

MINUTES OF MEETING OF VBA COUNCIL

Held 14 October 2015. (Meeting 9 2015)

The meeting opened at 5.37 pm

Present:

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

In attendance: Ms C. Lachman

1. **Apologies**

Mr J. Fust

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

Resolution 1:

That the minutes of the meeting of September 16 2015 be accepted.

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

CARRIED

Matters Arising, Outstanding Items, and review of Action Items

a. Congress code of conduct and Disciplinary Committee

Mr Thompson reported he had contacted several clubs all of whom appeared to be in favour of the idea of establishing such a committee. The next step is to put together a draft proposal for circulation to clubs.

b. Peter Busch training session

Mr Fust not present. Mr Thompson to follow up regarding next steps.

c. Congress Mailouts

The meeting discussed accessing bridge player email addresses to provide notifications of congresses and other state events. The meeting resolved to post a notice on the VBA website and the VBA bulletin inviting Victorian players to opt-in to receive email notifications of coming events.

d. Investigate travel arrangements with Flight Centre

Ms Frazer reported she had been in discussion with Canberra Bridge Club regarding their arrangements with Flight Centre, and would be pursuing this over the coming weeks. Mr Giles reported he had initiated some contact with the Ballarat branch. The meeting agreed that an initial arrangement with the VBA and Ballarat would be prudent.

e. Defibrillator

Ms Lachman reported the defibrillator had been purchased. Training needs to be undertaken.

3. Correspondence

In:

- a) Nominations for council (Sheather, Thompson, Thompson)
- b) P. Hobson - acceptance of nomination as returning officer
- c) J. Puusepp - ongoing correspondence
- d) M Zylberman via N Ewart – Representation Letter

Out:

- a) Q. Van Abbe re Simultaneous Pairs
- b) Club secretaries monthly update
- c) Affiliated Clubs: Notice of nominations for council
- d) J. Puusepp - on-going correspondence
- e) ANZ Bank – Audit Request – Certificates
- g) N Ewart to M Zylberman – Acknowledgement of Auditing Scope FY2015

4. Sub-committees & Reports

a. Finance

The treasurer presented the annual accounts which were largely unchanged from the draft set presented at the September meeting.

Resolution 2:

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:** Ms J. Thompson

CARRIED

Resolution 3:

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: Mr N. Ewart **Seconded:** Ms J. Thompson

d. MTC

Mr Morgan raised some correspondence received from Mr R. Stewart regarding the clash of dates between GNOT final and the Women's/Senior's Event scheduled for November. He noted that given the calendar is full it was difficult to avoid clashes, however this would be taken into consideration for 2016 scheduling.

The timing of publication of the new calendar booklet was discussed. It was noted that clubs are sometimes tardy in submitting updates to change of office bearers. The meeting agreed that every effort is made to get updated information from clubs, however publication could not be delayed and would use the information available at the time. The website would be available for updated information in the event changes were received after publication date closeoff.

F. VBA Future

9th January tentatively scheduled for VBA planning day.

e. Administration Report

Ms Lachman submitted the administration report.

She highlighted the recently run Seniors event which was well received by participants, and noted the correspondence received from one participant which praised the event format and conduct.

Ms Lachman acknowledged the donation of 16 boxes of books from D. Lourenz. Books will be available for sale during youth bridge week as part of the VBA fund raising activities during that week.

Melbourne Cup Day events. The meeting agreed that L. Ginnan be approached to run the day's events.

5. **General Business**

a. AGM

VBA member fees: Capitation is increasing by \$0.25, and a \$5 increase to the VBA member fee is proposed to cover the capitation increase and the additional cost of Pianola services to members. The meeting resolved to put a motion to the 2015 AGM that the membership fees for VBA members increases by \$5, and the fee for Associate members increase by the same amount.

b. Event Promotion

Ms Frazer raised the lack of event promotion and the general downturn in entry numbers in events. She suggested reconsidering hiring a marketing and promotions officer. Mr Ewart expressed concern regarding funding such a position. Ms Frazer suggested the position could be funded on a commission basis.

The meeting agreed to advertise for a "pianolameister" to manage promotional activity for state and club events.

It was further agreed that Mr Thompson will approach L. Ginnan regarding conducting one-off events such as Teams of Three for the VBA on a commission basis.

Next meeting:

AGM - Monday 16th November

The meeting closed at 7.15pm

Mr B. Thompson

Chairperson