

MINUTES OF MEETING OF VBA COUNCIL

Held 18 September 2013. (Meeting 10 2013)

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

Chairperson: Mr B. Thompson

The meeting opened at 5.45pm

Present:

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

In attendance:

Ms C. Lachman

Mr B. Thompson chaired the meeting

1. Apologies:

Mr P. Fent; Ms T. Kay

Confirmation of Minutes of Previous Meeting

Motion 1:

That the minutes of the meeting of 21 August 2013 be accepted:

Moved: Ms K. Frazer

Seconded: Ms R. Berlinski

CARRIED

2.1 Matters Arising from the minutes & review of action items

Director accreditation process progressing

Club kit completed & will be circulated to all clubs with the annual accounts

Grant applications to the ABF. The ABF were overwhelmed with applications from the states and have deferred the process.

Marketing KPI's are under development. Mr Thompson advised that a first objective was set as successful delivery of the Mind/Sports Festival during seniors week in October.

Robert Ellery has volunteered to be convenor for the VBA xmas congress. The council agreed to this appointment with thanks

2. Correspondence

Correspondence In:

1. Simon Hinge - Summary report from the ABF management committee meeting
2. Margaret Yuill - Request for clarification on timing of the GNOT heat
3. ABF: Keith McDonald - Letter of support for VBA actions over K&Q letter of demand

4. ABF: Voluntary Workers Insurance Certificate of Currency & Standard form letter for clubs
5. ABF et al: Proposed changes to GNOT
6. Cruise Holidays: Proposal
7. ABF: Response to letter on communication of rule changes to club directors
8. ABF: State Restricted Pairs event

Correspondence Out:

1. Club Secretaries Update for August
2. Eltham Letter of disaffiliation
3. ABF: - Communication of rule changes to club directors

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: Marjorie Pardasani (reactivation); Val Leber (new); Michelle Bihary (new) be accepted as members of the VBA.

Moved: Mr B. Thompson

Seconded: Mr R. Berlinski

CARRIED

Capitation Fees: The annual round is to commence with capitation invoices will be sent out after 30 Sept. The capitation numbers will be based on masterpoint centre data as at 30 Sept, and process will follow the proposal outlined in the letter to clubs circulated earlier in 2013.

Table Nos: Decline in duplicate numbers continues to be a concern. New Wed morning session has poor numbers. The meeting felt that at least 3 months was required to give the session an opportunity to develop.

Further discussion on the session deferred to the club specific planning day.

The meeting agreed to cancel the club sessions on December 26th as it is a public holiday.

4.2 Treasurer Report

The treasurer presented a draft set of financial accounts for the year ending August 31 2013.

The treasurer outlined the rationale for split of costs between state and club activity in the accounts, and responded to questions from the meeting.

4.3 Rules Review Committee

Ms J. Thompson reported that a redraft of the constitution is now available. This will be circulated to council for comment by Sept 27th prior to making it available to the members for comment at the end of September or early October.

She thanks Prof Michael Bryan for his extensive work on the process to date.

The secretary will circulate the draft & co-ordinate feedback from council.

5. General Business

- a) Cruise Ships Offer

Ms Frazer outlined an unsolicited offer from a Cruise ships travel company and canvassed whether this offer would be appealing to members. In principle the council felt this was a good idea as it would provide another opportunity for members to take advantage of a social bridge gathering. The marketing officer will be allocated the task of pursuing this option.

b) Restricted State Pairs Gold Points Proposal from ABF

The meeting agreed that the State Pairs was a meritorious idea, but that the event should be red points, and the masterpoint cutoff should be less than 300. Mr Thompson will respond to the ABF regarding the proposal.

c) ABF request to take over responsibility for non-Metro GNOT regions

The council felt the proposed changes were unacceptable. As a National event, the council believed the ABF should continue to hold responsibility for this event. The secretary will respond to the ABF on the proposed changes.

d) Confirm date for club planning day

The club planning day has been rescheduled to November 9 at 10am.

e) AGM preparations.

The meeting papers need to be ready to send to members by November 11th. The secretary will ensure the appropriate timeframes are met.

Ms Dingwall asked whether she was required to attend the AGM. Mr Thompson advised that it wasn't necessary, but that she would be welcome to attend the AGM.

Terri Kay joined the meeting

Mr Berlinski suggested that a survey of members and past members be conducted to ascertain what they like and don't like. The meeting deferred discussion of a survey until the club planning day.

Next Meeting: October 16th at 5.30pm

The meeting closed at 7.10pm

Chairperson

Mr B. Thompson