

MINUTES OF MEETING OF VBA COUNCIL

Held 15 October 2014. (Meeting 9 2014)

The meeting opened at 5.32pm

**Present:**

Mr B. Thompson	President
Ms K. Frazer	Secretary
Mr N. Ewart	Treasurer
Mr R. Quirk	
Mr D. Sheather	
Mr D. Morgan	
Ms S. Livingston	
Mrs J. Thompson	

Also present: Ms C. Lachman

Mr B. Thompson took the chair.

1. **Apologies**

Ms P. Dingwall

**Resolution 1:**

That Ms P. Dingwall's request for leave of absence for the next 3 meetings be accepted.

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

**CARRIED**

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

**Resolution 2:**

That the minutes of the meeting of 3 September be accepted.

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

**CARRIED**

**Matters Arising & Outstanding Items**

- i. Subsidies for country players in State team events (carry over)
- ii. Selection process for restricted pairs for ANC (carry over)
- iii. Congress management on VBA website

A number of responses were received from clubs. On the basis of the feedback received

Council resolved that initially Option 2 would be accepted: i.e. Update the Congress Listing page to provide a link to the entry webpage whether it is on Bridge Unlimited, the club's website or elsewhere) for the congress. Also include on the Congress Listing a link to the Results page for the congress.

- iv. VBA affiliation policy for clubs (carry over)

### **3. Correspondence**

#### **Correspondence In:**

- i. Congress Entry Proposal responses from MCBC, Traralgon, Sale, Paynesville
- ii. M. Callander re Player behavioural issue
- iii. Yarra Valley re Capitation Charging discrepancy
- iv. ABF: Request for nominee for National Women in Bridge committee  
Anna St Clair as the women's bridge co-ordinator has been nominated to act as the VBA's representative on the National Women in Bridge Committee.
- v. ABF: Request to advertise Sport Accord World Mind Games
- vi. ABF: Request for confirmation of calendar dates for 2016
- vii. ABF: Get Wines Direct commission notification
- viii. ABF: Interstate Teams Championship - proposals to avoid byes and review of 2 team policy

The secretary was requested to write to ABF and re-iterate the previous view submitted on the 2 team policy. The meeting also discussed splitting the ANC & Butler pairs. The council had no objection to this.

- ix. ABF: Summary of Management Committee Meeting & Minutes
- x. Glen Eira Council: Notice of Planning Application
- xi. ABF: Joan Butts re Teacher Training Planning for 2015

Ms Livingston reported some dates are being considered for 2015. There was some concern expressed by Wodonga/Albury which experienced clashes with events held in 2014 and attempts should be made to avoid this clash when scheduling dates, however council recognises that the limited number of free weekends may make this difficult to achieve.

- xii. Melton Bridge club - request for advertising funding  
Addressed in Club Manager report

#### **Correspondence Out:**

- i. Notice to clubs of Special councillor Elections and call for nominations
- ii. Eltham: re becoming re-affiliated
- iii. ABF: Marketing Grant application
- iv. ABF: Confirmation of VCC date for 2016
- v. Notice to VBA members calling for nominations for VBA Council

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

#### **a. Treasurer Report - Annual Financial Accounts**

The treasurer outlined the highlights of the accounts. The auditors have verified the accounts are in order.

#### **Resolution 3:**

That in the opinion of the directors:

- (i) the Financial Statements and notes thereto
  - (a) comply with the accounting standards
  - (b) give a true and fair view of the financial position and performance of the Company
  - (c) be in accordance with the Corporations Act 2001, and

(ii) at the date of this meeting, there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Company will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

Moved: Mr N. Ewart

Seconded: Mr B. Thompson

CARRIED

**Resolution 4:**

Pursuant to section 295 of the Corporations Act 2001, the Council authorises the signing of the Directors' Declaration on the Statements by the President and Treasurer.

Moved: Ms K. Frazer

Seconded: Ms J. Thompson

CARRIED

b. MTC Report

Mr Morgan reported on the recent MTC meeting.

Concern was expressed by MTC regarding the congress allocation policy, and the number of requests received which is now greater than the number of available dates. The MTC is seeking clarification from council on the allocation priority. Council agreed that priority should be given to clubs that run playing sessions, as per the active club definition which is defined in the VBA articles of association.

Concern was also expressed regarding allocation of one day congresses run over two separate weekends. Clubs choosing to run a congress on 2 days over separate weekends will only be given priority for one congress day on one weekend, with the second or subsequent days being allocated if available.

Mr Morgan was asked to update the Congress Allocation policy in light of the above recommendations for approval at the next meeting.

c. Club Manager Report (C. Lachman)

The club manager raised a request for advertising funding received from Melton Bridge Club. The secretary asked for clarification from council on the approvals process given the recently approved advertising funding policy.

The council resolved that Advertising funding approvals which are under the pre-approved policy limit may be approved by the finance sub-committee without waiting for a council meeting.

Eltham affiliation application: The club manager reported that discussions with Eltham revealed the applicants were essentially the same people who had previously affiliated, and from whom outstanding debts were owed to both the ABF and VBA. Council agreed that outstanding debts from Eltham must be cleared before re-affiliation could be approved. The club manager to write to Eltham regarding the decision.

IT issues continue to be progressed. An on-going maintenance and support cost needs to be implemented. C. Lachman and S. Weisz to progress and report back.

d. Interim committee (J. Thompson)

Nothing to report - no meeting held.

5. **General Business**

a. **Minuted signatory approval**

The Club manager advised that the ANZ bank required a new minuted note authorised the change of signatories for the sealed packet.

**Resolution 5:**

The current signatories of Charles E Snashall (now dec) and Jeannette M Collins be removed and replaced with B Thompson, A Ewart, K Frazer and C Lachman with any one of the 4 to sign.

Additionally, Ms C Lachman is authorised to close the account and collect the sealed packet from the ANZ Bank Prahran.

**Moved:** Ms K. Frazer

**Seconded:** Mr. R. Quirk

CARRIED

b. **Appointment of Vice President**

**Resolution 6:**

That Mr D. Morgan be appointed as Vice President pro-tem until the AGM.

**Moved:** Ms K. Frazer

**Seconded:** Mr. D. Sheather

c. **AGM Matters**

The secretary raised some concerns with early December timing of the AGM; i.e. the proximity to the holiday season and the day of the meeting which made attaining a quorum difficult.

Council agreed to move the date of the AGM for 2015 to the 3rd Monday in November.

v. **Special Motions - none received to date**

Council acknowledged its appreciation of the support that Paul Hobson has provided in reviewing all documentation and regulations and ensuring everything complies with our rules.

d. **Club History Project**

The President advised that Ms Meredith Woods has volunteered to work on digging into and documenting our history. We would aim to provide some materials/resources on our website. Meredith will need access to our records for this purpose. We should consider a small budget (eg she may need to get copies of things from external sources e.g the Bourke Bridge Collection at the State Library).

Council agreed to an initial budget of \$250 for incidental costs.

e. **VBA Summer Congress**

Robert Ellery has agreed to convene this and Cathie Lachman will assist.

f. **VCC Proposed Changes**

The secretary presented a report regarding some proposed changes to the VCC for 2015 including the introduction of prize money. Given this would impact on overall profit for the event, the secretary sought the approval of council to implement this change.

The meeting agreed that the idea of introducing prize money for the VCC had merit however it must be angled towards the average player, and the quantum of prize money allocated would depend on overall anticipated profit for the event.

**Next meeting:**

November 19th, 2014

The meeting closed at 7.25pm

Chairperson

Mr B. Thompson