MINUTES OF MEETING OF

VBA COUNCIL

HELD Tuesday 31st January 2006 1.30pm

At the VBA Clubrooms

Present: D Smith DS K Lee KL M Woods **MSW** M Bertuna MB J Leach JL L Hickman LH B Howe BEH J Hall MJH K Chan KC

K Chan KC
K Muntz KJM
K Gullen KG

Apologies: J Collins

M Yuill C Lachman B Stokes

The meeting opened at 6 pm. President absent due to illness. DS in the chair.

The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted. Business arising from the minutes:

CNBC use of VBA premises – we talked to the GEC contact with VCAT but efforts to get permission for the whole event were unsuccessful. Keith McDonald then spoke to GEC also with no success. Our permit allows 'a one off annual event, ie a national competition' but KMcD obtained GEC agreement for holding the last 3 days at the VBA. Andrew Halmos has found an alternate venue for the first 3 days. The last 3 days has a limit of 240 people plus 4 officials per day. DS to include this plus a copy of the permit in a letter to Andrew.

Nomination of Victorian representative for the ABF Council. The tenure of one of the Victorian representatives (Martin Wilcox) ends in March 06. The deadline for a new nomination is COB 8th March. KL suggested that the FABCV put forward 3 or 4 names for the VBA's consideration. MSW moved that the vacancy be publicised in the affiliated clubs and the VBA, asking for interested applicants, seconded MJH. Voting - 4 for, 4 against. Under the terms of the VBA constitution (articles 41 and 26) the motion was therefore defeated. DS is to talk to M Wilcox re his representation on the ABF and report to the next meeting. DS moved that we reappoint M Wilcox, seconded LH, voting - 3 for, 2 against, 6 abstaining, motion passed.

Application for grant under GEC's Community Grants Program – MJH will look at the terms of the grant and see what we need to apply.

President's Report unavailable due to illness.

Administration Report:

There were 39 new applicants for membership, these were accepted - moved KL, seconded MSW.

Andrew Halmos requests that we renegotiate the fee for CNBC use of the VBA premises now that it is down from 6 to 3 days. DS proposed that we charge \$3000 (rather than just half) to include use of VBA tables and chairs for the 6 days and to cover increased costs due to larger numbers for the last 3 days. All agreed.

Over 67% of the total amount of capitation fees have now been paid. A friendly reminder letter is to be sent to those clubs whose fees are still outstanding. Fees to Ravens Club have been reduced as they will now have 2 clubs (affiliated and social).

Financial Report:

MJH congratulated MB on the new format of the financial report - at a higher level; all agreed and DS thanked her for her efforts.

Secretary's Report:

Letters received from Lakes Entrance, Phillip Island, Sale and South Gippsland Bridge Clubs with payment of the capitation fees. All are paying fees in good faith that the VBA will fulfil its promises in relation to improved representation and reporting. Clubs have asked for financial reports to posted on the web – KL had no objection to making available a report in a format to be decided, accompanied by a statement that the report is unaudited. MB is happy to field questions arising from this report.

Re Affiliated Clubs representatives on the VBA Council – Barry Stokes is confirmed as continuing, DS will talk to JMC re asking MP if he wishes to continue. If not we will look for another rep.

Separation of State Functions Report:

No further progress – DS will ask BS when he is next in Melbourne and schedule a meeting for then.

Other Business.

A letter received from Waverley Bridge Club in response to a letter from CVL to be discussed at the next meeting.

MJH played in a morning duplicate and wanted advice re bad behaviour of a player.
MJH to check whether this is the same player who has already been reported and if not to go through the required process.

BEH is investigating scoring programs. If the Masterscore program we currently use does not become a Windows program we will need to make a move.

The meeting closed around 7.30pm.

Next Meeting: Tuesday February 28th, 6pm.