

MINUTES OF MEETING OF VBA COUNCIL

Held 10 December 2014. (Meeting 11 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 C. Lovelock	
Mr J. Fust	

Mr N. Ewart took the chair.

1. **Apologies**

Ms H. MacAdam; Ms J. Thompson

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

Resolution 1:

That the minutes of the meeting of 19 November 2014 be accepted.

Moved: Mr R. Quirk Seconded: Mr D. Sheather

CARRIED

Matters Arising & Outstanding Items

- i. Subsidies for country players in State team events
- ii. Selection process for restricted pairs for ANC
 - L. Kelso is liaising with the Simultaneous Pairs organiser to evaluate the feasibility of using this event as the process for selection. The events would be run in parallel and the top 2 pairs would be selected as the Victorian representative pairs to the ANC. Some further consultation will occur.

Mr Thompson joined the meeting and assumed the Chair.

- iii. Congress management on VBA website

Given the resignation of the webmaster, council resolved that this action item will expand to a broader project on the website. The website requires a complete redesign as the existing design is out of date. Investigation of some website options is underway. An interim management solution will be sought.
- iv. Dates for Joan Butts visit in 2015

The secretary advised that the outgoing councillor Ms S. Livingston who had been chairing the Education sub-committee, had been negotiating dates with Joan for a further Teacher Training Weekend. Suggested dates are 21/22 March. Secretary to write to Joan to confirm dates. As occurred in 2014, Joan Butts may wish to arrange some activities in other clubs around the time of the visit.
- v. Finalise Draft Affiliation Policy (carryover)

- vi. Membership Database Software (Finance sub-comm) - carryover

3. Correspondence

Correspondence In:

1. Bill Hunter - Low Vision Traveller Labels
2. ABF: Draft Agenda for Management Committee - December
3. A St Clair - Women's Bridge Program update report. (circulated)

Ms Frazer noted that the program has been extremely well received by the participants with strong attendance. Council discussed how the material and program might be utilised with other audiences, and resolved that this would be up to the Education sub-committee.

J. Fust to investigate how to enhance recording topics to produce high quality video output for re-use. Liaison with the women's bridge program will be passed over to the Education sub-committee.

Council resolved that consideration of the request for dates for 2 x training weekends for women would be managed by the MTC. It was noted that the cancellation of the Berwick congress may provide an opportunity for hosting a weekend. Council also noted that a 1-day training event may be more appealing to country participants.

4. P. Hobson - Returning Officer report on AGM elections (circulated)

The report confirmed the election process had been conducted in accordance with the regulations, and the Articles of Association. Ms Frazer acknowledged the work that Mr Hobson had done in fulfilling the role this year.

5. Berwick Bridge Club - notification of cancellation of 2015 congress
6. R. Thomson - resignation as webmaster

Correspondence Out:

1. Letter of acknowledgement of service to P. Dingwall, S. Livingston

4. Sub-committees & Reports

a. MTC Report

Mr Morgan reported that no further meeting had occurred since the last council meeting. Minutes are being finalised. Creation of the calendar was very time consuming.

b. Club Manager Report

The club manager's report was tabled.

Resolution 2:

That Yao Jian Lu, Chen Ding be ratified as members.

Moved: Ms B. Thompson Seconded: Mr N. Ewart

CARRIED

c. Interim committee

No report.

d. VCC

Ms Frazer reported that TBIB, the ABF insurance sponsor, are keen to provide sponsorship for the 2015 event. Negotiations are underway as to the form this will take.

5. General Business

a. Draft schedule for 2015 Council meetings

Jan 10th	Planning Day
Feb 18th	Council Meeting
Mar 18th	Council Meeting
Apr 22nd	Council Meeting
May 27th	Council Meeting
Jun 13th	Club President's Day (Council meeting prior)
Jul 8th	Council Meeting
Aug 19th	Council Meeting
Sep 16th	Council Meeting
Oct 15th	Council Meeting (Approval of annual accounts)
Nov 16th	AGM
Dec 16th	Council Meeting

Ms J. Thompson joined the meeting.

b. Sub-committee & appointment review

The council reviewed the list. The following changes were made.

Resolution 3:

That MTC for 2015 comprise D. Morgan (Chair), L. Kelso, L. Ginnan, B. Thompson, A. Robbins, P. Schroor, L. Meyer, Di Smart

Moved: Mr D. Morgan

Seconded: Mr B. Morgan

CARRIED

Resolution 4:

That the Chair of the Education sub-committee be Jeff Fust.

Moved: Mr B. Thompson

Seconded: Ms K. Frazer

CARRIED

Council resolved that Mr Fust will approach other people to participate in the Education sub-committee. The secretary will circulate a copy of the Education Policy as prepared by S. Livingston to Council.

Resolution 5:

That the Marketing committee be B. Thompson, R. Quirk **and J. Fust**

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

CARRIED

Resolution 6:

That the House sub-committee be chaired by Mr D. Sheather

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

CARRIED

Mr Sheather will approach some members regarding participation on the House sub-committee.

Website Management. Given the resignation of the webmaster, Council resolved that Website management will be subsumed into Finance until the existing issues are resolved. Mr Thompson commented that there are a number of issues that need resolution with the existing website. Mr Morgan suggested the ACBL website is a nice format for a website for bridge <http://www.acbl.org/>. Consideration would be given to the use of a more conventional web format such as Wordpress or some other format that is popularly used and which could be readily supported. The matter will be discussed further at the planning day on January 10th.

VBA Congress convenor. R. Ellery had been unavailable for much of the time in the lead up to the VBA congress. Council agreed that a permanent convenor should be sought for VBA congress & State Daytime Pairs. Council also agreed that an honorarium could be paid for someone willing to undertake the role on a permanent basis. The next checkback would include an ad for convenor, and council will actively seek a candidate for the role.

The President noted that Mr B. Morgan's term as VBA representative to the ABF would expire in 2015. The meeting resolved to request nominations from clubs for the position early in the new year, as occurred in 2013.

The next meeting will be a Planning Day. The President invited all councillors to submit suggestions for the agenda to either the secretary or himself. It is anticipated the planning day will run from 10.30am - 3.30pm. Times will be confirmed when the meeting notice is issued.

Next meeting:

January 10th, 2014

The meeting closed at 7.25pm

Chairperson

Mr B. Thompson