

VBA COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
March 1 2017 (Meeting 2 2017)
VBA Clubrooms, 131 Poath Road, Murrumbena

The meeting opened at 5.22pm

Present:

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

Apologies

N. Ewart, H. McAdam

1. Confirm minutes of meeting of January 25 2017

Resolution 1:

That the minutes of the January 25 meeting be accepted.

Moved: Mr D. Morgan

Seconded: Mr B. Thompson

CARRIED

2. Matters arising from the minutes

a. Policy for Event Naming in Honour of Members

Mr Morgan reported that he has contacted Ian McCance for some historical information to assist in developing the policy.

b. Comparison Data for Events at VBA

Mr Thompson presented some data on table numbers and performance. Essentially, daytime bridge numbers are static, however night-time bridge is following the world-wide trend down. Supervised numbers are generally good, although these suffered a small downturn over the summer break, largely due to a break when changing the supervised instructor.

5.35pm Mr Phillips joined the meeting

c. Regulations for Simultaneous Pairs

Mr Phillips advised Draft regulations have been prepared and should be completed in the next week, and distributed to clubs. The meeting discussed aspects of running the event and agreed that the event format would be reviewed for 2018. He also reported he has looked into how the EBU run these types of events and he has some options for consideration for future events.

d. MTC membership recommendations

Mr Sheather reported that some consideration has been given to additional members. MTC is particularly keen to recruit one additional female member. Some potential candidates have been approached.

3. Correspondence

- a. ABF: Marketing update
- b. ABF: Management Committee Communique

Ms Frazer highlighted some key matters from the recent management committee communique for the council's benefit:

- i. Regulation changes to address overseas players entering restricted events

Following an instance of experienced overseas players entering the novice event at the SFOB, the ABF will be updating the tournament regulations to prevent the practice

- ii. Appointment of National Director Development Officer

Mr Leach will work with the secretary on a plan to bring John McIlrath to Victoria to run some sessions as part of the overall Education portfolio.

- iii. Reduction in GNOT teams from 64 to 60 for 2017. Changes to the manner of payment for airfare subsidies.

The overall goal for GNOT team reductions is to reduce the field size to 56 to reduce the congestion at the host venue. The GNOT organiser will be making further suggestions for reductions for the 2018 event, based on participation in 2017.

- c. Nominations for ABF Delegate from C. Leach and B. Morgan

Mr Leach left the meeting.

Ms Frazer noted that the ABF has expressed a desire to work more closely with State Associations, and this should be considered when determining the delegate.

The meeting noted the former delegate, Mr Simon Hinge, had expressed interest but had not submitted a formal nomination.

The meeting considered the stated objectives of the two nominees together with the VBA's and the ABF's objectives, and the backgrounds of the candidates.

Resolution 2:

That Christopher Leach be appointed as the ABF delegate.

Moved: Mr R. Giles

Seconded: Ms K. Frazer

CARRIED

Mr Leach returned to the meeting

- d. Torquay Bridge Club: Changes to office bearers and club details on website.
- e. ABF: 2017 ANC Team's Entry Form
- f. Tony Georgeson: Webmaster role

The VBA is considering an offer from Tony Georgeson to provides assistance as the webmaster. The meeting agreed that we would pursue using Tony as webmaster with a view to him taking over once the new website is up and running.

- g. NTO: ANC Team Entry Forms
- h. Northern Region: GNOT regulations

The Northern Region's key question about its regional boundary can only be resolved by the ABF; the region's query has been forwarded to the ABF GNOT coordinator.

Out:

- i. Affiliated Clubs: Notification of Champion of Club Champions event
- j. Affiliated Clubs: Notification of Andy Hung Seminar

- k. Affiliated Clubs: State Awards for Excellence – call for nominations
- l. ABF: re J. Butts Conflict of Interest between personal teaching and ABF activity

4. Committees & Reports

a. Finance

An updated set of accounts as discussed was circulated to councillors in early February.

b. Match and Tournament

Mr Sheather reported that Mr J. Thompson is willing to join the MTC and is agreeable to taking on the Youth Bridge Co-ordination role.

Resolution 3:

That Jamie Thompson be ratified as a member of the Match and Tournament Committee

Moved: Mr C. Leach

Seconded: Mr M. Phillips

CARRIED

Ms Frazer suggested that Mr J. Thompson be approached about being the ABF youth representative for Victoria.

Mr Sheather also raised the following:

- Feedback would be sought from players on the format of the selection trials
- Consideration will be given to holding a school holiday program for youth bridge players
- Consideration could be given to a Northern district representative joining the council given there is an unfilled vacancy from another region.
- Congress reporting: Whilst Director reports are regularly submitted, convenor reports are infrequent. The MTC would like to relax this requirement to make it optional. The council agreed with this recommendation & the Congress Guidelines will be updated accordingly.
- 4 person teams trialling for selection will not be permitted to append an additional pair if the pair was not added at the time of entry. The meeting discussed the criteria for appending pairs to the winning team. MTC to develop a set of regulations to govern this aspect. Consideration should be given to ensuring the best possible team can be fielded by the state.

c. Marketing & Education

Mr Leach reported he is developing a paper outlining the Marketing issues for the club which he plans to present at the next meeting. He suggested the council would need to consider the investment required to address the marketing program for the VBA and the ABF. Consideration will need to be given as to how the future model should address the issues associated with the aged building, car-parking and other factors which have been identified as concerns.

He also reported on some recent meetings he has had with Joan Butts, Sandra Mulcahy and others at the Gold Coast. Mr Leach will be meeting with Joan Butts next week to pursue how the teacher program can be further developed in Victoria.

Mr Thompson suggested appointing a Joan type individual in Victoria to be a teaching co-ordinator could be pursued. This has occurred in NSW with Cath Whiddon. There are several high quality candidates in Victoria who could be considered for such a role.

d. VCC

Ms Frazer tabled a report on progress which was taken as read.

e. Administration Report

Resolution 4:

That Susan Humphrey be ratified as a member of the VBA.

Moved: D. Sheather

Seconded: B. Thompson

CARRIED

The meeting also noted that Ms Lachman will be on LSL during March and Mary Bertuna will once again act as club manager in Ms Lachman's absence.

5. General Business

a. World Wide Bridge Contest

The weblink will be circulated to club secretaries.

b. Anzac Day Pairs Event

Kitty Muntz has agreed to convene the event. The entry fee was set at \$35, and no lunch will be provided. Members who choose to bring a plate for morning or afternoon tea will be offered a \$5 discount off entry.

c. Website Updating Processes

Carried over.

Future Meeting Dates.

April 5, May 17, June 21, July 26, Aug 30, Oct 11, Nov 20 (AGM), Nov 22 (new council 1st meeting), Jan 3

Meeting closed at 7.20pm

Chairperson

Ben Thompson