

MINUTES OF MEETING OF VBA COUNCIL

Held 19 November 2014. (Meeting 10 2014)

The meeting opened at 6.05 pm

Present:

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

Mr B. Thompson took the chair.

1. **Apologies**

Ms P. Dingwall; Ms S. Livingston

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

Resolution 1:

That the minutes of the meeting of 15 October 2014 be accepted.

Moved: Ms K. Frazer Seconded: Mr D. Sheather

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)

Mr Morgan advised that MTC had discussed this and were suggesting that a restricted pairs final could be conducted in conjunction with the simultaneous pairs final. A qualification process will be advised to all clubs early in the new year. Liaison with the FABCV will be undertaken to progress the selection process.

- iii. Congress management on VBA website (carry over for implementation)
- iv. VBA affiliation policy for clubs
General Business Item
- v. VBA Congress Calendar allocation policy

Mr Morgan outlined the proposed revisions to the current policy.

Resolution 2:

That the revised Calendar Allocation policy be ratified.

Moved: Mr B. Thompson Seconded: Mr R. Quirk

CARRIED

The secretary will advise clubs on the changes to the policy in the next club secretaries update.

3. Correspondence

Correspondence In:

1. ABF: Women in Bridge Online Festival prize awards
2. ABF, B. Neill: Summary of Management Committee Meeting
3. ABF: Notification of Change of Sponsor Name re Get Wines Direct
4. ABF: Notification of Marketing Fund Sponsorship application: Declined

Correspondence Out:

1. Eltham re: application for re-affiliation
2. ABF: Byes at the ANC
3. VBA AGM notices

4. Sub-committees & Reports

a. MTC Report

i) Minutes of meeting of October 6th 2014 were tabled.

Mr Morgan highlighted the key decisions relating to the calendar in 2015. A copy of the minutes will be made available on the VBA website.

Mr Morgan also discussed the composition of the Match and Tournament committee for 2015.

b. Club Manager Report

The club manager's report was tabled.

Resolution 2:

That Jillian Lawrence be ratified as a member.

Moved: Ms K. Frazer Seconded: Mr B. Thompson

CARRIED

c. Interim committee (J. Thompson)

Ms Thompson reported that Mr Q. Van Abbe had emailed interim committee members seeking advice on whether feedback should be sought from Special Councillors on their experiences in the last year. This was the first interim committee activity this year. Responses from interim committee members had not been received as of the date of this meeting.

5. **General Business**

a. **VBA Affiliation Policy**

Ms Frazer presented the draft policy. Some minor modifications to the proposed policy were discussed. Council agreed that the application of a minimum charge for clubs of \$50 which would be offset against the club's capitation fees had merit and would be included.

b. **Membership database**

The meeting resolved that the Finance sub-committee investigate available software and prepare a recommendation for council.

c. **GNOT:**

Some discussion ensued about the ABF offer to devolve responsibility for running the GNOT to the states. This offer was emphatically rejected by the VBA which feels that whilst regional teams enjoy contesting the GNOT, if it continues to run in its current format it will impose a significant financial burden on the VBA. The VBA's response to the ABF has not been addressed, and until a reasonable dialogue ensues the VBA will continue to decline the ABF's offer to take over running the national event for the state.

d. **VCC:**

K. Frazer reported on the changes to the VCC program for 2015. The program has been finalised, and the event will offer more options for players below the restricted level. Mr Ewart reported that many players were intending to contest an event in Norway at the same time, and this may impact on player numbers. A concerted effort will be made to attract local players to the event.

Next meeting:

December 10th, 2014

The meeting closed at 6.55pm

Chairperson

Mr B. Thompson