



Victorian Bridge Association Limited

ABN 51 004 595 993

Summary of March 2020 Council Meeting

- 1) It was noted that all major metropolitan bridge clubs had closed except one. Within two days after the meeting a complete shut-down of bridge in Victoria had gone into effect.
- 2) Helen Schapper was warmly welcomed as a new member of Council.
- 3) The Council discussed the implications of the shutdown and it was agreed that every possible attention would be given to setting up online bridge programmes to help offset the trauma of the complete closure of live bridge. No timetable could be given for resumption of normal activities.
- 4) A lengthy discussion ensued regarding a letter from Mr Bill Jacobs and it was resolved that certain changes would be recommended to the new Chair of the VBA Disciplinary Committee to deal with Mr Jacob's concerns.
- 5) The Treasurer, Kim Hoff, reported how he envisaged the VBA managing financially in the event of a long-term closure. It was resolved that the VBA would investigate whatever government support for which it may be eligible. Every effort would be made to support staff.
- 6) The Chair of M&T, Jenny Thompson commented on the effect of the closure on the State event programme. The Council accepted her recommendation as to the establishment of the Recorder position. Jenny commented that the Youth bridge activities would be continuing throughout the closure in a safe mode.
- 7) The Manager reported on his likely activities during the closure. The building will be subject to a thorough clean and sterilisation.
- 8) The Chair of the Behaviour and Culture Initiative, Kim Hoff, reported on the results of the recently completed survey which had attracted over 100 participants and gathered a great deal of information and views. The next steps in this process were discussed.
- 9) The Eastern Contract Bridge Centre which had ceased trading was disaffiliated and the Alexandra Club Bridge group were affiliated.
- 10) Mr Richard Giles, a former member of Council was nominated for the Western Region and this was unanimously approved.
- 11) The recommendation of the President for the successors to Mr Bill Jacobs were approved. Mr Andrew Guy, an eminent former lawyer, will be the new Chair of the State Disciplinary and Ethics Committee and Mr Chris Hughes, who had been Chair pro tem of the VBA Disciplinary Committee was approved as permanent Chair.
- 12) Finally, Mr Dee Harley was approved as the first occupant of the new Recorder position.

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