

Minutes 2007 AGM and 2007-2008 BFACT Council Meetings

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**BRIDGE FEDERATION ACT INC. (BFACT)
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
5.00 PM SUNDAY 21ST OCTOBER 2007
MINUTES**

1. **ATTENDANCE:** Andrew Struik, Rebecca Plush, Roy Nixon, Ian Dalziell, Lynne Moss, Trevor Berenger, Janet Strzelecki, Richard Hills, Hashmat Ali, Denis Grahame, Jeanette Grahame, Tony Hancock, Alison Hancock, Philip Thompson, Molly O'Donohue, Susan Scerri, Allen Scerri, Val Hopwood, Andrew Leslie, Beverley Carmichael, Griff Ware, Margaret Bourke, Valmai Mitchell, Peter Kahler, Janet Kahler, Bruce Crossman, Bev Crossman, George Stockham. (28)

APOLOGIES: Earl Dudley, Peter Andersson

2. **PROXY VOTES:** Nil received

3. **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF 2006 AGM AS A TRUE RECORD OF THE MEETING**

Moved: A.Struik **Seconded:** R.Plush **Carried**

4. **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF AGM 2006:** Nil

5. **REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT ROY NIXON (Attached)**

The President (Roy Nixon) tabled his report and thanked all members of BFACT Council for their help and support throughout the year. He highlighted the following:

- Planning for the 2009 ANC to be held in Canberra is well advanced. Lyn Turner has agreed to convene the event and Wendy Boxall has agreed to be Treasurer. Valmai Mitchell is the BFACT Council Liaison Officer. The venue is the Hellenic Club and the dates 3-17 July 2009. The President expressed his thanks to those involved.
- BFACT Website has been set up and is now active at www.bfact.com.au. The President thanked Rebecca Plush, Valmai Mitchell and Avril Barrett for their work in designing the site and uploading the content.
- BFACT ran Directors Courses at Club and Intermediate levels in 2007. The President thanked Ian Dalziell for his work in promoting the courses and updating the list of ACT accredited directors and for his work as editor of BFACT News. The President thanked Sean Mullamphy for running the courses.
- The President thanked Valmai Mitchell and Griff Ware for their efforts in promoting Youth Bridge in the ACT.
- The President congratulated the Capital Bridge Club on winning both the Seniors and Restricted Events in the BFACT Interclub Competition and expressed his thanks to David Hoffman for running the event. The President thanked Tim Bourke for providing the bridge hands and commentary for the 2007 Simultaneous Pairs and to Jane Rasmussen who will score the event.

- The President expressed BFACT Council's concerns regarding increasing costs and declining player interest in qualifying events for the ABF run GNOT. The ABF is introducing a pairs format Grand National Restricted Event in 2008.
- The President congratulated the Canberra 1 Team, winners of the 2006 GNOT, and the ACT Open Team that won the Open Event at the ANC.
- The President reported that he and Earl Dudley are the BFACT representatives to ABF Council. Ian Thomson attended the ABF Mid-Year meeting as an alternate to Earl Dudley. Roy Nixon has been appointed to fill a casual vacancy on the ABF Management Committee.
- BFACT, in conjunction with CBC, investigated the need for Professional Indemnity Insurance at an interactive workshop facilitated by Allen Scerri. It was decided not to take out professional indemnity cover (as the perceived risks were too low) but to follow up a number of risk management strategies to minimise the risk even further.
- The ABF Management Committee has decided that BFACT should receive compensation for the ACT agreeing **not** to hold a Gold Point Event in 2008 and 2009 in the amount of \$2,000 in each of 2008 and 2009 with the matter to be reviewed again in 2009 for possible starting date of 2010 for an ACT GP event. This compensation is in addition to the declining amount that BFACT will still receive from the Summer Festival of Bridge in those 2 years.
- BFACT received \$3000 from the ABF to advertise and market bridge in the region. Canberra Bridge Club, Monaro Bridge Club and Capital Bridge Club made successful applications to BFACT for funding under the terms of The ABF/Marketing Grant.

Questions And Comments Arising From The President's Report

- Richard Hills advised the meeting that he had been on the committee revising the Laws of Bridge and that the new Laws of Bridge will take effect in February 2008. He offered to assist in any courses run by BFACT to update directors on the revised laws.
- Richard Hills noted that one of the recommendations of the Risk Management Workshop was the development of a code of conduct for Directors. He pointed out that there was a code of conduct for directors on the ABF Website.
- Janet Kahler asked the President to comment on the ABF organisation and Office Bearers and referred to the behaviour of ABF Officials at the 2007 ANC. The President commented that the problem was how to effect real change. As a member of the ABF Management Committee, he was in a position to be kept informed as to what was happening. The President informed the meeting that he had passed on informally to the ABF the ACT ANC Open Team's Captain's comments regarding the conduct of the ABF Tournament Unit at the ANC.
- Margaret Bourke expressed disappointment that neither the report of BFACT President nor that of the Tournament Secretary mentioned the International Representation by ACT bridge players. The president apologised for this oversight and acknowledged the achievements of those ACT players who participated in International Events. Margaret Bourke provided the following list of International Representatives in 2007 for inclusion in the Minutes:

ACT INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE REPRESENTATIVES 2007

World Championships, Shanghai

David Hoffman: npc Seniors Team

David Lilley: Seniors Team

Elizabeth Havas: Women's Team

PABF Championships, Bandung, Indonesia

Margaret Bourke: Women's Team (2nd Place)

Nye Griffiths and Griff Ware: Youth Team (1st Place)

AustraliaV New Zealand Youth Challenge

Laura Ginnan

Sebastian Yuen

6. TREASURER'S REPORT AND STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS (Attached)

The Treasurer (Andrew Struik) tabled his report and informed the meeting that in 2006-2007 BFACT had a planned deficit of approximately \$5000 owing to the ANC being held in Perth in 2007, which increased the cost of airfares. He pointed out that, since the ANC will be held in Queensland in 2008, there would be a deficit in that year. This should be recovered in 2009 when the ANC is held in Canberra.

Questions And Comments Arising From The Treasurer's Report

- Peter Kahler expressed appreciation for the level of subsidy provided to ACT Captains and Team members at the 2007 ANC.

Motion: That the financial statements of BFACT as tabled be adopted.

Moved: Valmai Mitchell Seconded: Richard Hills Carried

7. APPOINTMENT OF AUDITOR FOR 2007 – 2008

Motion: That Ian Thomson be appointed Auditor for BFACT for 2007 –2008.

Moved: Andrew Struik Seconded: Griff Ware Carried

The Treasurer Andrew Struik expressed thanks to Ian Thomson for his work.

8. AFFILIATION FEES

The Treasurer pointed out that there was no change to the affiliation fee which had remained at \$7 for three years although BFACT was receiving less profit from selection events owing to a decline in the number of entrants. Beverley Carmichael expressed the opinion that, since not all players participated in selection events, entry fees should be increased, if necessary, rather than affiliation fees.

Motion: That the annual affiliation fee for 2007-8 be \$7.00 (incl GST) for all members.

Moved: Andrew.Struik Seconded: Tony Hancock Carried

9. REPORT OF TOURNAMENT SECRETARY (Attached) v

The Tournament Secretary (Griff Ware) tabled his report and highlighted the following:

- Sean Mullamphy is the only active high-level director in the ACT. BFACT has reviewed the Director Accreditation process and intends to investigate ways to promote a wider base of directing staff within the ACT.
- Standard VP scales were used for all events except the ACT Open Team Qualifying. It is the Tournament Secretary's recommendation that this practice continue in 2008.
- Following player suggestions and a player survey, it has been decided to extend the State Open Teams Event to eight weeks in total. The three week consolation President's Plate will effectively be split off into a separate event allowing teams to reform and new teams to enter.

- Owing to lack of player support for the event to select Canberra 2 Team for the GNOT, BFACT is planning to send only two teams to the 2008 GNOT Finals: Canberra 1 and ACT Provincial/Restricted.
- The question of Eligibility Criteria for State Representation has been raised again this year. BFACT policy is to grant eligibility to players who can be shown to have a historical link to bridge in the ACT but who may not be currently residing in the ACT, provided that they do not participate in selection events for other states or territories. The new BFACT Council will review the policy.

Questions And Comments Arising From The Tournament

Secretary's Report

- Richard Hills suggested that a CBC Event could be assigned as the selection event for the Canberra 2 Team for the GNOT. Andrew Struik pointed out that this had a financial impact on players at CBC since BFACT Events incurred a surcharge. Margaret Bourke asked the Treasurer for details of the cost of running the GNOT Qualifying Events. Andrew Struik replied that in 2007 the event incurred a loss of about \$400-\$500. Margaret Bourke suggested that the incoming BFACT Council approach CBC to assign an event as the GNOT qualifier for the Canberra 2 Team and offer a BFACT subsidy to reduce the cost to players. It was agreed that the incoming BFACT Council would review the matter.
- Margaret Bourke commented that with regard to Residential Eligibility Criteria, each case is individual and that the current BFACT policy on Residential Eligibility Criteria worked well.
- Peter Kahler commented that the phrase "moderate success" in the Tournament Secretary's report did not accurately reflect the ACT's bridge achievements in 2006-2007.

Motion: That the Tournament Secretary's Report be accepted with the substitution of the phrase "significant success" for "moderate success" in Paragraph 2.

Moved: Peter Kahler

Seconded: Griff Ware Carried

10 APPOINTMENT OF RETURNING OFFICER

Beverley Carmichael was appointed Returning Officer and took charge of the Meeting.

11. ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS

- President – Roy Nixon Nominated Susan Scerri Seconded: Rebecca Plush
 - Vice President – Rebecca Plush Nominated Roy Nixon Seconded: Ian Dalziell
 - Secretary – Susan Scerri Nominated Earl Dudley Seconded: Andrew Struik
 - Treasurer – Andrew Struik Nominated: Susan Scerri Seconded: Allen Scerri
 - Tournament Secretary – Peter Kahler – Nominated Susan Scerri Seconded: Andrew Struik
- There being no other nominations all five were elected unopposed

12. OTHER BUSINESS

Richard Hill asked if observers could attend BFACT Council Meetings. He was informed that BFACT Council members and Supplemental Councillors attended the meetings. There was no provision for observers. BFACT members could be invited to attend BFACT Council meetings to discuss particular issues or to assist in areas of expertise.

The Meeting closed at 6.00PM.

Susan Scerri
Secretary

09 February 2008

**Minutes of BFACT Council Meeting
Saturday 9 February 2008 at the Canberra Bridge Club**

1. Roy Nixon (President BFACT) opened the meeting at 10.00am.

PRESENT: Roy Nixon, Peter Kahler, Susan Scerri, Valmai Mitchell, Earl Dudley, Griff Ware, Andrew Struik.

APOLOGIES: Carmel Herald, Ian Dalziell, Rebecca Plush, Bruce Crossman

2. MINUTES

2.1 Acceptance

Motion: That the minutes of the previous meeting held on 8 December 2007 be accepted as a true and accurate record.

Moved: Roy Nixon Seconded: Andrew Struik Carried

2.2 Matters arising from the previous meeting minutes and action points.

- Roy Nixon reported that State entry fees to the 2008 ANC will not be reduced if States don't nominate entries to the ANC Pairs.
- BFACT Calendar for 2008 has been emailed to all clubs in the region.
- Susan Scerri emailed the convenor of the PABF on 10 December 2008 enquiring as to the number of teams the ACT is permitted to enter in each category. No reply has been received. Roy Nixon advised that there was a possibility that the \$1000 funding offered to the ACT for sending one or more teams may no longer be available. Peter Kahler will raise the matter with the convenor.

3. BFACT TOURNAMENT ISSUES

3.1 Tournament Secretary's Report

Peter Kahler, Tournament Secretary presented his report. (His report and related documents are attached.)

- **Eligibility for State Selection**

Peter Kahler tabled: ***BFACT State Teams Qualification Criteria*** for discussion.

Discussion of the proposed eligibility criteria and travel subsidies statement followed.

Discussion centred on whether players who participated in ACT Selection Events should be members of a BFACT affiliated club and whether players who were not members of a BFACT affiliated club should be entitled to a travel subsidy if selected for an ACT ANC Team.

Peter Kahler will revise the guidelines for further discussion at the next BFACT Council meeting.

Motion: The existing exemptions to residential eligibility requirements granted to Ann Pettigrew and Ruth Thompson will continue unless their circumstances change.

Moved: Earl Dudley Seconded: Roy Nixon Carried

- **Regulations for 2008 Open, Women's, Senior and Youth Teams Selection Qualifying Events**

Peter Kahler tabled the regulations for the above events. He proposed that from 2009 on, clubs in the region roughly bordered by Mollymook, Goulburn, Young, Cootamundra and Wagga, be invited to run a selection event to qualify two pairs to the Selection Final for the ACT ANC Open Team. The Selection Final would be expanded to fourteen pairs.

Discussion followed. Peter Kahler advocated the proposal as a means of promoting bridge and the role of BFACT in the region and pointed out that it was not practical for outlying clubs in the region to participate in NSW or ACT Selection events that were run over a number of weeks.

BFACT Council was in agreement with the philosophy behind the proposed changes but expressed some concerns over eligibility to participate in the event and possible conflict with the NSWBA. Peter Kahler agreed to revise the proposal for discussion at a future BFACT Council meeting.

BFACT Council thanked the Tournament Secretary for his excellent work on developing these proposals.

Motion: That BFACT Council invite members of ABF affiliated clubs within the region to participate in selection events for the ACT 2008 ANC Open, Women's, Senior and Youth Teams.

Moved Peter Kahler

Amendment to the Motion: to add at the end of the existing motion: "provided that entrants are members of a BFACT affiliated club at the time of the event."

Moved: Earl Dudley Seconded Andrew Struik Carried

Amended Motion: That BFACT Council invite members of ABF affiliated clubs within the region to participate in selection events for the ACT 2008 ANC Open, Women's, Senior and Youth Teams provided that entrants are members of a BFACT affiliated club at the time of the event.

Moved: Peter Kahler Seconded: Roy Nixon Carried

Peter Kahler will liaise with Griff Ware regarding the Youth Team regulations.

- **GNOT Self funded Canberra 2 Team**

Peter Kahler proposed a Butler Pairs event to be held on a Sunday to select the Canberra 2 Team for the GNOT. He will develop a proposal for the next meeting of BFACT Council.

- **GMRP**

BFACT has received correspondence from the organisers outlining MP costs and indicating that BFACT was coordinating the regional final. Roy Nixon will inform John Brockwell that BFACT does not wish to coordinate the regional final.

- **State Swiss Butler Pairs**

Peter Kahler tabled the Tournament Regulations for this event. Griff Ware commented that the provision of a section for players with less than 1000 MPs was a welcome innovation.

3.2 BFACT Simultaneous Pairs 2008

Valmai Mitchell agreed to coordinate the event in 2008 and will approach Tim Bourke to see if he is willing to assist with the hands and commentary. BFACT Council thanked Valmai for her work on the 2007 Simultaneous Pairs.

3.3 Responsible Adult Requirement for Youth Players under the age of 18.

Earl Dudley pointed out the need for the ACT ANC Captains' Guidelines to include the requirement of the appointment of a responsible adult for players under the age of 18 and the need for a signed parental release form. Earl will revise the guidelines. Susan Scerri to forward to Earl the information received from the ABF.

4. YOUTH BRIDGE

4.1 Youth Bridge Report

- Griff Ware reported that he would be stepping down as Youth Bridge Coordinator in the near future and that Rebecca Thornberry would be taking on the role. Earl Dudley suggested that Rebecca be invited to BFACT Council meetings to familiarise her with proceedings before she took on the role.
- Griff will meet with Rebecca to discuss the future of the ANU Bridge Club.
- Griff will be contacting youth players re the Youth Team Selection Event.
- Youth Week was a success. Numbers were slightly down owing to the absence of the New Zealand group. CBC proved a suitable venue but is unlikely to be required in 2009. No ACT subsidies were requested for participation in Youth Week.
- The Friday afternoon sessions will begin in March.
- Griff Ware will ask Jenny Mendick if she would like boards or other equipment for the sessions she is running at her school.

5. TREASURER'S REPORT

Motion: BFACT Council ratifies the following payments made since the last BFACT Council Meeting:

V Mitchell	postage Sim Pairs	\$18.40
Summer Festival	youth players entry subsidy	\$95.00
ABF Masterpoint Cntr	Dec qtr a/c	\$999.34

Moved: Andrew Struik Seconded: Roy Nixon Carried

Motion: That the fee to participate in each session of the Ron Klinger Tour will be \$15 per person and BFACT will recover \$10 per person per session from clubs running the events.

Moved: Andrew Struik Seconded: Roy Nixon Carried

- BFACT Council agreed in principle that Youth Players should be assisted to attend the Ron Klinger sessions. Griff Ware to liaise with Valmai Mitchell and Andrew Struik.
- Andrew Struik (Treasurer) tabled information on BFACT budget for the last financial year. Income from selection events was approximately \$3000. ANC Entry fees were approximately \$4000. Earl Dudley had passed on concerns expressed at CBC Committee meetings re the cost of running BFACT events. He pointed out that players at CBC don't readily appreciate the difference between CBC and BFACT events except for the additional cost. Griff Ware pointed out the need for BFACT events to be seen as special events in their own right. Earl Dudley raised the possibility of raising the BFACT levy. Roy Nixon suggested that BFACT Council should prepare the BFACT Calendar of events each year before CBC developed its calendar for the following year. The possibility of other BFACT affiliated clubs running some of the BFACT events was raised. Griff Ware will develop a list of possible BFACT events for discussion.

6. ABF

Earl Dudley has resigned as BFACT Delegate to the ABF. Roy will ask Ian Thomson if he is willing to take on the position. No replacement delegate will be sent to the March meeting if Ian Thomson is not available since Roy Nixon will be in attendance.

7. OTHER BUSINESS

7.1 Correspondence

Incoming

- Progress Reports on ABF Marketing/Advertising Grants from Capital, Monaro and Canberra Bridge Clubs.
- ABF Masterpoint Centre: Advice of Change of contact details.
- Ecats Bridge Charity Pairs
- QBA re guidelines for bridge tour operators.
- Bridge Museum: Copies of new Laws of Bridge for Sale
- John Brockwell: GNP
- Shalom Paul: Conventions at the Gold Coast
- ABF: Correction to cost of MPs for GNP.
- Travis Cook: Ron Klinger Advertising on BFACT flyers

Outgoing

- Jane Rasmussen: Thanks for scoring Simultaneous Pairs
- ABF: Report on ABF Advertising/Marketing Grant
- John Brockwell: Correction to list of BFACT Clubs on GNP information
- QBA: Responses to their letter re guidelines for bridge tour operator
- Regional Clubs: BFACT Calendar and invitation to Interclub Teams 2008

7.2 BFACT Website

Avril Barrett has modified the web page. Material has been sent to Rebecca Plush for forwarding to Avril.

7.3 Ron Klinger Advertising

BFACT Council asked the Secretary to inform Travis Cook that BFACT Council at this stage is not interested in including advertisements in material it distributed.

NEXT MEETING

Friday 14 March 2008 at 5 pm at the Canberra Bridge Club Deakin

Meeting closed at 12.30 pm

Susan Scerri
BFACT Secretary

14 March 2008

Minutes of BFACT Council Meeting

Friday 14 March 2008 at the Canberra Bridge Club

1. Roy Nixon (President BFACT) opened the meeting at 5.10pm.

PRESENT: Roy Nixon, Peter Kahler, Susan Scerri, Valmai Mitchell, Earl Dudley, Griff Ware, Lyn Turner.

APOLOGIES: Michael Rabey, Ian Dalziell, Andrew Struik, Bruce Crossman

2. MINUTES

2.1 Acceptance

Motion: That the minutes of the previous meeting held on 8 February 2008 be accepted as a true and accurate record.

Moved: Roy Nixon Seconded: Peter Kahler Carried

2.2 Matters arising from the previous meeting minutes and action points.

- Rebecca Plush has been liaising with Avril Barrett re BFACT Website. She will liaise with the manager of CBC re linking BFACT Website to CBC Website.
- Valmai Mitchell has approached Tim Bourke re providing hands and commentary for the Simultaneous Pairs. He expressed disappointment with the 2007 booklet. In particular, the symbols need to be embedded in the software before printing. Valmai Mitchell has liaised with Jane Rasmussen. BFACT Council agreed that the booklets must be checked for quality before they are sent to the printer.
- Roy Nixon has raised the question of fines for late and changed entries to the ANC with the ABF. Basically the ABF acknowledges that as such imposing fines on states is not "kosher". Instead, the entry requirements will stipulate that an entry submitted by the due date will cost "x" while an incomplete entry or late entry will cost "y" or some variant of "y".
- Peter Kahler is expecting to hear from the organisers of the Asian Cup in the next week or so, confirming the \$1000 grant to BFACT to send a team to the Asian Cup. (The President subsequently advised that the QBA has advised the grants will definitely be paid.)
- Earl Dudley has revised ANC Captains' Guidelines to incorporate the need for parental consent and appointment of a responsible adult if players are under the age of eighteen. He noted that it is a requirement in Queensland for adults supervising children to hold a blue card. Susan Scerri has written to the Convenor of the 2008 ANC requesting further information on the need for a blue card. Peter Kahler requested that information regarding team uniforms be incorporated in the guidelines. Roy Nixon suggested that mention should be made of the need for players and captains to conform to the dress code of the venue where the ANC is to be held.

3. BFACT TOURNAMENT ISSUES

3.1 Open Teams Selection 2009

Peter Kahler (Tournament Secretary) suggested that there were two main issues concerning this event:

- i. The need to open up the event to promote bridge in the region.
- ii. The timing of the event.

He suggested that in 2009, on the Saturday of the weekend in which the Southern Tableland Teams was held, that a Butler Pairs event be run which would qualify two pairs to the final of the Open Teams Selection Event. The number of pairs to qualify from the five week Tuesday night event held at CBC would be reduced from twelve pairs to ten.

Peter Kahler recommended that the Saturday Butler Pairs event be open to all players from clubs in the region. In the discussion that followed, concerns were raised about qualifying NSW players to represent the ACT. Roy Nixon undertook to raise the matter informally with the President of NSWBA and report back to the next BFACT Council Meeting.

Canberra 2 GNOT Team and GNOT Restricted/Provincial Team

The event to select the Canberra 2 GNOT Team and GNOT Restricted/Provincial Team will be discussed further at the next BFACT Council Meeting.

3.3 ANC Selection Events

The 2008 ANC Senior and Youth Teams Selection Events have been held. Final team membership will not be known until after the Open Team Selection Final.

Youth Team

Stephen Williams	Laura Ginnan
Rebecca Thornberry	James Higgins
Sebastien Yuen	Robin Stevenson

Senior Team

Peter Kahler	Stephen Mendick
Margaret Bourke	David Hoffman
Andrew Struik	Brian Thorpe

The Tournament Secretary reported that he has asked players entering ANC Selection Events to indicate whether they are contending or non-contending pairs at the first session of the event.

The Tournament Secretary has received several requests that in future selection events not be held on weekends with a public holiday. BFACT Council agreed that this should be the case wherever practicable.

Peter Kahler will liaise with the CBC Committee regarding the timetabling of BFACT events in 2009. BFACT Council needs to provide input into the CBC planning process earlier, especially if we are planning changes to the scheduling of selection events next year.

3.4 PABF

The qualifying event to select the team to receive the grant to attend the Asian Cup is on the CBC Calendar. (22,29 May 5, 12 June.)

3.5 ACT Swiss Pairs

The Tournament Secretary received a letter of complaint from a player regarding the incorrect announcement of progress scores prior to the final round of the ACT Swiss Butler Pairs which affected their actions and cost them first place. The Council agreed that this mistake by the Director was unfortunate and the Director has been counselled. The Tournament Secretary will reply to the letter.

3.6 GNRP

As instructed by Council, Roy Nixon (President BFACT) informed John Brockwell that BFACT would not be coordinating the Regional Final of the GNRP in 2008. John Brockwell subsequently approached CBC to coordinate the Regional Final. Earl Dudley (President of CBC) prepared a proposal and obtained the support of the CBC Committee to coordinate the RF for 2008. Earl Dudley expressed concern that CBC could incur a financial loss if insufficient pairs were nominated to the Regional Final. To alleviate some of this risk, the CBC asked that BFACT underwrite the cost of up to four pairs from the affiliated clubs other than the CBC. Of course, if one or more pairs eventuate from these clubs the cost to BFACT will be scaled down accordingly.

Motion: That BFACT Council agrees to underwrite the cost of up to four pairs from clubs other than CBC (expected cost \$360) for the GNRP Regional Final.

Moved: Roy Nixon Seconded: Rebecca Plush Carried

Earl Dudley (President of CBC) abstained from this motion.

Earl Dudley advised that CBC has not agreed to act as Regional Coordinator for this event beyond 2008.

3.7 BFACT Inter Club Teams 2008

Valmai Mitchell and David Hoffman are coordinating this event.

Nine entries have been received for the Restricted Teams and seven entries have been received for the Senior Teams.

4. ANC 2009

Lyn Turner (ANC 2009 Convenor) tabled a proposed timetable for the 2009 ANC.

BFACT Council congratulated Lyn on the timetable and thanked her for her work on the ANC.

The timetable was discussed and it was decided, that since the ANC Pairs is now an open entry event in all the variants (ie Open, Women and Seniors etc), that the sessions should be afternoon and evening to give visiting players the opportunity to travel to Canberra on the Saturday morning.

Roy Nixon reported that Bruce Neill raised for consideration with the ABF whether the block state/territory entry fee to the ANC would be reduced because the ANC pairs events had been made "open entry" as opposed to state based nomination only. The matter has been taken on board by the ABF Management Committee but indications are that the entry fee for states will not be reduced.

Lyn Turner wants to set up the 2009 ANC Website and is establishing contacts to assist with the task.

Roy Nixon pointed out the contribution made by sponsors to the 2007 ANC held in Fremantle was equal to the amount of profit made by BAWA. Jeanette Graham has approached the ACT Government for sponsorship. Lyn Turner informed BFACT Council that the ACT venue cost is approximately half that of the Fremantle ANC so we were already ahead of BAWA on that score.

5. TREASURER'S REPORT

- The Treasurer (Andrew Struik) was absent and no report was presented.

BFACT Council discussed the proposed ANC travel subsidies which the Treasurer had forwarded to the meeting. The amount of the subsidy per player/captain is based on the cost of a standard return economy airfare to the Gold Coast.

ANC Travel Subsidies

Motion: That

1. A subsidy of \$440 will be paid to ANC team representatives (including team captains) to meet travel and accommodation costs of participating in the Gold Coast ANC, of which \$400 will be advanced and the remaining \$40 payable on production of receipts (for which a GST rebate can be claimed by BFACT).
2. ANC team representatives (including team captains) will be reimbursed for half of the cost of attending the Victory Dinner, payable on production of the receipt for the purchase of a Victory Dinner Ticket. Non-playing ANC team captains will be reimbursed 100% of the cost of the welcome drinks.

Moved: Earl Dudley **Seconded:** Roy Nixon **Carried**

- Earl Dudley to ask the CBC Committee to consider making an allocation of \$6160 from the Barry Turner Fund to meet half of the cost of ANC Travel Subsidies.
- BFACT Council will decide on the appointment of a Systems Cards coordinator for the ANC at the next BFACT Council Meeting. It was decided at the BFACT Council meeting of June 15, 2007 to pay a fee to the Systems Cards coordinator.
- Andrew Struik will be overseas for several months. Valmai Mitchell will be acting Treasurer in his absence.

6. YOUTH BRIDGE

Griff Ware reported that the ANU Bridge Club started two weeks ago.

He will announce the 2008 ANC Youth Captain at the next BFACT Council Meeting.

7. ABF

Earl Dudley's term as BFACT Delegate to ABF Council has concluded. BFACT Council is experiencing difficulty in finding a replacement. Roy Nixon will continue to endeavour to find a replacement as soon as possible. The President mentioned that he had received a written representation from Margaret Bourke expressing her disappointment that the ACT had not been able to find a second delegate to attend the ABF AGM.

8. OTHER BUSINESS

8.1 Correspondence

Incoming

- Final Reports on ABF Marketing/Advertising Grants from Monaro Bridge Club.
- Travis Cook – Ron Klinger Advertising
- Carmel Herald – Michael Rabey Cootamundra representative on BFACT Council
- ABF – Delegates to AGM

Outgoing

- Letter of thanks to Monaro Bridge Club
- Travis Cook re Ron Klinger Advertising
- Inter Club Teams Reminder
- ABF re delegates to AGM
- Thanks to Carmel Herald
- Kim Kellaway re Blue Card

8.2 BFACT Calendar

Griff Ware had undertaken to look at possible future BFACT Events to cater for Restricted players. He presented a list of possible BFACT events (attached). The Master Pairs and Master Teams were the two that were most suitable.

NEXT MEETING

Saturday 12 April 2008 at 10 am at the Canberra Bridge Club Deakin

Meeting closed at 7.15 pm

Susan Scerri
BFACT Secretary

LIST OF POSSIBLE BFACT EVENTS

Under the masterpoint regulations list we are allowed to run one of each of the following each year at 'State' level:

Board-A-Match
Butler Pairs Trials
GNOT events
Individual
Master Pairs
Master Teams
Open Pairs
Open Teams
Pairs Selection (Open)
Pairs Selection (Senior)
Pairs Selection (Men/Women)
Pairs Selection (Women)
Pairs Selection (Youth)
Senior Teams
Singles
Senior Pairs
Senior Team Trials
Open Teams Selection Trials
Swiss Pairs
Men & Women Pairs
Men & Women Teams
Womens Team Trials
Mixed Pairs
Mixed Teams
Youth Pairs
Youth Team Trials

12 April 2008

**Minutes of BFACT Council Meeting
Saturday 12 April 2008 at the Canberra Bridge Club**

1. Roy Nixon (President BFACT) opened the meeting at 10.00am.

PRESENT: Roy Nixon, Peter Kahler, Susan Scerri, Valmai Mitchell, Earl Dudley, Griff Ware, Lynne Moss.

APOLOGIES: Michael Rabey, Ian Dalziell, Andrew Struik, Rebecca Plush

2. MINUTES

2.1 Acceptance

Motion: That the minutes of the previous meeting held on 8 February 2008 be accepted as a true and accurate record.

Moved: Roy Nixon Seconded: Valmai Mitchell Carried

2.2 Matters arising from the previous meeting minutes and action points.

- Earl Dudley pointed out that the lists of BFACT Council Members and Affiliated Clubs on the BFACT website need updating. Earl Dudley asked that BFACT Tournament Regulations be put on the BFACT Website. Peter Kahler will follow this up. Roy Nixon will approach Bruce Crossman to take responsibility for material placed on the BFACT website.
- Peter Kahler advised that \$1000 grant to BFACT to send a team to the Asian Cup has been confirmed.

3. BFACT TOURNAMENT ISSUES

3.1 Entries for the 2008 ANC

- Earl Dudley advised that the Canberra Bridge Club Committee has not met since the BFACT Meeting of 14 March and that it will consider the travel subsidy for Teams and Captains to be awarded from the Barry Turner Fund at its next meeting.
- The Selection Event for the 2008 ANC Women's Team was held on 4, 5 and 6 April.

1. Margaret Bourke Anne Powell

2. Rhyll Scales Jill Tonkin

3. Adrienne Stephens Anne Pettigrew

4. Barbara Toohey Liz Van Der Hor

The Tournament Secretary (Peter Kahler) reported that 18 pairs had entered the event which was a significant increase on the previous year and reflected the increased interest in Women's

Bridge following the training sessions organised by Canberra Bridge Club. Peter Kahler recommended that the Friday night, Saturday, Sunday format be retained since the inclusion of a Wednesday night session could preclude pairs from regional affiliated clubs from entering. Peter Kahler reported that there had been some contention over the allocation of adjustments to scores and pointed out the need for guidelines. Peter Kahler and Griff Ware will liaise to bring the Tournament Regulations up to date.

- The 2008 ANC Teams cannot be finalised until after the finals of the Open Teams Selection Event on 27 April since several players may qualify for more than one team. The Open Pair for Stage II of the Butler Pairs has not yet been finalised owing to the unavailability of one member of the winning pair. Letters have been sent to Sheila Bird and Karen Creet inviting them to take up their place in Stage II of the Women's Butler Pairs.
- It was noted that the ABF Tournament Unit requires ANC Teams Systems to be disclosed in full using the Edwards ABF system card. Blank cards will be enclosed with letters to team members and information provided re downloading a copy of the card from the ABF Website.

Motion: That an honorarium of \$200 be paid to Rebecca Plush to submit the ACT 2008 entries to the ANC, including the lodging of system cards. This arrangement will be reviewed for the 2009 ANC.

Moved: Earl Dudley

Seconded: Roy Nixon

Carried

- BFACT is entitled to submit three pairs in each category (Open, Seniors, Women, Mixed and Youth) in the 2008 ANC Pairs. BFACT Council noted that Monaro had undertaken to run a qualifying event. It was agreed that the BFACT Tournament Secretary has a high degree of discretion in nominating pairs to the ANC Pairs Events. Priority should be given to entrants who have qualified via a selection event.
- Peter Kahler informed BFACT Council that he still does not know which of the successful pairs from the Open Teams qualifying event will be entering the Open Team Selection Final. He proposed that for 2009 selection events, pairs must indicate at session one of the event whether they are prepared to play in the next stage of the event. This is particularly important for seeding in the Open Team Selection Event since results can be skewed if one side of the field has significantly more players who are not intending to compete in the next stage.

Motion: At the beginning of the Qualifying and Final Events for the Open Teams Selection, players must indicate whether they are intending to proceed to the next stage of the event.

Moved: Peter Kahler

Seconded: Griff Ware

Carried

3.2 Canberra 2 GNOT Team and GNOT Restricted/Provincial Team

An event to select the Canberra 2 GNOT Team and GNOT Restricted/Provincial Team will be held on 19 October at CBC. Peter Kahler proposed a Butler Pairs Event with different categories. The top three placegetters in the Open Section will form the Canberra 2 Team and the top two placegetters in the Restricted Section will form the Restricted/Provincial Team. Griff Ware argued in favour of a teams event but BFACT Council agreed with the Butler Pairs proposal. Peter Kahler and Earl Dudley will liaise on the arrangements for the event. It was agreed that the event needs to be promoted widely.

3.3 Tournament Objectives

Peter Kahler pointed out the need for these to be agreed on by midyear before he begins discussion with CBC regarding the 2009 BFACT Calendar. They will be decided on at the next BFACT Council Meeting.

3.4 BFACT Inter Club Teams 2008

The first round will take place at CBC on April 19. Valmai Mitchell pointed out that in the new format, no teams will be knocked out until the end of the second round.

4. ANC 2009

Lyn Turner (ANC 2009 Convenor) had asked Susan Scerri (Secretary) to raise a number of issues regarding the 2009 ANC at the BFACT Council Meeting.

4.1 Timetable

Eric Ramshaw (ABF Tournament Unit) does not want to approve the proposed timetable until after the 2008 ANC. He is waiting to see how 20 board matches go in the Teams. If this is changed in 2009 it will affect the proposed timetable

4.2 ANC Website

Lyn Turner wanted to know what was happening with the website and how it was to be funded. Valmai Mitchell will liaise with Avril Barrett to explore options for setting up the 2009 ANC Website. It was emphasised in the discussion that the ANC 2009 Website must be referenced via one click from the ABF Website.

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4.3 Bank Account

Lyn Turner and Wendy Boxall (ANC 2009 Treasurer) need to set up an ANC Account.

Motion: That BFACT Council approves funding the 2009 ANC Committee the sum of \$1000 to set up an ANC Account.

Moved: Peter Kahler Seconded: Roy Nixon Carried

BFACT Council to invite Lyn Turner to the next BFACT Council Meeting to present to Council a cash flow forecast so that BFACT Council can anticipate the assistance it needs to provide to the 2009 ANC Committee.

4.4 Funding for Lyn Turner to attend 2008 ANC

Lyn Turner requested funding from BFACT to attend the 2008 ANC to prepare for her role as Convenor in 2009. BFACT Council agreed in principle to providing financial assistance and asked BFACT Secretary (Susan Scerri) to invite Lyn Turner to provide more details of the assistance requested.

5. TREASURER'S REPORT

- The Treasurer (Andrew Struik) was absent and no report was presented.
- Valmai Mitchell (Acting Treasurer) reported that an account for BFACT Honour Boards at CBC had been paid. Griff Ware reported that Andrew Struik had paid the latest Masterpoint Account. The details to forwarded to the Secretary for inclusion in the minutes.

6. ABF

- Roy Nixon (President) will be unable to attend the ABF Presidents Meeting on 24 May. No alternative delegate is permitted.
- Roy Nixon is continuing discussions to find a second BFACT Councillor to the ABF.

- Roy Nixon advised that the cheque from the ABF for the 2008 Advertising/Marketing Grant would be sent out shortly.

7. YOUTH BRIDGE

- Valmai Mitchell reported that the Friday sessions are progressing well. Rebecca Thornberry sat in on the last session. Valmai will liaise with Griff Ware re having some lessons included in the Friday sessions.
- Griff Ware reported that the ANU Bridge Club is going well with a regular two to three tables.
- Lynne Moss reported that some of the youth players from the ANU Club had played at Capital Bridge Club.

8. OTHER BUSINESS

8.1 Correspondence

Incoming

- Kim Kellaway re Blue Card
- Request for BFACT Financial Statement from Lyn Turner
- Eric Ramshaw: 2008 ANC Entry Form
- Directory of Australian Associations

Outgoing

- Kim Kellaway re Blue Card
- Sheila Bird and Karen Creet: Stage II Women's Butler Pairs
- Directory of Australian Associations

8.2 Director's Course

Ian Dalziell had asked Lynne Moss to raise the need for refresher courses on the new laws. It is decided that a half-day session in May would be appropriate. Earl Dudley will liaise with Sean Mullamphy.

NEWS FROM THE CLUBS

Earl Dudley (Canberra Bridge Club) reported that Canberra Bridge Club was coordinating the GNP and has emailed all affiliated clubs. Since Cooma and Cootamundra can qualify through other events, CBC has the option of running the Regional Final on consecutive Saturdays. Canberra Bridge Club, Capital Bridge Club and South Canberra Bridge Club are running qualifying events.

NEXT MEETING

Saturday 10 May 2008 at 10 am at the Canberra Bridge Club Deakin

Meeting closed at 10am

Susan Scerri

BFACT Secretary

09 May 2008

Minutes of BFACT Council Meeting

Friday 9 May 2008 at the Canberra Bridge Club

1. Roy Nixon (President BFACT) opened the meeting at 5pm.

PRESENT: Roy Nixon, Peter Kahler, Susan Scerri, Valmai Mitchell, Earl Dudley, Ian Dalziell, Rebecca Plush, Lyn Turner.

APOLOGIES: Griff Ware, Andrew Struik.

2. MINUTES

2.1 Acceptance

Motion: That the minutes of the previous meeting held on 12 April 2008 be accepted as a true and accurate record.

Moved: Roy Nixon Seconded: Peter Kahler Carried

2.2 Matters arising from the previous meeting minutes and action points.

- **Motion:** That BFACT Council ratifies the appointment of Valmai Mitchell as Acting Treasurer for the duration of Andrew Struik's absence overseas.

Moved: Roy Nixon Seconded: Susan Scerri Carried

- Earl Dudley advised BFACT Council that on Saturday 10 May 2008 two sessions will be run by Sean Mullamphy at CBC on the New Laws of Bridge. The first session, to be held at 10am, will be general information on the new laws. A more detailed workshop session will be held at 1.30 pm. CBC has donated the venue. The revenue from the second session will be used to cover Sean Mullamphy's fee. South Canberra, Canberra and Capital Bridge Clubs have agreed to pay for participants from their clubs who attend the second session. Sean Mullamphy will invoice BFACT and BFACT will invoice the participating clubs.

Motion: That BFACT Council endorses two information sessions on the New Laws of Bridge be held at Canberra Bridge Club on Saturday 10 May. The first session to be held at 10am will be a general seminar for which there will be no charge. A workshop will be held at 1.30pm for which there will be a charge of \$15 per person.

Moved: Earl Dudley Seconded: Ian Dalziell Carried

3. BFACT TOURNAMENT ISSUES

3.1 Entries for the 2008 ANC

ANC Teams

- The Secretary of the Canberra Bridge Club has advised BFACT that the Committee of the Canberra Bridge Club has approved that the 2008 travel subsidy paid to our ACT Team representatives from the Barry Turner Fund be \$220 per person (including GST).

- The Selection Events for the 200 ANC Teams have been completed.

Motion: BFACT Council ratifies the following ACT Teams and Non-Playing Captains for the 2008 ANC.

Moved: Peter Kahler Seconded: Earl Dudley Carried
Open Team

David Hoffman	David Wawn
Ian Robinson	Arjuna De Livira
Andrew Creet	Kim Magann

Non-Playing Captain: Roy Nixon

Women's Team

Anne Powell	Margaret Bourke
Rhyll Scales	Jill Tonkin
Ann Pettigrew	Adrienne Stephens

Non-Playing Captain: Earl Dudley

Senior's Team

Peter Kahler	Stephen Mendick
Andrew Struik	Brian Thorp
Ross Crichton	Pam Crichton

Captain: To Be Advised

Youth Team

Robin Stevenson	Sebastian Yuen
Rebecca Thornberry	James Higgins
Stephen Williams	Laura Ginnan

Captain: To Be Advised

- Susan Scerri will write to Team Members and Captains congratulating them and asking them to submit system cards. Travel subsidies will be paid on receipt of system cards. Rebecca Plush to submit ANC entries.
- Earl Dudley to forward revised Guidelines for Team Captains to Susan Scerri.

ANC Pairs

- Peter Kahler advised that the ANC Pairs Representatives will be selected as follows:
 Open Pairs will be selected from an Open Pairs Selection Event at CBC.
 The Ted Crichton Mixed Pairs will be the basis of selection for the Mixed Pairs.
 The Women's Youth and Senior Trials will be used to select the pairs for those events.
- It was noted that BFACT Affiliated Clubs had been invited to run qualifying events for the ANC Pairs. Several clubs had expressed interest in holding events. Peter Kahler will liaise with these clubs in the selection process for the ANC Pairs.
- The ACT is entitled to three pairs in each category.

Butler Pairs Stage II

The Women's and Open entries to Stage II of the Butler Pairs have not yet been finalised. Sheila Bird and Karen Creet have declined their place in the Women's Event. Peter Kahler (Tournament Secretary) will approach members of the 2008 ANC Teams to fill the places.

Open Team Selection Final

Peter Kahler advised that owing to withdrawals, only ten pairs contested the Open Team Selection Final. In 2009 two pairs will be selected to the final via a weekend event. If difficulty is experienced with withdrawals from qualifiers via the main event, consideration could be given to having four pairs qualify via the weekend events from 2010 on.

3.3 Tournament Objectives

Peter Kahler tabled a first draft of revised BFACT Tournament Regulations.

The General Approach was discussed and BFACT Council Members were asked to forward to Peter Kahler comments on the details so that the document can be revised before being tabled for ratification at the next BFACT Council Meeting. Peter Kahler mentioned amendments to Substitution Rules and Guidelines for Score Adjustments and simplification of the Appeals Process.

General Approach

These regulations are not meant to be comprehensive but intended to be used in conjunction with the World Bridge Federation (WBF) and Australian Bridge Federation (ABF) regulations detailed below. These regulations address those issues which are specific to the Bridge Federation of the Australian Capital Territory (BFACT), are not covered in the references or where BFACT requires different regulations.

BFACT Council thanked Peter Kahler for his efforts and endorsed the General Approach. It was felt that the advantage of this approach is that BFACT Tournament Regulations will remain current following any changes made by the ABF and WBF.

Roy Nixon advised BFACT Council that the ABF is considering the use of Stop Cards and that if this occurs they will become part of BFACT Tournament Regulations unless BFACT Council decides against their use.

Earl Dudley suggested the document be circulated for comment among senior players with detailed knowledge of Tournament Regulations. Peter Kahler will provide copies of the Draft Regulations to John Brockwell, David Hoffman and Ian Thomson for comment.

3.4 PABF

Peter Kahler will prepare a flyer for the PABF Selection Event. Roy Nixon stressed the need to promote the event. Peter Kahler mentioned that there might be a problem with selecting the ACT team since several Canberra players have already qualified for the PABF through national selection events and there is a possibility that the Australian Beijing Teams which include Canberra players may be encouraged to enter the PABF.

4. ANC 2009

Lyn Turner (ANC 2009 Convenor) had been invited to the meeting and raised the following issues:

4.1 ANC Bank Accounts

Andrew Struik (BFACT Treasurer), who is currently overseas, expressed his preference for the opening of an ANC Account be deferred until his return when he can consult with the ANC 2009 Treasurer (Wendy Boxall). He advocated opening a second CPS account for the 2009 ANC. (BFACT already has a CPS Account.)

Lyn Turner agreed to this arrangement. In the interim BFACT will pay any sums required from its Ord Minnett Account.

4.2 ANC Website

Lyn Turner has approached Peter Busch who was responsible for the Summer Festival of Bridge web site to do the ANC web site. That website would be similar to the ANC 2009 Website. Peter Busch also had input into the Queensland website. Lyn has spoken to him and he is available to do the work. The cost would be about \$1000. BFACT Council endorsed the decision to employ Peter Busch to be responsible for the website. Roy Nixon asked Lyn Turner to check that Peter Busch has an ABN Number and is registered for GST. Roy pointed out that all suppliers to the ANC 2009 must have an ABN and provide Tax Invoices. If people are employed who do not have an ABN, they must complete the ATO Statement by a Supplier indicating that the work done is of a hobby nature.

Lyn advised that a condition of the Grant from the ACT Government, for which the ANC 2009 Committee has applied, is that the ANC promotes tourism in the ACT. Lyn Turner is proposing

a link from the ANC 2009 website to visitcanberra.com. Roy Nixon commented that the requirement of the Grant to promote tourism was a strong reason to have a separate website.

Roy Nixon raised the matter of online entries via the website. BFACT will only be responsible for entries to the Butler Pairs and the Congress Events. Lyn Turner informed BFACT Council that it was intended to have an online entry facility via electronic transmission of the entry form but not direct debit from credit cards. Rebecca Plush mentioned the need for a disclaimer that it was not a secure site. BFACT Council agreed that it was critical to have a link to the ANC 2009 website on the ABF website.

4.3 ANC Flyer

Rebecca Plush is preparing a flyer for the 2009 ANC. BFACT Council authorised the ANC 2009 Committee to decide on the format and content of the flyer.

4.4 Funding for Lyn Turner to attend 2008 ANC

Lyn Turner requested funding of \$1907.75 from BFACT to cover the cost of her accommodation when she attends the 2008 ANC to prepare for her role as Convenor in 2009.

Motion: That BFACT Council ratifies a payment of \$1907.75 to Lyn Turner to cover the cost of her accommodation when she attends the 2008 ANC to prepare for her role as Convenor in 2009.

Moved: Roy Nixon Seconded: Rebecca Plush Carried

5. TREASURER'S REPORT

- The Treasurer (Andrew Struik) was absent and no report was presented.
- Valmai Mitchell (Acting Treasurer) reported the following payments:

CBC Honour Boards	\$ 208.00
Sean Mullamphy Women's Team Selection Trials	\$1881.49
Lyn Turner Accommodation Expenses 2008 ANC	\$1907.85
Susan Scerri Stationery	\$ 13.69
- Monies received: ABF Promotions Grant \$6600.00

6. ABF

Roy Nixon reported that a new process for the selection of Australian Teams would be trialled in the selection event for the 2009 Australian Open Team.

7. YOUTH BRIDGE

Valmai Mitchell reported that numbers have been down in the Friday sessions, chiefly due to school holidays and illness.

8. OTHER BUSINESS

8.1 Correspondence

Incoming

- Sheila Bird and Karen Creet declining place in Women's Stage II ButlerPairs

- Lyn Turner request for list of BFACT Council members
- Richard Grenside New Laws
- Dora Theunisson Monaro Contact Details
- CBC Travel Subsidies from Barry Turner Fund
- ABF Promotions Grant

Outgoing

- Lyn Turner BFACT Council list
- Wendy Boxall Letter of thanks to CBC

8.2 Director's Courses

Ian Dalziell will liaise with Sean Mullamphy re a course in September.

8.3 BFACT Affiliation Fees

Roy Nixon asked Susan Scerri (Secretary) to contact the Treasurer (Andrew Struik) regarding the need to send out notices to BFACT Affiliated Clubs regarding affiliation fees, which will be due shortly, and the form notices should follow.

8.4 Inter Club Teams

BFACT recorded its appreciation for the work David Hoffman undertakes for this event.

Motion: That BFACT Council authorises Valmai Mitchell to purchase a gift for David Hoffman in appreciation for his contribution to the Inter Club Teams Event. **Moved: Valmai Mitchell**

Seconded: Roy Nixon Carried

8.5 Masterpointing

It was noted by BFACT Council that there has been a delay in forwarding Masterpoints from BFACT to the Masterpoint Centre.

NEXT MEETING

Friday 13 June 2008 at 5pm at the Canberra Bridge Club Deakin

Meeting closed at 6.30pm

Susan Scerri
BFACT Secretary

13 June 2008

Minutes of BFACT Council Meeting

Friday 13 June 2008 at the Canberra Bridge Club

1. In the absence of the President, **Rebecca Plush** (Vice President BFACT) opened the meeting at 5.15pm.

Rebecca Plush chaired the Meeting for items 1 and 2 until the arrival of the President, Roy Nixon, at 5.30pm

PRESENT: Roy Nixon, Peter Kahler, Susan Scerri, Valmai Mitchell, Earl Dudley, Ian Dalziell, Rebecca Plush, Griff Ware, Bruce Crossman.

APOLOGIES: Dora Theunissen.

2. MINUTES

2.1 Acceptance

Motion: That the minutes of the previous meeting held on 9 May 2008 be accepted as a true and accurate record.

Moved: Earl Dudley Seconded: Ian Dalziell Carried

2.2 Matters arising from the previous meeting minutes and action points.

- Peter Kahler advertised the PABF Selection Event, which concluded on Thursday 12 June.
- Susan Scerri has written to Members and Captains of 2008 ANC Teams.
- Lyn Turner emailed BFACT Council a report from the 2009 ANC Committee. Lyn Turner and Jeanette Graham have met with a representative of the Events Assistance Program and, with Wendy Boxall, are developing a submission for Core Event Assistance. The outcome of the application will not be known until August. Lyn Turner has approached Peter Busch who has agreed to establish the 2009 ANC Website. He will meet Lyn at the 2008 ANC to discuss the website. There should not be any sizable expenses for the ANC before the end of August.
- Earl Dudley has incorporated team uniform information and dress code into ANC Captains' Guidelines. Copies have been forwarded to 2008 ANC Captains.
- Ian Dalziell informed BFACT Council that the next Directors Courses would be held at the Southern Cross Club on Saturday 26 October. Earl Dudley asked for feedback on the two information sessions on the New Laws of Bridge held at Canberra Bridge Club on Saturday 10 May. The feedback on the morning session, which provided general information on the New Laws, was very positive. Comments have been received indicating that the afternoon session, which was intended to be more detailed, would have been improved with a more tightly structured approach.
- Roy Nixon is continuing discussions with possible BFACT Delegates to the ABF.
- Andrew Struik (Treasurer) has advised Susan Scerri that he will send invoices for BFACT Affiliation fees on his return in July.

3. BFACT TOURNAMENT ISSUES

3.1 Entries for the 2008 ANC

- Roy Nixon informed BFACT Council that NSWBA has written to the ABF putting forward the view that the entry fees to the ANC that are levied on States are too high. Each State is charged for three Pairs in each category of the ANC Pairs whether or not they send three entries in each section. Roy Nixon pointed out that, whatever the outcome, it will impact on the ACT in 2009 since it is the host state in that year. Peter Kahler advised BFACT Council that he is experiencing difficulty in getting one pair to represent the ACT in each of the categories. Roy Nixon noted that the entry fee for the ANC Teams has not changed for several years. Discussion followed and BFACT Council agreed on the following position.
BFACT Council in principle supports moves to rationalise the arrangements relating to State sponsored pairs in the ANC Pairs Events but strongly recommends that changes be phased in over a transition period so that States hosting the ANC are not financially disadvantaged.
- Rebecca Plush who is submitting ACT entries to the ANC advised that entries have to be submitted by 27 June 2008. Peter Kahler has not yet finalised the Stage II Open Butler Pair and the ANC Pairs entrants. He has approached people from the qualifying events but has not received acceptances. He will send a letter to Affiliated Clubs asking for expressions of interest and provide Rebecca with a list of ACT ANC Pairs entrants and ACT ANC Butler Pairs Stage II entrants by Friday 20 June.

3.2 PABF

- The PABF has advised BFACT that the ACT will receive the \$1000 grant regardless of how many teams they send to the PABF. The Hills Team, which won the ACT Qualifying Event, will be entering the Open Event. A Senior and a Youth Team from the ACT will also enter. Griff Ware will advise BFACT Council of the members of the Youth Team.
- Peter Kahler informed BFACT Council that the Hills Team wished to enter the PABF as a Non Delegate Team (cost \$500 as opposed to \$1000 for a Delegate Team.) Roy Nixon expressed the view that the team should enter as a Delegate Team so that it would be listed as the ACT Team rather than the Hills Team. Discussion followed.

Motion: That BFACT Council decide that the winning team from the PABF Qualifying Event should enter the PABF as a Delegate Team if they wish to receive the \$1000 subsidy.

Moved: Roy Nixon Seconded: Rebecca Plush Motion defeated

(Since the BFACT Council meeting, we have since been advised by the QBA that a condition of the \$1,000 subsidy is that the team enters as an official delegate team. The previous discussion and motion was made without this knowledge.)

3.3 Tournament Objectives

Peter Kahler tabled a third draft of revised BFACT Tournament Regulations.

He informed BFACT Council that he had received comments and suggested modifications of the Tournament regulations from David Hoffman and John Brockwell and incorporated them in the revision. Griff Ware questioned the Yellow Sticker Regulations as outlined in the document. He was informed that the position taken was the same as that of the ABF. Earl Dudley indicated that he thought there was need for further revision of some areas. He will provide Peter Kahler and BFACT Council with his comments on aspects of the Tournament regulations. Peter Kahler will table the Tournament Regulations at the next BFACT Council Meeting and the Secretary will list it for discussion on the Agenda.

5. TREASURER'S REPORT

- The Treasurer (Andrew Struik) was absent and no report was presented.
- Valmai Mitchell (Acting Treasurer) reported that cheques have been written (\$400 per Team Member) for ACT ANC 2008 Team Members. Members have received their cheques when their system cards have been submitted. Only four team members have not as yet submitted system cards.

6. YOUTH BRIDGE

- The Friday afternoon sessions are going well.
- Griff Ware announced that he would be shortly handing over to Rebecca Thornberry the role of ACT Youth Coordinator.

7. OTHER BUSINESS

7.1 Correspondence

Incoming

- Kim Ellaway: Information on ACT Teams for PABF Cup
- CBC : Acquittal of 2007 ABF Advertising/marketing Grant

Outgoing

- Letters to ACT 2008 ANC Team Representatives

7.2 BFACT Website

Rebecca Plush will update results of BFACT Events on the website.

7.3 ABF Bridge Promotion Grants 2008

Roy Nixon reminded Affiliated Clubs Representatives on Council of the opportunities for funding from the Grants.

7.4 Masterpointing

Griff Ware undertook to have the masterpointing of BFACT Events up to date by 30 June 2008.

7.5 Grand National Pairs

Earl Dudley mentioned that there was a need to set a Grand Slam Rating to qualify entrants from Grand Slam to enter the GNP qualifying events. Canberra Bridge Club, South Canberra Bridge Club, Monaro Bridge Club and Capital Bridge Club are running qualifying events. The Regional Final will be held on 22 November.

NEXT MEETING

Saturday 19 July 2008 at 10am at the Canberra Bridge Club Deakin

Meeting closed at 7.00 pm

Susan Scerri
BFACT Secretary

19 July 2008

Minutes of BFACT Council Meeting

Saturday 19 July 2008 at the Canberra Bridge Club

1. In the absence of the President, **Rebecca Plush** (Vice President BFACT) opened the meeting at 10.20am.

Rebecca Plush chaired the Meeting for items 1 and 2.1 until the arrival of the President, Roy Nixon, at 10.25 a.m.

PRESENT: Roy Nixon, Peter Kahler, Susan Scerri, Earl Dudley, Ian Dalziell, Rebecca Plush, Griff Ware, Bruce Crossman.

APOLOGIES: Valmai Mitchell, Andrew Struik

2. MINUTES

2.1 Acceptance

Ian Dalziell pointed out that the date for the Directors Course should be corrected to Sunday 26 October.

Motion: That the minutes of the previous meeting held on 13 June 2008, with the date for the Directors Course amended to Sunday 26 October, be accepted as a true and accurate record.

Moved: Peter Kahler Seconded: Bruce Crossman Carried

2.3 Matters arising from the previous meeting minutes and action points.

- **PABF**

Peter Kahler informed BFACT Council of a change to the ACT Open (Delegate) Team entered in the PABF owing to the withdrawal of John Brockwell. The ACT Open Team members are: R. Hills, H. Ali, N. Van Vucht, M. Bookallil, S. Fischer and S. Mendick. The Youth Team members are: G. Ware, R. Thornberry, S. Williams and L. Ginnan.

Discussion followed of BFACT financial support to be granted to the Open and Youth Team (in addition to the \$1000 entry fee granted to the Open Team by the QBA).

Griff Ware informed BFACT Council that he had discussed with Andrew Struik (BFACT Treasurer) funds raised by Youth Players in previous years and deposited with BFACT. The Treasurer (not at this meeting) advised Griff that there were sufficient funds remaining from these fundraising efforts to provide \$200 per Youth Player to assist with costs associated with attending the PABF.

Motion: That BFACT Council approves the payment of \$250 per team to the ACT Open Delegate Team and the ACT Youth Team to assist with costs associated with representing the ACT at the PABF.

Moved: Peter Kahler Seconded: Bruce Crossman Carried

Motion: Subject to confirmation from BFACT Treasurer that money is available from BFACT Youth dedicated funds, BFACT Council authorises a payment of \$200 per player to the Youth Team representing the ACT at the PABF.

Moved: Peter Kahler Seconded: Ian Dalziell Carried

Griff Ware advised BFACT Council that Youth Players intended holding a fundraising activity at the end of 2008.

- **ANC 2008**

Rebecca Plush reported that the submission of system cards by ACT Team members had proceeded more smoothly this year. Griff Ware will discuss with 2008 ANC organisers the rule allowing only 4 systems per team. This had created a problem for R. Thornberry and J. Higgins who play different systems according to seating position. Susan Scerri reported that she had received a number of comments from ANC Team Members expressing a preference to submit system cards electronically to BFACT. BFACT Council thanked Rebecca Plush for her efforts in submitting the ACT entries.

- **Tournament Regulations**

Peter Kahler tabled the revised Tournament Regulations for discussion.

There was general agreement on the approach and content of the Tournament Regulations as revised.

Discussion of Yellow Systems and Substitution Rules in Selection Events followed.

It was agreed to amend Paragraph g in Attachment 1 as follows:

Allowed systems (see Section 4 of BFACT Regulations). BFACT Council may determine that Yellow systems will be permitted in some events. The State Open Teams is one such event

It was agreed that the following changes should be made to the Substitutions Section:

- The heading for Section 4 be changed to ***Substitution and Augmentation Rules*** and the following paragraph added: ***Augmentation of teams shall be permitted unless otherwise prescribed in Supplementary Regulations.***

- Paragraph f in Attachment 1 be amended as follows:

Substitution and team augmentation regulations (calculate based on ABF Regulations).

BFACT Council has agreed that special arrangements are needed for particular events.

- i. Substitution in ACT Open, Seniors, Women and Youth Selection Trials will be permitted for a maximum of 25 percent of sessions rounded down.*
- ii. Substitution in ACT Open Qualifying Events be permitted for a maximum of 40 percent of sessions rounded down.*
- iii. Augmentation of teams will be allowed up to 50 percent of sessions rounded down.*

Motion: That subject to the agreed amendments, BFACT Council ratifies the revised Tournament Regulations to take effect from 1 August 2008.

Moved: Peter Kahler Seconded: Roy Nixon Carried

Peter Kahler will forward the Tournament Regulations to BFACT Affiliated Clubs. It was agreed to review the Tournament Regulations in June 2009.

BFACT Council thanked Peter Kahler for his efforts in revising the Tournament Regulations.

- **ANC 2009**

Rebecca Plush reported that Eric Ramshaw has approved the flier for the 2009 ANC, which has been forwarded to Howard Carew who will print 600 copies for distribution. Lyn Turner (ANC 2009 Convenor) will take copies of the flyer to the 2008 ANC.

Peter Kahler pointed out that player numbers are down for the 2008 ANC. He emphasised the need to promote the 2009 ANC and to provide an attractive programme. The need to encourage local players to participate was endorsed.

BFACT Council will invite Lyn Turner to the next meeting after the 2008 ANC and review planning for 2009.

Earl Dudley will revise the Captains' Guidelines to incorporate points raised by Roy Nixon in the Player questionnaire he developed for ANC Captains.

- **Simultaneous Pairs**

The information flyer for participating clubs will be developed and sent out after the next BFACT Council Meeting. Susan Scerri to liaise with Valmai Mitchell.

- **BFACT ABF Delegate**

Motion: That BFACT Council ratifies the appointment of Peter Kahler as BFACT Delegate to the ABF for the term ending in March 2010.

Moved: Roy Nixon Seconded: Rebecca Plush Carried

- **Masterpointing**

Griff Ware reported that he had difficulty in obtaining Masterpoint details from Sean Mullamphy for BFACT Selection Events held over weekends. He has made a number of requests but did not receive the information by the submission date.

Griff outlined the complexity of obtaining accurate masterpoints for events run over a number of sessions with several finals run concurrently within the total field.

Peter Kahler suggested that a BFACT Folder be set up within the CBC system so that the person submitting BFACT Masterpoints to the Masterpoint Centre could readily obtain them.

Griff Ware will develop a statement outlining procedures for forwarding Masterpoints to BFACT. Roy Nixon will forward the procedures to Sean Mullamphy. Once Masterpointing procedures are established, the forwarding of Masterpoint details for an event which BFACT has contracted Sean Mullamphy to direct will need to be undertaken before payment is made.

- **BFACT Website**

Rebecca Plush will forward BFACT Results and a copy of the By Laws relating to the conduct of Members of BFACT Affiliated Clubs to Avril Barrett for placement on the BFACT Website.

3. BFACT TOURNAMENT ISSUES

3.1 ANC Pairs

Peter Kahler reported that as Tournament Secretary he had experienced difficulty in finding players to represent the ACT in the ANC Pairs Events. Roy Nixon advised that the ABF is reviewing the ANC Pairs Events.

3.2 Inter Club Teams

The next session of the Inter Club Teams will be held on 30 August 2008.

4. TREASURER'S REPORT

The Treasurer (Andrew Struik) was absent. He provided a written report as follows:

I can report that Treasurer's matters are essentially to date, but that I cannot do a draft for the end of financial year as I need figures for some items which are still outstanding. In particular, under accrual accounting I need to include estimates of costs which accrued in that year and for this I need masterpoint costs for BFACT events held in that year.

I can say though that the year has not had any major unexpected variations from our budget apart from the payment of \$1900 made in April for the ANC 2009 coordinator to attend the 2008 ANC. Our financial position is thus sound as we move towards the 2009 ANC.

Payments made since last meeting are:

3 ANC Captains assistance @ \$400

ANC 2008 entry fee \$4950

R Plusb for preparing ANC entry and system cards \$200

CBC room hire for BFACT weekend selections \$643.50

Andrew Struik

5. YOUTH BRIDGE

Griff Ware announced that he would be shortly handing over to Rebecca Thornberry the role of ACT Youth Coordinator. Rebecca will attend the next BFACT Council Meeting.

6. ABF

6.1 Law 80

BFACT Council discussed a reminder from the ABF that each state has a requirement to advise their affiliated clubs re the 'Assignment' provisions under Law 80.

Motion: That BFACT assign its powers as granted by the ABF under Law 80 to BFACT Affiliated Clubs in respect to non-BFACT events until 1 June 2011.

Moved: Earl Dudley Seconded: Roy Nixon Carried

6.2 Stop Cards

The use of Stop Cards is now an ABF Regulation. This has implications for BFACT since the revised BFACT Tournament Regulations state that BFACT Tournaments will be conducted under Tournament regulations promulgated by the ABF.

Peter Kahler suggested Stop Cards be introduced to CBC Tuesday and Thursday night events. Peter Kahler and Earl Dudley will develop a set of guidelines for the use of Stop Cards to be displayed at CBC. Griff Ware suggested that a brief talk explaining the use of Stop Cards be given prior to the start of the Tuesday and Thursday night sessions at which the use of Stop Cards is introduced.

Earl Dudley pointed out that penalties regarding the failure to use Stop Cards will usually only be taken into consideration at an Appeal. Roy Nixon noted that failure to use the Stop Card would also be taken into account in a ruling made by the Tournament Director.

7. OTHER BUSINESS

7.1 Correspondence

Incoming

- Di Marler re State Events Costings
- Richard Grenside: Law 80
- Richard Grenside: ANC Teams Draw

Outgoing

- Cheques to ACT 2008 ANC Team Representatives

7.2 BFACT Website

Rebecca Plush to check that information on the website and notify Avril Barrett of any changes that need to be made.

7.3 ABF Bridge Promotion Grants 2008

Earl Dudley advised BFACT Council that CBC intended to apply for funding from the Grant to improve its website.

Ian Dalziell informed BFACT Council that Capital Bridge Club intended applying for funding to expand its library.

Peter Kahler suggested that some of the funds from the Grant be used to develop bridge players through assistance to:

The continuation of the Women's Training Squad

Training sessions to support players moving into the CBC Tuesday and Thursday night events

A programme to prepare people entering Selection Trials

Susan Scerri will write to all BFACT Affiliated Clubs inviting expressions of interest for funding from the Grant.

7.4 AGM

BFACT AGM will be held on 19 October. The Secretary (Susan Scerri) will send a notice to Affiliated Clubs by 21 September 2008. The AGM Agenda will be discussed at the next BFACT Council Meeting.

NEXT MEETING

Friday 15 August 2008 at 5.30 pm at the Canberra Bridge Club Deakin

The following meeting will be held on Friday 12 September at 5.30pm at the Canberra Bridge Club Deakin.

Meeting closed at 12.30 pm

Susan Scerri

BFACT Secretary

15 August 2008

Minutes of BFACT Council Meeting

Friday 15 August 2008 at the Canberra Bridge Club

1. **Rebecca Plush** (Vice President BFACT) opened the meeting at 5.30 pm.

PRESENT: Rebecca Plush, Peter Kahler, Susan Scerri, Earl Dudley, Valmai Mitchell, Andrew Struik.

APOLOGIES: Roy Nixon, Ian Dalziell, Bruce Crossman.

2. MINUTES

2.2 Acceptance

Motion: That the minutes of the previous meeting held on 19 July 2008, be accepted as a true and accurate record.

Moved: Earl Dudley Seconded: Peter Kahler Carried

2.4 Matters arising from the previous meeting minutes and action points.

- **PABF**
Andrew Struik has sent cheques to ACT Youth and Delegate Teams to the PABF.
- **Tournament Regulations**
Peter Kahler has sent copies of the revised BFACT Tournament Regulations to all BFACT Affiliated Clubs.
- **ANC 2009**
Rebecca Plush organised the printing of flyers for the 2009 ANC, which Lyn Turner distributed at the 2008 ANC.
- **Simultaneous Pairs**
Jane Rasmussen to check the booklet prior to publication to ensure symbols are embedded in the software. Letter to clubs inviting entries to be sent out by Susan Scerri for Valmai Mitchell before the end of August. Clubs will be asked in the invitation to nominate the person to whom the booklets and hand records will be sent.
- **BFACT Website**
Susan Scerri to forward a copy of BFACT By Laws relating to the Conduct of Members of BFACT Affiliated Clubs to Rebecca Plush who will forward them to Avril Barrett for inclusion on the BFACT Website.
- **Stop Cards**
Stop Cards were not used at the ANC. Peter Kahler and Earl Dudley will wait for ABF guidelines on the use of Stop Cards before developing BFACT guidelines.
- **ABF Bridge Promotion Grant**
Susan Scerri has written to all BFACT Affiliated Clubs inviting expressions of interest for funding from the ABF Bridge Promotion Grant. Expressions of interest have been received from Monaro, Capital and Canberra Bridge Clubs. They will be discussed at the next meeting of BFACT Council.

- **BFACT ABF Delegate**

The ABF has been advised that Peter Kahler has been ratified by BFACT as Councillor to the ABF.

3. ANC 2008 and 2009

Lyn Turner (2009 ANC Convenor) reported her observations on the 2008 ANC and outlined planning for the 2009 ANC.

She reported that the Walk In Events had been unsuccessful at the Gold Coast. The WA ANC Congress Events in 2007 had been very successful as a result of the high level of support from local clubs. Queensland had based the ANC at the Gold Coast for cost reasons but it had not attracted local support. In the discussion that followed, BFACT Council strongly endorsed the position that the 2009 ANC Congress must be promoted and supported by local clubs if it is to be successful. It was suggested sponsors could be approached to donate prizes for Congress Events.

Peter Kahler emphasised the need for events to attract Restricted Players. He suggested that the Restricted Butler Pairs Event be held at the same time as Stage 1 and Stage 2 of the Open Butler Pairs. Lyn Turner advised BFACT that this could not be done under existing guidelines. Peter Kahler will ask Roy Nixon to approach the ABF Tournament Unit to see if it is possible to make this change to the format.

Lyn Turner and BFACT Council Members who had attended the 2008 ANC commented unfavourably on the setting out and format of the printed programme which was difficult to follow. This will need to be addressed for the 2009 ANC.

Lyn reported that it had not been possible to organise accommodation packages for the 2009 ANC in Canberra since hotels approached had required a block booking of at least 30 rooms.

The ANC Pairs was seen as an event which could attract local players since it is now an Open Entry event.

Peter Kahler pointed out the disruption to the ANC Teams programme caused by the bye and suggested the ABF Tournament Unit be approached to allow the inclusion of a second team by the host state to eliminate a bye in the ANC Teams.

Lyn Turner informed BFACT Council that the ANC Committee will not know until the end of August whether or not its application for funding from the ACT Government has been successful. Further ANC planning will be determined by the decision.

4. BFACT TOURNAMENT ISSUES

4.1 Report from Tournament Secretary

- Peter Kahler (Tournament Secretary) reported the ACT 2008 ANC Teams results (Open and Senior Teams second place, Youth and Women's Teams third place.)

Motion: BFACT Council congratulates ACT Teams and their Captains on their commendable performance at the 2008 ANC.

Moved: Peter Kahler Seconded: Susan Scerri Carried

Peter Kahler noted the improved performance of the ACT Women's Team and commented on the success of the Women's Training Squad in developing Women's Bridge in the ACT. He will write to the leaders of the Women's Training Squad on behalf of BFACT thanking them for their efforts. Earl Dudley endorsed his remarks and provided statistics from the ACT Women's ANC matches.

- Peter Kahler proposed BFACT Council investigate options for ACT Team Uniforms. One option he suggested investigating is the purchase of jackets for team members on the first occasion that they are selected for an ACT Team. If players were selected on subsequent occasions, they would have a new logo embroidered on the jackets they had previously been given. Andrew Struik pointed out that BFACT had a stated position that it would pay for the embroidery of the logo on team uniforms. Peter Kahler will investigate options and report back to BFACT Council.
- The use of Yellow Systems at the State Open Teams Selection Event was discussed. The Tournament Secretary is developing the Tournament Regulations for the event.
- Peter Kahler tabled a proposal for a Butler Pairs Event to select the Canberra 2 Team and the Restricted/Provincial Team for the GNOT. He will review the cost and organisation of the event and report back to BFACT Council.

5. **TREASURER'S REPORT**

Andrew Struik tabled the following list of payments made since the last BFACT Council Meeting:

ABF masterpoint centre Jun qtr a/c \$31.72
 Applegraphics ANC flyers \$50.00
 G.Ware PABF Youth team \$1050.00
 QBA ANC dinner tickets \$1615.00

P Kahler embroidery ANC shirts \$317.50
R Hills PABF team assistance \$250.00

- The Treasurer proposed that BFACT affiliation fees remain unchanged in 2009.

Motion: That the annual BFACT affiliation fee for 2009 be \$7.00 (including GST) for all members of affiliated bridge clubs”.

Moved: Andrew Struik **Seconded:** Susan Scerri **Carried**

6. BFACT AGM

It was decided that the BFACT AGM would be held at 4.30pm on Sunday 19 October 2008.

Susan Scerri to send notice of the meeting to all BFACT Affiliated Clubs by 21 September 2008.

7. OTHER BUSINESS

7.1 Correspondence

Incoming

- Monaro and Capital Bridge Clubs – requests for funding from ABF Bridge Promotion Grants
- Richard Grenside: Report from Tournament Unit on 2008 ANC
- David Hoffman – Round 3 Inter Club Teams
- Directory of Australian Associations
- Ian Dalziell – Flyer for Directors’ Course on 26 October.

Outgoing

- Invitation to BFACT Affiliated Clubs for expressions of interest for funding from ABF Bridge Promotion Grant
- ABF – notification of Peter Kahler as BFACT Councillor to ABF.

7.2 BFACT Website

Discussion deferred until the next meeting of BFACT Council.

NEXT MEETING

Friday 12 September at 5.30pm at the Canberra Bridge Club Deakin.

Meeting closed at 7.05pm

Susan Scerri

BFACT Secretary

12 September 2008

Minutes of BFACT Council Meeting

Friday 12 September 2008 at the Canberra Bridge Club

1. Roy Nixon (President BFACT) opened the meeting at 5.30 pm.

PRESENT: Roy Nixon, Rebecca Plush, Peter Kahler, Susan Scerri, Earl Dudley, Valmai Mitchell, Andrew Struik, Ian Dalziell.

APOLOGIES: Dora Theunissen, Bruce Crossman.

2. MINUTES

2.3 Acceptance

Motion: That the minutes of the previous meeting held on 15 August 2008, be accepted as a true and accurate record.

Moved: Peter Kahler Seconded: Rebecca Plush Carried

2.5 Matters arising from the previous meeting minutes and action points.

• GNOT

Peter Kahler (Tournament Secretary) tabled a revised proposal for the GNOT Butler Pairs Selection Event to be held on 19 October 2008. Additional costs of \$100 for Rent and \$150 for Contingency have been added to the proposal. Peter Kahler will notify all BFACT Affiliated Clubs of the event and promote it at the Canberra Bridge Club Spring Congress. Earl Dudley pointed out that BFACT Council might have to subsidise the event if there were insufficient entries to cover the GNOT entry costs. Andrew Struik noted that members of Provincial Clubs do not have to have less than 300 masterpoints to qualify for the Restricted/Provincial Team. Peter Kahler will amend the information on the proposal. The issue of eligibility criteria for Grand Slam members to enter the Restricted Event was discussed. It was agreed that the entry requirements for the selection event should align with the entry requirements for the GNOT Finals. Peter Kahler will liaise with John Brockwell (GNOT Organiser) who will make a determination.

• ANC 2009

Roy Nixon advised BFACT Council that the ABF Tournament Unit was not in favour of the running the Restricted Butler Pairs at the same time as Stage 1 and Stage 2 of the Open Butler Pairs. Roy Nixon has been informed by the Tournament Unit that every effort will be made to avoid a bye in the 2009 ANC Teams Event.

• Simultaneous Pairs 2008

Susan Scerri has sent information and invitations to BFACT Affiliated and ACT Region Clubs. South Canberra Bridge Club is the only club to have responded at this stage. A reminder notice will be sent out by 19 September.

• BFACT Website

Rebecca Plush has been liaising with Avril Barrett re content and format of the BFACT Website and will present suggestions for improvement at the next BFACT Council Meeting.

• By Laws relating to the Conduct of Members of BFACT Affiliated Clubs

Susan Scerri has forwarded these to Rebecca Plush to be sent to Avril Barrett for inclusion on the BFACT Website.

- **Stop Cards**

BFACT will adopt the ABF regulations for the use of Stop Cards.

- **BFACT AGM**

Susan Scerri to send notice of meeting, nomination forms, agendas and proxies to BFACT Affiliated Clubs by 21 September 2008. Reports to be prepared by President, Tournament Secretary and Treasurer.

- **ANC Uniforms**

Discussion deferred.

- **Women's Training Squad**

Peter Kahler has sent a letter of thanks to the leaders of the Women's Training Squad.

3. BFACT TOURNAMENT ISSUES

3.1 Report from Tournament Secretary

- Peter Kahler (Tournament Secretary) advised BFACT that he had been informed that two members of a four person team likely to qualify for the Open Teams Semi Final would be absent overseas at the time of the Semi Final. BFACT Tournament Regulations do not permit augmentation of a team after 50% of an event has been held. BFACT Council agreed that the rules must be applied and that an exception could not be made in this case.
- Peter Kahler also advised BFACT Council that two members of a six person team likely to qualify for the Open Teams Semi Final would be representing Australia overseas at that time. BFACT Council asked him to confirm with the team that they would be able to field four players for the Semi Finals
- Earl Dudley pointed out there was no requirement that a team member has to play a certain number of matches in the qualifying event leading up to the Open Teams Selection Final.
- Peter Kahler mentioned that numbers were down for the Open ANC Stage 2 Butler Pairs Selection Event and suggested varying the format in 2009.
- Planning by CBC for their 2009 calendar of events will commence shortly and Earl Dudley asked for BFACT input at an early stage in the process. Roy Nixon stated that the Calendar was primarily a CBC process. BFACT's input extends to ensuring that BFACT's events are adequately timetabled and scheduled. Peter Kahler has already begun developing a draft timetable of BFACT events for 2009. He will table it at the next BFACT Council Meeting. The Secretary to place the BFACT Calendar as an item on the Agenda for the next BFACT Council Meeting.

3.2 Inter Club Teams

Valmai Mitchell reported that David Hoffman will not be coordinating this event in 2009. She had thanked him on behalf of BFACT Council at the last session of the 2008 event. BFACT

Council expressed its appreciation for David Hoffman's contribution to this event. A new organiser will need to be found in 2009.

3.3 2008 ANC

Captains' Reports for the Open and Senior Teams were tabled.

4. TREASURER'S REPORT

Andrew Struik tabled the following list of payments made since the last BFACT Council Meeting:

- Sean Mullamphy Interclub Teams Boards \$105.60
- 7 various ANC assistance supplements from GST claims

BFACT Council supported the inclusion of the Ron Klinger Tour (March 13-15 2009) in the BFACT Teaching Programme.

Motion: BFACT Council approves funding of approximately \$1500 from the ABF Bridge Promotion Grant to support the Ron Klinger Teacher to be offered in 2009 (March 13-15).

Moved: Andrew Struik Seconded: Rebecca Plush Carried

5. ABF

A report from the ABF Masterpoint Unit on allocation of Match Masterpoints to Teams of more than four eligible players was tabled for discussion so that BFACT delegates could present BFACT Council's views at the ABF Meeting to be held on 13 September 2008.

The central issue in the report is the inequity of awarding all members in a team the same number of masterpoints irrespective of the number of matches each played in an event. BFACT Council supports the principle of equity but acknowledges the added difficulty for Directors in determining how many sessions each player has played in an event that continues over a number of sessions. BFACT's position is that until scoring software is developed to indicate which members of a 4, 5 or 6 person team play in a match, the current system should not be changed.

6. YOUTH REPORT

Valmai Mitchell reported that the Friday session is going well.

7. OTHER BUSINESS

7.1 Correspondence

Incoming

- QBA report on 2008 ANC
- Masterpoint Unit Report

Outgoing

- Invitation to BFACT Affiliated and Regional Clubs to participate in 2008 BFACT Simultaneous Pairs.

7.2 ABF Bridge Promotion Grants 2008/2009

Applications for funding from the 2008 ABF Bridge Promotion Grants 2008/2009 have been received from Capital Bridge Club requesting \$500 to expand its library and from Monaro Bridge Club requesting assistance to run beginners and refresher courses.

Discussion of the Grant followed. Earl Dudley advised BFACT Council that Canberra Bridge Club is developing an application for funding from the Grant. Peter Kahler advocated the use of some of the funds from the Grant to run training sessions for developing players along similar lines to the Women's Training Squad.

Motion

That BFACT Council approves the applications for funding under the terms of the ABF Bridge Promotion Grant from Monaro Bridge Club and Capital Bridge Club and authorises the following amounts to be paid to those clubs:

The Monaro Bridge Club \$ 550

Capital Bridge Club \$ 550

Moved: Earl Dudley Seconded: Valmai Mitchell Carried

BFACT Secretary will need to advise these Clubs of the monitoring/reporting requirements to comply with ABF Guidelines when the cheques from the Grant are sent.

7.4 Directors Course

Ian Dalziell reported that low numbers might prevent the running of the next course. BFACT Council recommended that the flier be reworded to emphasise the benefits of attending for those players who do not wish to become Directors. It was suggested fliers be sent to the next session of the Women's Training Squad on 24 September.

NEXT MEETING

Friday 24 October at 5.30pm at the Canberra Bridge Club Deakin.

Meeting closed at 7.30 pm

Susan Scerri

BFACT Secretary