

## VBA COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

June 22, 2016 (Meeting 6 2016)

VBA Clubrooms, 131 Poath Road, Murrumbena

The meeting opened at 5.30pm

### **Present:**

|                         |           |
|-------------------------|-----------|
| Mr B. Thompson          | President |
| Ms K. Frazer            | Secretary |
| Mr R. Quirk             |           |
| Mr D. Morgan (by skype) |           |
| Mr D. Sheather          |           |
| Ms J. Thompson          |           |
| Ms H. McAdam            |           |
| Mr R. Giles             |           |

### **1. Apologies**

Mr N. Ewart

### **2. Confirm minutes of meeting of May 25, 2016**

#### **Resolution 1:**

That the minutes of the meeting held May 25, 2016 be approved

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

**CARRIED**

#### a. Matters Arising & Action Items

##### i. D&E committee ratification

Further nominations have been received from R. Giles, R. Nurse, H. McAdam and W. Jacobs

#### **Resolution 2:**

That R. Giles, R. Nurse, H. McAdam and W. Jacobs be appointed to the D&E committee

**Moved:** Ms K. Frazer      **Seconded:** Mrs J. Thompson

**CARRIED**

Ms Frazer advised council that the commencement date for D&E regulations had been notified to clubs as July 1st.

##### ii. Website

Mr Thompson advised that a tender had been put out to Upwork requesting quotes from interested developers. 62 Quotations have been received in a 48 hour period, which range from \$1100 - \$5,500. He advised that many of the lower end quotes appeared to not understand the requirements of the briefing document, and that council should expect to be able to have the work undertaken for a price in the mid-range of the quotes received to date.

#### **Resolution 3:**

That the Finance sub-committee be authorised to approve up to \$3000 for the website development project.

**Moved:** Mr R. Quirk      **Seconded:** Ms K. Frazer

**CARRIED**

iii. Teams of Three

Ms Frazer advised that the Club manager will organise the event on the day, and Mary Bertuna will be available to provide food services. Several team captains have been contacted and she is waiting on responses. Several entries have already been received.

iv. State Marketing & Promotions

Item carried over until the website project is commenced.

**2. Correspondence**

**In:**

a. ABF: Managing Player Suspensions (circulated email)

The ABF has notified the states that it has determined at the AGM that player suspensions applicable at a national level should be applied at state level, and vice versa. The ABF has asked the states to consider and advise if player suspensions should be extended to the club level.

The council felt the governance of club suspensions would be difficult to track and administer at a state/national level, and also felt it would be difficult to ensure due process and consistency was afforded to all players. For this reason, council agreed that player suspensions should not extend to the club level.

b. ABF: Expert Teacher Recognition (circulated email)

The ABF is seeking to recognise and provide credentials to experienced, successful teachers with distinguished records in high level play

Mr Thompson had circulated a paper recommending three candidates for Expert Teacher Recognition – W. Jacobs, J Fust and A. Mill. All three have extensive teaching experience, as well as being recognised as leading players which fulfil the broad guidelines set by the ABF for recognition.

**Resolution 4:**

That W. Jacobs, J. Fust and A. Mill be nominated to the ABF as 'ABF Honorary Teaching Fellows'.

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

**CARRIED**

c. D&E committee nominations - R. Giles; R. Nurse; H. McAdam, W. Jacobs. (see Matters Arising)

d. G Ridgway - re Marketing Grants & Support for Clubs

Ms Frazer advised that there continues to be poor understanding by clubs with respect to the process for application for grants and the availability of information. The annual information pack for club secretaries, as well as the VBA website document library are the primary sources of information, and clubs need to be proactive in making themselves aware of the information available, or alternatively contacting the VBA if they are unsure.

e. ABF: Request to update register of state directors

f. ABF: Marketing Update

g. ABF: Request for feedback on Restricted Butler Pairs selection process

**Out:**

- h. Quentin van Abbe: Simultaneous Pairs Results
- i. ABF: Restricted Butler Pairs selection process.

**3. Sub-committees & Reports**

a. Finance

The treasurer had submitted a draft report on the VCC financial result. Some accounts are still to be settled but the quoted prices have been used in preparation of the financials. The VCC is expected to return a profit of just under \$19,000.

Council noted that increased entry in 2016 without the clash of the FNQ Congress had vindicated council's decision to agitate for the past several years for the removal of the clash of national events on the calendar.

Mr Thompson further advised that honorariums, director fees and other staff payments would be reviewed in the next month as per the normal calendar cycle.

b. MTC (D. Morgan)

Mr Morgan reported on support for the Victorian Youth team for the ANC. He advised that the some of the parents would now be undertaking the duty of care responsibilities for the youth players.

c. VCC

Ms Frazer & Mr Ewart tabled a draft report for the VCC. Highlights were a record number of entries, several Victorians amongst the medals, and the positive feedback from participants.

Council discussed the lack of interest in the restricted teams event which was of concern. Restricted teams appear to struggle in Victoria in general. Ms Frazer suggested an intermediate category might be more popular – e.g. under 500 masterpoints, and this would be investigated for 2017.

Council also discussed the capacity of the venue. Ms Frazer suggested that competing events such as the PABF sometimes influence numbers and it would be prudent to wait until there was clear evidence the event was exceeding the capacity of the venue by a reasonable number before seeking to relocate. In 2016, the waiting list was 5 pairs, and locating to an alternate, and potentially less popular and more expensive venue, could not be justified at this time. Council agreed to rebook the Bayview Eden for 2017, and Ms Frazer advised she would commence negotiations.

Ms Frazer also advised that as she and Neil had now been organising for 6 years, it was time to identify a successor to act as understudy in 2017 with a view to taking over in 2018.

Mrs Thompson asked the council to thank the organisers Kim & Neil for their outstanding efforts in organising and producing such a profitable result for the VBA.

d. Administration Report (C. Lachman)

**Resolution 5:**

That the following new members be ratified:

Myrna Bishops, Marian Joseph and Yvette Bolaffi

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

**CARRIED**

**State Capitation Receipts:** Fees have been received from most clubs. Clubs who have not yet paid are: Oz Bridge, Melbourne Contract Bridge Centre, Ravens and Williamstown.

**Joan Butts Seminar:** Ms Lachman also reported that the recent very late cancellation of the Joan Butts Professional Development seminar had reflected poorly on the VBA. Whilst illness is unavoidable, she felt that Joan could have been slightly more proactive in notifying the likelihood of the cancellation to the VBA, given that the notification of cancellation was received on a public holiday.

The seminar has now been rescheduled for July 19<sup>th</sup>.

Mr Thompson stated that the ratification of some Victorians as qualified to conduct the teaching program on behalf of the ABF would alleviate the reliance on Joan for this activity.

#### **4. General Business**

##### **a. AGM Date**

Council agreed that the date for the AGM would be set at Monday November 21<sup>st</sup>.

The secretary will arrange for notices calling for nominations to be forwarded to clubs towards the end of July to allow adequate time for clubs to hold discussion and provide input back to the VBA.

##### **b. State Masterpoint Secretary re-appointment**

The secretary advised that Colin Campbell had indicated his willingness to continue in the role for 2 more years. The council recognises the diligent efforts Colin has made in the role in the past 5 years and appreciates his offer to continue in the role.

##### **Resolution 6:**

That Colin Campbell be re-appointed as State Masterpoint Secretary.

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

**CARRIED**

##### **c. Future opportunities with Quest apartments**

Ms Frazer reported that Quest are keen to continue with sponsorship arrangements in the future. She suggested that opportunities could be sought to enter into agreements for support for some key metropolitan congresses, and state events such as playoffs. Further discussions will be undertaken.

##### **d. Education**

Ms Frazer suggested overall co-ordination of the education program for Victoria needs more attention. Council agreed to advertise for a State Teaching co-ordinator.

Mr Giles queried when Director Training was being run and whether Laurie Kelso would be available to run a course regionally. Mr Thompson advised the director training scheduled was for July 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> and it would be ideal for regional participants to attend this training weekend since Laurie is booked on all weekend and most week days for the rest of the year.

##### **e. Youth Bridge**

Ms Frazer suggested that co-ordination of youth bridge was flagging without a key person to drive the initiatives. Mr Thompson suggested that David Thompson be approached to act as youth bridge co-ordinator for Victoria.

f. Club President's Day

The council discussed opportunities for a club President's day. The President advised he had limited availability due to team playing commitments for the balance of the year. Council agreed however to conduct a day to take the opportunity for Sandra Mulcahy to present her Marketing seminar, with some time on the same day used as an opportunity to discuss issues pertinent to clubs. Suggested dates were September 24<sup>th</sup> and August 27<sup>th</sup>. The secretary to contact Sandra to agree a date.

A President's day will be scheduled for early in 2017 to allow for sufficient notice to clubs to enable participation.

5. Next meeting

27<sup>th</sup> July

Meeting closed at 7.15pm