

## MINUTES OF MEETING OF VBA COUNCIL

Held 17 February 2016. (Meeting 2 2016)

The meeting opened at 5.30pm

### **Present:**

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

### 1. **Apologies**

Nil

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

#### **Resolution 1:**

That the minutes of the meeting of January 9, 2016 be accepted.

**Moved:** Mr R. Giles      **Seconded:** Mr B. Thompson

**CARRIED**

### **Action Item List Review**

Education items deferred pending identification of a suitable individual to lead the Education work.

P. Busch workshop was considered too expensive. Effort will continue to see if this can be run via webcast. B. Thompson to speak with Peter Hollands regarding the possibility of setting this up.

Defibrillator training needs to be completed for all staff.

Other items in progress.

### 3. **Correspondence**

#### **In:**

- a) ASIC - Confirmation of J Fust resignation
- b) ABF: Management Committee Communique
- c) ABF: Marketing Update (circulated to clubs)
- d) A. St Clair re Disciplinary & Ethics committee
- e) Berwick Bridge Club: Support for D&E committee;
- f) Ballarat Bridge Club: Support for D&E committee; Query re VBA support for Bridge Festival

Ballarat/Canberra Interclub event on 6-10 April. ACT Bridge Federation have contributed \$200 towards hospitality costs. Council recommended Ballarat apply via the Future Bridge Fund for funding support.

g) Mary Elson: Promotion of Lessons to Clubs

The meeting confirmed that promotion of any events other than B4C events to other clubs was permitted.

h) Knox Bridge Club: Advice of follow-up letter to be sent on D&E committee; Concern regarding timing of notice and amount of time provided to clubs for responses.

**Out:**

- a) Club secretaries monthly update
- b) Castlemaine U3A - re Becoming an affiliated club
- c) G. Johnson: Disciplinary Matter
- d) G. Morris - Statewide Disciplinary & Ethics Committee
- e) A. St Clair re D& E committee

**4. Sub-committees & Reports**

a. Finance

The treasurer provided an update on VBA subscriptions and the Financial position.

Monday night club competition is running at lower levels than 2015. State events running slightly ahead of 2015. The 6-monthly accounts will be prepared for review at the March council meeting.

b. Capitation Fee.

As per the policy, the capitation fee should increase by CPI which is a \$0.25 increase.

**Resolution 2:**

That the capitation fee for 2016 increase by 25cents to \$10.50.

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

**CARRIED**

c. ANC subsidies 2016

The secretary presented a discussion paper on ANC subsidies. She noted that it is over 10 years since there was a change to the per diem allowance of \$30 per day. She suggested that an attempt to keep pace with rising costs should be considered. She also proposed that state team members be asked to help participate in fund raising activities and suggested as a first step the VCC trivia night be reinstigated as a source of fund-raising. She also suggested that efforts be undertaken to seek a 'state team' sponsor.

The President noted that the VBA would like to be in a financial position to fully fund teams, however this was not practical in the current circumstances. The council agreed that a per diem increase was warranted this year.

### **Resolution 3:**

That the Per Diem for state team representatives for 2016 be set at \$35.

**Moved:** Ms. K. Frazer    **Seconded:** Ms H. Mc Adam

**CARRIED**

Council discussed the concept of fund raising activities. The Trivia night at VCC run by state team players. It was noted that the bridge community were generally supportive of activities supporting youth bridge, and that this would be the focus of the trivia night. State team members would also be invited to develop other initiatives to raise funds such as a raffle or some other mechanism.

Seek a state team sponsor - preparation of material to promote the idea. Whilst a long term proposition, efforts will be undertaken to attract a sponsor for the state team.

#### d. MTC

Mr Morgan reported that:

- Mr Sheather had commenced secretarial duties on the MTC.
- The MTC are following up the GNOT non-participation by a team. The rules of the event are that players participating in the state selection finals must be willing to take up the position if they are successful which did not occur with this team. An unauthorised withdrawal from the Individual by a player after session one is also being followed up.
- Substitutes for state events. The meeting discussed players who are not co-operating with the spirit of the competition in arranging substitutes. Whilst the players are behaving within the rules, there is concern that the management of substitutes by some players is impacting upon the integrity of the competitions.
- Dendy Park have been granted an additional congress as a vacant date was available.
- Kooyong have successfully requested a change of date for their congress. Mr Morgan noted that the published date in the printed calendar is now incorrect.
- MTC is pursuing further work on regional participation in state events, and establishing a rolling calendar. A follow up will also be done on the effectiveness of the VQP system.

#### e. VBA Future

Some further investigation has been made on future direction of the VBA premises.

#### f. VCC

Ms Frazer provided a comprehensive update on preparations for the 2016 tournament. She noted that a second sponsor for the event has been confirmed for 2016, and brochures were being distributed to clubs with the next mailout. Email advertising will commence in March.

She noted that the VCC will be supporting the ABF policy of providing an opportunity for a trainee director to join the staff. The VCC has done this for the last two years in an effort to upskill Victorian directors. The meeting agreed that advertising of the opportunity to

Victorian clubs would be undertaken. She also noted that it was likely a trainee might simply shadow one of the more experienced directors during the event.

g. Administration Report

Ms Lachman had submitted a written report prior to the meeting.

**Resolution 4:**

That the following be ratified as members of the VBA: Allan Cory, Fiona Roberts, Lyndall Davis, Marie Shenker, Herman and Christine Louie, Michael Phillips, John Makinson.

**Moved:** Mr D. Sheather

**Seconded:** Ms. K. Frazer

**CARRIED**

An application for Future Bridge Funding from Traralgon for advertising Crash course lessons. The meeting agreed this should come from the marketing budget. The secretary advised the policy is allocation of up to \$200 for advertising.

The meeting asked the secretary to update the Future Bridge Funding form to be more generic.

**Resolution 5:**

That Traralgon be allocated funding support for advertising in the amount of \$200 from the Marketing budget.

**Moved:** Ms. K. Frazer

**Seconded:** Mr B. Thompson

**CARRIED**

**5. General Business**

a. Nomination of ABF delegate

There was some discussion on the nominee to represent the VBA on the ABF council. Three candidates are under consideration and the meeting agreed to allow council further time to consider the merits of nominating each of the candidates and to make a decision by flying minute by end of February.

b. Draft Congress Organiser's Guide

Ms Frazer reported there had been minor feedback on the guide. Mr Giles noted that his club were already using the guide for their upcoming congress later in the year, and stated they had found it very useful. Council agreed to adopt the guide as a living document which could be updated as necessary. The secretary will arrange to finalise the document and upload to the website.

c. VBA Website Upgrade

Council has been approached by a web designer regarding updating the website.

d. Anzac Daytime Swiss Pairs Organiser

The secretary will circulate a request to members via Pianola for an Organiser for this event which essentially requires the same amount of organisation as a congress.

e. Management Communiques

Mr Thompson spoke about the ABF's recent implementation of management communiques instead of minutes. The communiques provide a good summary of decisions and discussion at the ABF meetings. He suggested that the council should adopt a similar approach and circulate monthly briefings of a similar style to clubs. He felt these would provide better, more accessible information for clubs than the current method of posting minutes to the website.

Council agreed to trial this and seek feedback from clubs.

6. Next meeting

March 23.

Meeting dates for the remainder of the year are: April 20; May 25; June 22; Jul 27; Aug 24; Oct 5; Nov 16th.

The meeting closed at 6.58pm

Mr B. Thompson

Chairperson