



VBA Council Meeting – Major Items & Decisions

25 July 2018

Congresses

- In an exciting trial, TBIB will be sponsoring a prize for restricted pairs at all congress pairs events for a few months, which we expect will commence towards the end of the year.
- At a recent congress it transpired that most of the boards had been played at a different congress. The physical boards weren't reused; it seems rather that the same hands were generated by different people using the same "seed". MTC is investigating and will be introducing a process for the VBA to supply all congress deal files in order to avoid a repeat of this unfortunate incident.

Club support

- We have received several applications and expressions of interest for the position of State Masterpoint Secretary. We expect to make the appointment in August and start a transition period as the Colin Campbell hands over.

State

- MTC thanked all respondents to its brief survey on Open Team selection. Council accepted MTC's recommendation that the playoff for the 2019 Open Team be a 4-way playoff incorporating the Pennant winner, the top 3 pairs in the Butler (which will revert to a weekend final including representative country pairs), and 2 self-nominating teams ranked on VQPs. This structure provides several pathways for every Victorian player to participate in the open team playoff no matter where they live.

Congratulations to The Artificial Club, which we formally affiliated at this meeting. Martin Willcox will be running several sessions on Tuesdays in Strathmore.

Ben Thompson, VBA President