



VBA Council Meeting – Major Items & Decisions

21 June 2017

My apologies for the long gap in these Meeting Summaries. I went on an extended overseas trip and fell out of the habit. Mea culpa.

Congresses

- Following a request from an affiliated club, a reminder. The VBA will promote club congresses on behalf of all clubs, including by: free ad in the VBA bulletin, electronic distribution of congress flyers & material to all clubs, promotion on the VBA website.

Club support

- The ABF & VBA are pleased to be supporting Joan Butts coming to Melbourne later this year to run another of her popular teacher training weekends, mostly likely in late September.
- There was a scam going around targeting bridge clubs. The VBA notified all affiliated clubs. If you see something suspicious, please contact the VBA Secretary, Kim Frazer, for details

State

- The VBA will be launching a new website in July. Every club will be able to edit its own listing on the VBA website.
- Cathie Lachman resigned as VBA Manager earlier in the month. Council thanks her for her long & dedicated contribution to Victorian bridge, and welcomes Bianca Gold (email bianca@vba.asn.au) as our interim manager. Cathie's old email address is being redirected to Bianca in the interim
- A player on one of the Victorian teams this year was suspended at Victorian congresses for a period that included the ANC. The VBA considered the matter in detail and concluded that the Victorian Congress Disciplinary & Ethics Code explicitly applies only to Victorian Congresses and that the player was therefore still eligible to represent Victoria this year. In correspondence after the VBA Council meeting, the ABF agreed with the VBA's conclusion.
- The VBA intends to run the 2018 Seniors & Women's selection finals concurrently, which frees up a weekend (eg for a congress). Investigation established that in the last 5 years, only 5 players have been involved in both finals in the same year.

Best of luck to all Victorian teams at the upcoming Interstate championships in Canberra. This year we have representatives from 8 different Victorian clubs,

Ben Thompson

President, VBA