary Report on ABF AGM (circulated)

The council expressed its appreciation to Mr Brian Morgan for the comprehensive summary provided on the ABF's AGM.

6. ABF: Acknowledgement of Special Project Grant Application
7. Bayview Eden: Contract for 2014 VCC
8. J. Puusepp. Follow up letter re previous correspondence

**Correspondence Out:**

1. ABF: Response on ratification of Constitution changes
2. MTC response to B. Morgan on Southern Region Proposal
3. ABF: Special Project Grant Application
4. ABF: Recommendations for future changes to ABF Constitution as suggested by Mr R. Berlinski
5. J. Puusepp. Follow up letter re previous correspondence

**4. Sub-committee & Other Reports**

**4.1 Club Manager Report**

The club manager tabled a report on activity for discussion.

**Motion 4:**

That the following new members: George Lisowski (new); Steve Gregory (new) be accepted as members of the VBA.

Moved: Mr J. Thompson

Seconded: Mr D. Morgan

**CARRIED**

The meeting discussed the affiliation fee status report. Mr Thompson advised the meeting of the current status with King & Queens who have not paid any affiliation fees to date. He advised that there have been numerous conversations with Kings & Queens regarding this matter, including an invitation to enter into a payment plan, however these discussions had not led to a resolution of the matter. A final letter demanding payment had been sent to Kings and Queens, outlining the consequences of non-payment.

**Motion 5:**

That proceedings to disaffiliate Kings & Queens Victoria and Kings & Queens Bridge School commence.

Moved: Mr B. Thompson

Seconded: Mr D. Morgan

**CARRIED**

Mr Berlinski raised the procedural point regarding affiliation protocols & documentation for same. The meeting agreed for this to be an agenda item next month.

**4.2 Finance sub-committee report**

i) Proposal to change Table Fees and Entry fees

Following the proposal by Robert Stewart that we review our table and entry fee structure to simplify and standardise fees the finance committee has discussed the issue and has come up with the following recommendations:

That the VBA change its table fees as follows

- Remove all entry fees and move to a flat rate structure per session
- Increase the duplicate table fee from \$9 to \$10 and that we also introduce a book of 10 for \$95
- Club Competitions are at a flat rate of \$12 per night/session
- State Competitions are \$16 per night/session
- Selection events are \$18 per night/session

We have calculated the effect on revenue and the changes should be revenue neutral.

**Motion 6:**

That the changes to table fees be amended as recommended with effect from all events starting after September 1st 2013 and for all duplicate sessions from that date.

Moved: Ms K. Frazer

Seconded: Mrs J. Thompson

**CARRIED**

Publicity for fee changes to be included in Checkback (for club & duplicate sessions) & VBA Bulletin (for state selection & state events).

#### **4.3 Rules Review Committee**

Mrs J. Thompson briefed the council on the proposed member briefings & documents for changes to the constitution which have been under discussion for some time and are expected to be put to the VBA members at the 2013 AGM.

Mr R. Berlinski raised some concerns with the wording proposed in the documents. Mrs Thompson advised that the legal adviser would ensure all wording in the final documents was sound.

Ms P Dingwall questioned the regional councillor numbers proposed. Mr Thompson advised that the proposal was to have 4 elected representatives from affiliated clubs - 2 representing regional clubs & 2 representing metropolitan clubs.

Council agreed to circulate the briefing documents as proposed for information & consultation with members prior to the briefing sessions which are set for Saturday 20th & Monday 29th July.

#### **4.4 VCC Report**

Ms Frazer tabled the reports from the VCC. Some key recommendations for future events were discussed. A key initiative recommended is to identify key participants in each club across the state and utilise them to promote the event within their home clubs.

Ms Dingwall suggested increasing promotion of the venue which is well liked by players & the excellent running of the event would assist in improving participation.

Ms Frazer advised that she would not be available to convene the 2014 event. The council thanked Ms Frazer for her efforts in successfully convening the VCC this year.

An advertisement for a convenor for the 2014 VCC to be put in Checkback & the VBA Bulletin

#### **4.5 MTC Report**

The MTC tabled a copy of the minutes from the meeting of 22 May 2013. The report was accepted by the meeting.

#### **5. General Business**

Clubroom future planning.

The council was informed about some options regarding a potential location for the VBA. Council authorised Ms Frazer & Mr Thompson to continue to pursue this option.

**Next Meeting: August 21st commencing at 5.30pm**

The meeting closed at 7.30pm

Chairperson

Mr B. Thompson