

VBA COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
December 14th 2016 (Meeting 10 2016)
VBA Clubrooms, 131 Poath Road, Murrumbena

The meeting opened at 5.30pm

Present:

Mr B. Thompson	President
Ms K. Frazer	Secretary
Mr D. Morgan	
Mr D. Sheather	
Mr R. Quirk	
Mr C. Leach	

Apologies

Mr R. Giles, Mr M. Phillips, Ms H. McAdam, Mr N. Ewart

1. Confirm minutes of meeting of November 16, 2016

Resolution 1:

That the minutes of the November 16 meeting be accepted

Moved: Mr D. Sheather

Seconded: Mr B. Thompson

CARRIED

2. Matters arising from the minutes

Simultaneous Pairs: Mr Sheather has obtained a verbal contract from Mr Willcox for scoring the simultaneous pairs in 2017. A query was made concerning whether the fee charged for entry should differ between metro and country players, and it was agreed that \$1 per player was sufficiently low to accommodate all. Mr Sheather to draft the contract for signature.

Regulations for the event are also to be issued.

Marketing: Ms Frazer advised that she has spoken with Ms Helen Schapper regarding conducting some marketing work for the VBA on a voluntary basis. This work is expected to commence in February 2017.

VBA Library: Mr Meyden provided some further information on the library and recommendations for management. The matter will be held over until the new year.

Website: Further unforeseen circumstances have delayed development – a common issue with IT projects. The website is now likely to be in place in February/March timeframe.

Some other issues with IT, in particular internet connectivity, have been occurring in the past 2 weeks. A company will be contracted to maintain the computers on a regular basis, once quotes are obtained.

3. Correspondence

In

- a. ABF: Revised draft affiliation policy

The meeting discussed the rationale for defining 'what is a club' in the policy to prevent "fake" clubs being affiliated for additional congress dates or red point events. This was considered to be important for the state to consider before affiliating a new club, but not recommended for inclusion in the national policy.

A minor change to the wording for club requirements was recommended. The secretary will provide feedback to the ABF on this.

- b. Ballarat: Inquiry on Pianola
- c. ABF: Marketing Workshop summary – output from mid-term ABF meeting

The secretary will circulate to clubs for comment on the things that matter the most to clubs.

- d. ABF: Joan Butts - Calls for Expressions of Interest from Clubs to host Seminars for 2017

The secretary will circulate to clubs seeking interest to hold a seminar in 2017

- e. ABF: Monthly Marketing Update
- f. ABF: Teaching Fellows – call for further nominations due by February 13th.

The council suggest we propose Mary Elson for nomination. Council will take time to consider further nominees and finalise the list of further nominations at the January meeting. Mr Quirk to follow up with Mary Elson.

- g. GNOT Convenor – Suggestions regarding format and number of teams

Melbourne has been asked to consider a reduction in the allocation of teams (from 4 to 3). The council agreed that a reduction in Melbourne's team allocation was acceptable, given the declining interest in this event in recent years. The council considered participation by country regions as highly desirable and would not recommend a reduction in country team allocations for Victoria.

- h. ABF: National data on financials and table numbers for national events.

Out:

- i. ASIC: Notice of new/resigning directors
- j. ASIC: Registration of annual accounts
- k. Affiliated clubs: Call for nominations for VBA Delegate to ABF
- l. P. Schroor; A Robbins: Letters of Appreciation for service to MTC

4. Committees & Reports

The council considered the committee and Appointments for 2017. After discussion the following changes/appointments were noted:

- The house & education committees will merge into the Marketing and Education Committee. Mr Leach will chair the committee, which comprises Mr Christopher Leach, Mr Ben. Thompson, Mr Rob Quirk. Ms Helen Schapper who will be undertaking some marketing work for the VBA in the New Year will also join this committee. Mr Leach will consider further membership in the new year.
- Mr Sheather will take over as chair of MTC, following the resignation of Mr Morgan. Mr Michael Phillips will join the MTC, and Ms Diana Smart and Mr Laurie Kelso remain as continuing members. The council noted the MTC requires 1-2 more members, and in particular requires a member to take on the secretarial responsibilities for the committee. Mr Sheather will consider further membership of the committee.
- Mr Leach has also volunteered to join the VCC committee.
- Mr Phillips will join the Website Management Committee as Chair. Council noted that the current webmaster, Mr Terry Crawford, has announced his intention to step down from the role as webmaster and a replacement is required.
- Mr Morgan was appointed as Chair of the Appeals Panel

a. MTC

A query had been made to MTC as to why the VBA summer congress had moved from the first weekend in December. Mr Morgan reported that a review of the event in recent years had shown it fluctuated between the first and second weekends on occasion.

Scheduling on the first weekend would be considered in calendar development for future years, however the date for 2017 had already been set. Mr Sheather noted the calendar was now available and had been issued to clubs.

b. ABF Report

Ms Frazer submitted a written report highlighting key issues from the recent ABF Management Committee meeting. The report noted further details relating to the incoming correspondence on the Marketing Workshop, Teaching Fellows, and the performance data on National events. Additionally, discussion on the “national event payment system” would occur during the National Tournament Organiser’s meeting which is to be held in the new year.

c. Administration Report

Ms Frazer reported on behalf of Mary Bertuna that:

- the air conditioning unit continues to present issues.
- the council has been asked to remove the graffiti on the front windows. As the playing cards have aged and provide an attractive palate for graffiti artists, council agreed to arrange to remove the playing cards from the front windows.
- the roof has been repaired – the next rainstorm will test leakage
- the Christmas parties have been arranged
- the replacement fridge for the kitchen has been delivered and installed

- the office computer has regained connectivity to the internet

The council thanked Mary, Kitty Muntz and Susie Hall for their efforts in organising the summer congress.

5. General Business

Meeting dates for 2017. The dates as circulated are listed below.

Dec 14, Jan 25, March 1, April 5, May 17, June 21, July 26, Aug 30, Oct 11, Nov 20 (AGM),

Nov 22 (new council 1st meeting), Jan 3

The secretary will circulate outlook invites for all meetings.

6. Next meeting

Wednesday, January 25th at 5.30pm.

Chairperson

Ben Thompson