

VBA COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
November 16th 2016 (Meeting 9 2016)
VBA Clubrooms, 131 Poath Road, Murrumbreena

The meeting opened at 5.30pm

Present:

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

Apologies

Mr R. Giles

1. Confirm minutes of meeting of October 17, 2016

Resolution 1:

That the minutes of the meeting be accepted

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

CARRIED

2. Matters arising from the minutes

The secretary advised the D&E regulations had been updated and circulated to clubs, and that a list of suspended players had been established on the website.

3. Noting of decisions taken out of meeting

Nil

4. Correspondence

In:

- a. ABF: Marketing Update
- b. ABF: Management Committee Communique
- c. J. Puusepp – D&E enquiry appertaining to player suspension
- d. ABF: Proposed revision of ANC Restricted Butler Subsidy

Out:

- e. VBA Members: Notice of AGM and AGM papers
- f. Affiliated Clubs: Notice of changes to D&E regulations and listing of suspended players on VBA website
- g. J. Puusepp – response to D&E committee enquiry

5. Sub-committees & Reports

a. Finance

The treasurer presented a report showing the split between detail of State/Club income. Ms Frazer raised a concern associated with building cost allocation, in that provision of the building provided a home for the state events, and exists whether used or not, yet the club events bear the majority of the costs which skews the report somewhat. Mr Thompson suggested that building costs may be better represented outside the state/club split under a 'corporate' heading, and this reporting could be investigated for 2017.

b. MTC

Mr Sheather reported that the calendar almost finalised for printing – club details being confirmed. Webpages for selection events for 2017 and regulations will be updated in the next few weeks.

Ms Frazer queried when a rolling calendar will be implemented which has been suggested in the past, as it would assist members with planning their events. Mr Morgan advised the difficulty of getting clubs to send in congress date requests in a timely fashion, and also commented on the difficulty of setting dates for state events whilst the selection method was still under discussion. The meeting agreed that since the selection method is now set, and when the new website was operating, the calendar would list known events (both state & congress) which might encourage clubs to be more proactive.

The meeting was advised that Mr Willcox had been approached regarding scoring for the Simultaneous Pairs for 2017, and he had requested information on the proposed payment for the work. The meeting asked the MTC to develop the regulations for 2017 Simultaneous Pairs and submit these to the next meeting for approval, and to negotiate a fee for service with Mr Willcox. The fee for participation in the Simultaneous Pairs will remain at \$1 per person per session which will be used to fund some prizes for winners/place-getters in each session, which will be determined and included in the regulations.

Mr Morgan advised the meeting that owing to other commitments, he would not be able to continue on as a member of the MTC in 2017. The meeting thanked Mr Morgan for his contribution as chair and member of the MTC.

c. ABF Report

Ms Frazer tabled a summary of key topics of discussion from the ABF mid-term meeting. Key items of significance to the meeting are:

ANC: NT have advised that they will not be able to host their rota in 2020, so all states will likely move forward one year. This does not affect Victoria as host event for the ANC in 2019.

HOTSA report: (Health of the System Analysis). Victoria was reported to have lost 6 clubs in the past year. This figure is incorrect. The President advised that the reporting for 2015 was overstated due to reporting of clubs in the numbers such as ERBA which do not have members.

Affiliation Policy: Broad agreement to the policy was proposed. Some legal statements have been added pertaining to disaffiliation. A new policy will be circulated to states soon.

Support for Club Directors: The ABF is seeking to provide greater support for Club Directors. John McIlraith has developed a seminar for directors which is more about managing the session, dealing with issues, and so on, rather than bridge laws, and the ABF plan to video tape this. There is also a suggestion to run some director seminars in states, similar to the Joan Butts TTP style training.

International Player Performance Committee: A detailed report has been prepared for presentation to the Management Committee. The mid-term meeting received a briefing on the key issues and findings.

Tournament Committee: Given the decline in women/senior entries at national tournaments, TC is considering other formats for some national events.

d. Administration Report

Mary Bertuna has been standing in for the Club Manager who is on Long Service Leave. She has reported on two building matters:

- quotes were being sought for repairs to the roof which has been leaking in the recent storms (one has been received, and a second quote is being sourced).
- the air conditioning unit has been serviced.

6. General Business

a. Event Management and Marketing & Communications

The council agreed to explore an Event Management, Marketing & Communications role for 2 days per week. The Finance sub-committee was tasked with developing a job description, costing, etc., and preparing a proposal for council.

b. VBA Library – report from A. Meydan

Mr Meydan provided some recommendations on creating an environment where the library might be better utilised. Ms Frazer noted that some online packages for library software were available, and if the list of owned books was more accessible, both members and perhaps affiliated clubs could gain access. It was noted that creating a link to any online listing from the VBA website would be a requirement. The meeting agreed it would be useful to obtain a status update on the work conducted by Ralph Berlinski before deciding how to proceed.

Council noted that Jenny Thompson would not be standing for a position on the 2017 council. The council thanked the Jenny for her years of service on the VBA council.

7. Next meeting

AGM November 21st.