

MINUTES OF MEETING OF VBA COUNCIL

Held 3 September 2014. (Meeting 8 2014)

The meeting opened at 5.30pm

**Present:**

Ms K. Frazer	Secretary
Mr N. Ewart	Treasurer
Mr R. Quirk	
Mr D. Sheather	
Ms P. Dingwall	
Ms S. Livingston	

Also present: Ms C. Lachman

The meeting asked Mr Rob Quirk to chair the meeting

1. **Apologies**

Mr D. Morgan, Mr B. Thompson, Mrs J. Thompson

The secretary noted that Mr D. Morgan required a resolution by council to allow the absence for this meeting.

**Motion 1:**

That Mr D. Morgan's apology be accepted

Moved: Ms. K. Frazer    Seconded: Mr N. Ewart

**CARRIED**

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

**Motion 2:**

That the minutes of the meeting of 28 July 2014 be accepted.

Moved: Ms. K. Frazer    Seconded: Ms S. Livingston

**CARRIED**

**Matters Arising & Outstanding Items**

a. Generic funding policy for advertising support for clubs

**Motion 3:**

That the policy for advertising funding as circulated be approved.

Moved: Ms P. Livingston    Seconded: Mr N. Ewart

**CARRIED**

The secretary will arrange to post the new policy to all clubs and to the VBA website.

b. Subsidies for country players in State team events - carried over.

c. Selection process for restricted pairs for ANC - carried over.

d. Response on Governance to the ABF

Mr Thompson had collated responses and replied to the ABF.

### **3. Correspondence In:**

1. ASIC - notification of removal of Terri Kay as a director
2. Congress Entry Proposal responses from Waverley, Lakes Entrance, Geelong;
3. D. Upsall re State Masterpoint events

The secretary to respond to David regarding the concerns with masterpointing of state events in conjunction with M&T.

4. Shirley Stewart re Director's exam
5. Dementia Foundation - Support request
6. ABF: Pacific Women's Bridge Online Tournament
7. ABF: Marketing Grants

The VBA to put forward an application for funding. K. Frazer & B. Thompson to liaise and develop an application. Other councillors to consider initiatives. Some thoughts for funding application are for Schools Bridge Program; Women's bridge program; developing programs to target other age groups such as 30 - 40 year olds.

8. ABF: Summary of Management Committee meeting
9. ABF: Notification of PQP awards for Open Pairs at VCC
10. Application for affiliation of "Grand Prix Bridge Club"
11. Approval of Liquor Licence

### **Motion 4:**

That the request for affiliation of the "Grand Prix Bridge Club" be accepted.

Moved: Ms S. Livingston Seconded: Mr N. Ewart

**CARRIED**

The meeting discussed the process for affiliation. The council directed the secretary to investigate and document a VBA affiliation policy for clubs.

The council requested M&T committee to review the congress allocation process in light of the current policy which allows all affiliated clubs to hold a congress regardless of activity, as this may lead to conflicts as the number of clubs grow. Consideration should also be given to the appropriateness of granting clubs congresses where those clubs have no playing sessions or members apart from the founders.

### **Correspondence Out:**

1. Club secretaries August Bulletin
2. Shirley Stewart re Director's exam
3. Traralgon re Funding application
4. T. Kay - Acknowledgement of service on council
5. ABF: Barrier Reef/VCC date clash
6. ABF: VBA response on State Gold Point events

### **4. Sub-committees & Reports**

#### **a. Club Manager Report (C. Lachman)**

- i. Update on IT & Networking Issues

The club manager provided a comprehensive report on the current status of networking issues at the VBA. She noted that the maintenance of the computing and network facilities at the VBA which has been managed for at least the last 12 years by the goodwill of members had created an environment which has resulted in the existing issues. She noted

that members now had an expectation of the service to be provided online and were dissatisfied with the current level of service.

It is anticipated that the network issues are close to resolution, and a more stable environment will be in place soon.

Council agreed that an on-going IT management policy is required, and it may be worth considering engaging a company to manage the IT network on behalf of the VBA rather than relying on the goodwill of members.

**Status of Capitation Fees:**

The club manager reported that 3 clubs have fees outstanding. These are:

Tricks & Trumps

Club Tivoli

Melbourne Contract Bridge Centre

All these clubs have been contacted on numerous occasions regarding the outstanding debt. The club manager will write to David Weston advising that no red point sessions be approved for these clubs until the outstanding capitation fees are paid.

**Motion 5:**

That Dan Phelan and Betty Mill be ratified as members of the VBA.

Moved: Mr R. Quirk      Seconded: Mr N. Ewart

CARRIED

b. Interim committee

No report

c. Web site

A general proposal from the web mistress was tabled. The website sub-committee to develop a plan to progress the website

d. Finance

The treasurer tabled a draft annual report. The treasurer reported that it is very pleasing to note that the VBA is achieving the goals set at its strategy planning meeting in October 2013. The measures established to reduce costs have been effective. The treasurer noted that due to the network issues, some of the data required confirmation and a finalised financial statement is anticipated in the next couple of weeks. The auditors are being contacted to audit the accounts in preparation for the AGM in early December.

5. **General business**

a. Special Councillor Elections

The secretary outlined some suggested changes

**Motion 6:**

That the conduct of election regulations as tabled with the removal of clause 8, and the revised election of special councillor regulations be adopted.

Moved: Mr P. Dingwall      Seconded: Ms S. Livingston

CARRIED

The secretary to arrange for the documents and the updated club listing to be posted to the website.

**Motion 7:**

That Mr Paul Hobson be appointed as Returning Officer for 2014 subject to confirmation of cover by the Directors and Officers Insurance Policy

Moved: Mr N. Ewart     Seconded: Ms D. Sheather

**CARRIED**

b. Women's bridge Proposal

A proposal has been received from Anna St Clair. The council agreed in principle to the proposal however would like to ensure the advertising is not perceived as selective, and that the program is expanded beyond its initial scope over time.

c. VBA Xmas Congress

The council agreed that the Club Manager should approach Robert Ellery regarding convening the Xmas Congress for the VBA

d. Schools bridge program update

Ms Livingston reported that 25 people attended the directors program. An extremely positive response has been received from attendees on the two day event. P. Marley & L. Kelso marking exam papers now, and results should be available soon.

J. Hackett/P. Marley identifying date for Northern Region director training to ensure members who could not participate at the VBA could attend a training program.

J. Butts in Victoria on 11th October for a teaching program. Advertising in place in the bulletin.

**Next meeting:**

Secretary to determine a date and advise council.

The meeting closed at 6.50pm

Chairperson

Mr R. Quirk