

**Minutes 2020 AGM and 2020-21 BFACT
Council Meetings
Table of Contents**

| | |
|----------------------|----|
| AGM 16 November 2020 | 2 |
| 23 October 2020 | 5 |
| 27 November 2020 | 8 |
| 8 January 2021 | 11 |
| 5 March 2021 | 14 |
| 9 April 2021 | 17 |
| 14 May 2021 | 20 |
| 2 July 2021 | 24 |
| 30 July 2021 | 27 |
| 27 August 2021 | 30 |



**Annual General Meeting
Monday 16 November 2020, 5 pm,
CBC Clubrooms, Deakin and ZOOM**

Attendance:

- a) CBC: Justine Beaumont, Stephen Fischer, Terri Henderson, Julia Leung, John Niven, Ian Robinson, David Hoffman, Julia Hoffman, Judith Tobin, Pam Crichton, Ross Crichton, Ian Thomson, Roy Nixon, John Hempenstall, Len Van Der Hor, Liz Van Der Hor, Niek Van Vucht, Elizabeth Havas, Janet Kahler.
- b) ZOOM John Donovan, Cathy Nichols, Alex Hewat, Patricia McDonald, Margaret Kyburz, Keith Huggan, Kevin Caruana.

A) The president opened the meeting at 17.00 and confirmed a quorum was in attendance and that the meeting also included online participants.

B) **Apologies:** Nil.

C) **Acknowledgement of proxy votes:** Nil.

D) **Confirmation of Minutes of the 2019 AGM**

Motion: "that the Minutes of the AGM of 2019 be accepted as a true record of that meeting". Proposed: David Hoffman, Seconded: Ian Robinson. Accepted.

E) **Matters arising from the Minutes of the AGM of 2019**

No matters arising.

F) **Report of the President**

Justine advised it had been a relatively quiet year we fielded 3 teams at the GNOT in 2019. John Yoon and Andrew Spooner are to be thanked for their efforts managing the Junior Teams event for this year. Two members of council, Judith Tobin as Vice President and Julia Leung as Treasurer, are stepping down. She thanked both for the assistance and guidance offered during her first year as President. The President also advised that at the October Council meeting it was agreed that if there were no applicants for the Vice President Position rather than seek a full-time replacement the position would be offered to the clubs on a rotational basis commencing with Capital's Keith Huggan.

G) Special Resolution

N/A

Report of the Treasurer

The treasurer tabled her report incorporating Reviewed Financial Statements for 2019-20 including the Reviewer's Report thereon all of which have been available on the BFACT web site in excess of 6 weeks. There is a healthy Balance in the Accounts with the past financial period holding steady due to decreased expenditure because of drastically reduced bridge events. In response to Janet Kahler's question on why BFACT's reserves were so high, the President responded that BFACT needed to preserve sufficient funds to cover the cost of running the ANC, when it is our turn. Further, it is BFACT's policy to reduce its holdings by ten percent per annum, by way of returning monies to clubs. Early this year, clubs had been requested to apply for grants, which were assessed by a subcommittee consisting of Roy Nixon and Ian Thomson. The subcommittee recommended to Council a grant to Cootamundra to purchase a dealing machine, and to Canberra Bridge Club, for visiting teaching. (The latter yet to be conducted, due to Covid-19). Additionally, BFACT provided \$1000 to clubs to compensate for additional Covid-19 costs.

The cost of masterpoints was raised. It was noted that they were set by the ABF, not BFACT.

The President noted that Canberra in Bloom contributed to BFACT's healthy bank balance, but that profit was largely due to the generosity of the Eastlake Gungahlin Club contributing their premises free of charge. The venue is unlikely to be available should Covid-19 restrictions on venues continue to apply.

Accepted

H) Appointment of Auditor for 2020-21

The President advised that Pele Rankin, our auditor reviewer for 1919-20 was not available for the upcoming year, consequently Council had arranged the services of Sean Galbraith. Mr Galbraith is a professional Auditor and therefore some cost is expected to be incurred for his services. Put that Sean Galbraith be appointed as auditor/reviewer for the 1920-21 financial report. Moved Ian Thomson Seconded Stephen Fischer. Accepted.

I) Affiliation Fee for 2020-21

Motion: "that the annual affiliation fee for 2020-21 year remain at \$8.50 (including GST) for all members of affiliated bridge clubs". Proposed Roy Nixon, seconded Ross Crichton. Accepted.

Report of the Tournament Secretary

Niek's report which has been circulated was presented. In essence the bulk of representative bridge for 2020 was cancelled. The extent, if any, to which representative bridge will return in the coming year is unclear.

J) Appointment of Returning Officer

The President advised Ian Thompson has been appointed returning officer and asked for any further nominations for council positions be presented. There being none meeting proceeded to election of Office Bearers.

K) Election of Office Bearers:

Ian Thomson announced each position and as there was only one nomination for each position that nomination was acclaimed from the floor.

| | | |
|----------------------|------------------|------------------|
| President | Justine Beaumont | Declared elected |
| Treasurer | Stephen Fischer | Declared elected |
| Tournament Secretary | Niek Van Vucht | Declared elected |
| Secretary | John Niven | Declared elected |

L) Other Business

The question of payment to Pele Rankin was explained as an honorarium in the form of a \$200 gift voucher. The problem of appointing auditor/reviewer is due to recent changes to Incorporated Associations Act which prevents a member of the organisation or a relative of a member being appointed auditor/reviewer. It is therefore difficult for not for profit bodies to obtain pro bono services.

M) There being no further business, the President thanked everybody for their attendance and declared the meeting closed at 5.40 pm.



BFACT Council Meeting

6.00PM pm Friday 23 October 2020 Electronic Conference **MINUTES**

Present: Justine Beaumont, Judith Tobin, Julia Leung, Niek Van Vucht, John Donovan, Margaret Kyburz, Keith Huggan, Alex Hewat, Annie Macmaster, John Niven.

Apologies: Andrew Dawes.

President opened meeting at 1800 and welcomed Council Members.

Confirmation of minutes: The minutes of the meeting of 25 September were cleared for uploading to website.

Ongoing Matters.

- N) The President asked if anyone had any ideas about a Webmaster. Matter to be followed up.
- O) letter to ATO remains outstanding.
- P) Maximising return on BFACT funds. Remains outstanding.
- Q) Amalgamation of Deakin PO Boxes. Agreement reached with CBC and Deakin Postmaster. Postmaster advised we should use time remaining on current account to advise change to regular contacts. President advised we could arrange for electronic Bank Statements and any other suitable correspondence. Council members agreed simplification of postal arrangements and ensure all relevant parties informed of change.

1. President's Report (JB):

President congratulated Margaret on her nomination as President of CBC. President advised she had spoken to Stephen Fischer and he had agreed to stand for Treasurer. TBIB had also advised that our invoice had slipped between the Covid cracks and had now paid their sponsorship moneys. President was also proposing to attend CBC AGM to scope the operation of Zoom and effect on BFACT AGM use.

2. Treasurer's Report:

The Treasurer advised that that there had only been one transaction since the last meeting and that following updates grant payments to the clubs had been put on hold and would be reviewed after the end of the month. Club representatives agreed with the postponement of grant receipts. The financials had been adjusted to correct the effect of GST.

3. Tournament Secretary's Report (NvV):

Council was advised that ABF was running various ad hoc games but as yet no selection events had been listed. It was impossible to develop a BFACT tournament calendar at the moment. Clubs were asked to provide views on staging an interclub teams competition during January to offset the absence of the Summer Festival. The absence of kitchen facilities would require participants to bring their own lunches or obtain external lunches from nearby shopping centres. This may require a 1.5 hr lunch break. CBC would appear the logical locality to hold the comp. A maximum of 24 teams could be accommodated. The matter would be revisited after the AGM.

Other Agenda Items.

4. Arrangements for Conducting AGM

- a) Justine advised she would arrange acquisition of a BFACT Zoom licence during the week. Due to the limitations of the social licence this would need to be a professional licence. Licence would be offered to Clubs when not needed by BFACT.
- b) Justine had discussed the matter of refreshments with the president of CBC and it was agreed the safest course was to not offer any refreshments. BFACT would hold the AGM ensuring sanitising practices were complied with before during and at the completion and then leave the club to the normal game procedures.
- c) Judith has advised that she is not willing to stand for re-election to VP. The President thanked Judith for her contribution to BFACT over many years and suggested that for the upcoming year, if there are no AGM candidates, that the position be offered to the clubs on a rotational basis, A discussion ensued regarding the timing of the rotation and treatment of conflicts when Club Reps. are undertaking a BFACT position.
- d) Completed nomination forms to be forwarded to Secretary prior to AGM.

5. ABF Mid Term Meeting

The advice of the meeting was noted.

Secretary advised that the cost of purchasing BBO \$ seemed out of relation to actual exchange rate. Conversation ensued relating to the additional costs incurred if purchased by via phone or tablet.

Other Business.

6. Webmaster

Covered Above

7. Team Matches

- a) Masterpoints Secretary advised that BBO has advised of the capability to undertake masterpoint awarded Team Matches via BBO. John D would undertake further investigation of the arrangements to investigate the feasibility of providing online team matches.
- b) There is an alternative to BBO available which NSWBA is offering initial free access. Key variation is that other players are visible via a Zoom like scenario. The matter is under investigation at moment but possibility exists for utilising facility for CiB.

c) Treasurer advised that due to commitments the auditor who conducted the 2020 review would be unavailable for 2021. President would discuss alternatives with Stephen Fischer.

Next Meetings:

Council meeting scheduled for Friday 27th November 2020 commencing 6PM via Zoom.

Meeting Closed 18:40



BFACT Council Meeting

6.00PM pm Friday 27 November 2020 Electronic Conference **MINUTES**

Present: Justine Beaumont, Stephen Fischer, Niek Van Vucht, John Donovan, Liz Van Der Hor, Keith Huggan, Alex Hewat, John Niven.

Apologies: Andrew Dawes. Annie Macmaster.

President opened meeting at 1800 and welcomed Council Members in particular New Treasurer Stephen Fischer, and CBC representative Liz Van Der Hor

Confirmation of minutes: The minutes of the meeting of 23 October were cleared for uploading to website.

Ongoing Matters.

- R) letter to ATO will now need to reflect changed Treasury members.
- S) Maximising return on BFACT funds. Remains outstanding.
- T) Amalgamation of Deakin PO Boxes. Underway

8. President's Report (JB):

President advised that future notifications of meeting should remind members that all necessary papers are available on the BFACT Website. This was done when notification of meeting was initially circulated however it appears reminders may need to be issued.

9. Treasurer's Report:

The Treasurer advised that Council needed to formalise new bank signatories and advise BFACT bankers at Beyond Bank. It was agreed that new Bank Signatories were:

- Treasurer Mr Stephen Fischer as Principal Finance Officer,
- President Justine Beaumont Countersigning officer and to act as Principal Finance Officer in the absence of the Treasurer, and
- Secretary John Niven as reserve countersigning officer.

The above matter was proposed and approved by council.

Treasurer advised that Julia Leung (former Treasurer) would remain as a signatory during transition period and President advised the same would hold for former Vice President, Judith Tobin. Neither would be removed as signatory until completion of transition,

10. Tournament Secretary's Report (NvV):

Tournament Secretary referred to paper he had circulated before the meeting regarding the status and potential for representative bridge and asked for comments from Council. There was agreement with the TS plan as set out in his paper. The TS also advised that he was unable to progress the interclub teams and therefore The Masterpoints Secretary was continuing with this matter.

John D referred to the Interclub Teams and the paper he had distributed on the matter. Following a suggestion from Alex he was considering utilising the Real Bridge software and was currently researching this option as well as timing options.

Discussions indicated that selection events would however be live only and expected to be on Monday nights at CBC. Return to Tuesday night selection events would not occur until further easing of Covid constraints.

Other Agenda Items.

11. Matters Arising from 2020 AGM

Secretary advised that while the Zoom recording provided a clear understanding of the interaction of the Zoom participants regrettably when those in the room were speaking away from the microphone, they could not be easily understood by those on Zoom. Further Zoom participants input was only available after the meeting. President advised that apologies were due to the Zoom participants and for future meetings a portable microphone would be acquired, and a microphone rover appointed, and the Zoom participants would be monitored for input. Secretary advised that attempt to monitor resulted in unacceptable feedback in zoom and therefore had to turn his computer sound off.

Draft AGM minutes have been distributed and Secretary asked for comments, corrections and missed detail to be provided to him/

12. ABF Matters

Various correspondence from ABF was discussed and Noted.

Other Business.

13. Correspondence

President has received correspondence from a researcher at Melbourne University undertaking research on Covid-19 effects. She would provide a copy of letter to Secretary for distribution to clubs so they may choose to participate if seen fit.

14. AGM Attendee

The Secretary advised of an attendee to AGM who did not sign in but was recognised by several other participants. TS advised that he was a member since 70/80s called Geoff. Justine would inquire via ABF Treasurer as to his surname.

Next Meeting:

Council meeting scheduled for Friday 08 January 2021 commencing 6PM via Zoom.

Meeting Closed 18:40.



BFACT Council Meeting

5.00PM pm Friday 08 January 2021 Electronic Conference

MINUTES:

Present: Justine Beaumont, Stephen Fischer, Niek Van Vucht, John Donovan, Liz Van Der Hor, Keith Huggan, Alex Hewat, John Niven.

Apologies: Andrew Dawes. Annie Macmaster.

President opened meeting at 1715 and welcomed Council Members.

Confirmation of minutes: The minutes of the meeting of 27 November were cleared for uploading to website.

Ongoing Matters.

- U) Letter to ATO - continuing.
- V) Maximising return on BFACT funds. Awaiting financial clarification.
- W) Amalgamation of Deakin PO Boxes. All necessary action taken finalise during March.

15. President's Report (JB):

Nil.

16. Treasurer's Report (SF):

The Treasurer spoke to his report and attached papers previously distributed.

- A review of the 2020 financial report disclosed some inconsistencies. As a consequence the amended statements were prepared and an updated Reviewers Report prepared by our Reviewer. These statements indicate BFACT achieved a net surplus of some \$10,000 for the year. It was agreed the amended Financial Statements and Reviewers Report should be placed on BFACT website.
- Treasurer spoke to his amended 20-21 Budget based on recent relocation of ANC by ABF. This change would indicate a significant loss to BFACT for 2021, while this loss allows for support via Barry Turner Fund, it is predicated on ANC proceeding. The president indicated that the 10% return to clubs, agreed to last year, should be assessed in the light of the extraordinary costs/loss associated with ANC participation for 2021. The Treasurer pointed out that failure to hold CiB during 2020 further amplified the expected loss.
- A discussion as to costs associated with preparing for CiB 2021 ensured in order to determine what could be done at low cost. Dealing was

identified as a significant cost but this was not normally undertaken until winter school holiday period. It was agreed that the matter should be revisited during March when arrangements for holding CiB became clearer. President will arrange preliminary scheduling of CiB to occur in week following AFL grand final.

17. Tournament Secretary's Report (NvV):

- c) Tournament Secretary thanked John Donovan for organising the Interclub Teams Competition.
- d) Niek spoke to the paper on Selection Events he had previously distributed. BFACT is looking at organising qualifying events to select Open & Seniors Teams to represent ACT. This would be to select 10 qualifying pairs to compete in a final. Women's and Junior selection events will be crystallised from May when there will be a clearer understanding of requirements. Open selection will be run at CBC Monday evenings over March-April. This has been chosen so as not to conflict any individual clubs competition night. TS will release flyer once timing is more certain.
- e) John D confirmed interclub teams will be played on 17 January boards to be dealt on upcoming Wednesday. Entry payments are to be paid direct to BFACT accounts. The treasurer advised he had identified 5 separate Beyond accounts and was unsure what was the specific purpose of each active account and which may be legacy accounts from a restructure from some 3 years prior. The matter would be researched. The format and structure of the Interclub was discussed. Covid requirements would be distributed and strictly enforced.
- f) Discussion of uploading of prior year's minutes was discussed. TS and Secretary to finalise in coming weeks. The identity of last member at AGM was agreed as Keith ?

Other Agenda Items.

18. Matters Arising from 2020 AGM

- a) Discussion of uploading of prior year's minutes was discussed. TS and Secretary to finalise in coming weeks. The identity of last member at AGM was agreed as Keith ?

19. Banking Arrangements(SF):

- a) In the past month the incoming Treasurer and Secretary have been confirmed as signing officers and the President reconfirmed. Test transactions have confirmed satisfactory operation. Former treasury officers have been removed from signing access list
- b) The Treasurer has identified 5 separate banking accounts these are: Main a/c; an Operational a/c; an Events a/c, the only a/c operational by single signature; a BFACT events a/c; and the Term Deposit a/c. The history and continuing need of each of the first 4 accounts would be examined. The need for purpose and continuing need of the NAB merchant service would also be reviewed.

20. ABF Matters

- a) The change of ANC venue for 2021 from NSW to WA was noted.

21. IT Hosting & BFACT Email Aliases (SF)

- a) The BFACT Web Hosting was organised through “Rize Design”. With the resignation of Emlyn as webmaster he has advised Rize that Stephen and Niek where now the authorised webmasters. The two Key functions Rize Design do on our behalf are 1) host our website and 2) provide email aliases, that is provide a name such as ‘Secretary@BFACT’ to an already existing account normally accessed by the Secretary.
- b) The need for a centralised email point of contact would be considered over the interim to the next council meeting.

Other Business.

22. ABF

The ABF has, today, announced the first stage of its new Technology Plan which will centralise and streamline members interaction with all aspects of the ABF. This will be expanded on as more information comes to hand. Arrangements would be made for ABF to give BFACT a presentation at its next meeting.

23. SCBC

Alex advised that SCBC would be returning to its normal, but Covid adjusted, face to face meetings from the coming Wednesday and continue its shared online arrangement with Capital Bridge Club on Tuesday & Thursday evenings.

Next Meeting:

Council meeting scheduled for Friday 05 March 2021 commencing 6PM via Zoom.

Meeting Closed 18:35.



BFACT Council Meeting

6.00PM pm Friday 05 March 2021 Electronic Conference

MINUTES:

Present: Justine Beaumont, Stephen Fischer, Niek Van Vucht, John Donovan, Liz Van Der Hor, Keith Huggan, Alex Hewat, John Niven.

Apologies: Andrew Dawes, Annie Macmaster.

Due to constraints on Julian Foster President opened meeting to allow Julian to give his presentation on MY ABF. The system is designed to cater for every level i.e. individual players, Clubs, State Associations and ABF. The project is still being finalised but is expected to be operational during the coming year.

Julian completed his presentation at 18.10. Council thanked him for his presentation and would await the system going live.
Julian & Ian Robinson left meeting.

President opened Council meeting at 18.15 and welcomed all members to meeting.

Confirmation of minutes: The minutes of the meeting of 7 January were cleared for uploading to website.

Ongoing Matters.

- X) Letter to ATO – awaiting response from ATO
- Y) Maximising return on BFACT funds ongoing.
- Z) Amalgamation of Deakin PO Boxes. Process now finalised.

24. President's Report (JB):

- b) It appears that CiB will proceed. Margaret Kyburz has agreed to be Convenor. Action over next weeks will be to confirm availability of venue & dealing of boards. Expenditure will be postponed until necessary. Flyers would not be utilised.
- c) John Brockwell & David Hoffman have finalised a book on the history of Bridge in the ACT and surrounding area. An application to the ACT Heritage Commission has been drafted seeking funds to help publish the book, their chances of obtaining a grant of up to \$10,000 would be enhanced if BFACT & CBC indicated they were prepared to subsidise for an amount of at least \$5,000. It is proposed to publish physically and electronically. The merits and cost of each publication option was discussed. The President would discuss further with John & David as

well as CBC and get back to council. It was agreed it was a worthwhile project more details as to production costs and styles was needed.

25. Treasurer's Report (SF):

The Treasurer spoke to his report previously distributed.

- Approval was required to renew the BFACT.com.au domain name as well as fee for Web Hosting by Rize Design and an invoice from CBC to cover room hire and board dealing. Payment of all fees were approved by Council.
- Invoice for payment of 26 ACT members of ABDA has been received. It was agreed clubs would advise of current directors who no longer wished to be registered with ABDA and the resulting costs approved for payment.
- Email Hosting addresses discussed last month have been set up i.e. President, Treasurer, Tournament Secretary and Secretary.
- Basis for our holding 5 Bank Accounts has yet to be resolved. See agenda item 5. Current BSB account numbers are changing all accounts will now have a common account number Council members will be advised of this number separately.

26. Tournament Secretary's Report (NvV)

- g) TS advised that selection events had started with open well advanced and seniors' trials are to follow. ABF subsidy for two restricted pairs to go to Perth ANC. It is suggested that the first rated pair from the recent competition together with a second pair from a further BFACT sponsored competition be offered the subsidy. This competition is planned for Sunday 11 April. JB to draft advertising and will be restricted to players meeting ABF and Grand Slam rating requirements.
- h) A discussion on scheduling of events ensued. The reality is given Covid restrictions some events will have to occur in the evening. From May CBC will return to a Tuesday night competition night. This may be flexible to allow members playing at other clubs on Tuesday nights to compete in BFACT events.

Other Agenda Items.

27. Cootamundra Club Proposed Congress

- c) Cootamundra has expressed a desire to hold a congress to during August/ September 2022 to coincide with the districts Wattle Time Festival. John Donovan (Masterpoints Secretary) advised that timing would need not to clash with a number of surrounding clubs in SE NSW. JB to liaise with NSWBA and register a suitable weekend date. The congress was strongly supported by Council and it is expected to be well represented from BFACT.

28. Banking Arrangements(SF):

Discussed above see 2 d)

29. **ABF Matters**

- c) ANC Perth 10 July.
- d) ABDA Fees and Development
- e) ABF management Committee
- f) ABF relaxation of Age Limits for Youths
- g) QBA Child Safe Policy Strategy
- h) Autumn Nationals Adelaide
- i) ANC Restricted Butler Pairs Subsidies for 2021
- j) My ABF Project

Matters not discussed above were noted with the exception of item e. The significant QBA report would be read by council members in order to discuss adoption by BFACT as required at next Council meeting.

30. **IT Hosting & BFACT Email Aliases (SF)**

- b) Covered above see 2c)

31. **Other Business**

Details of Honour Boards/Shields relating to events that have recently been completed now need to be updated.

32. **Next Meeting**

Council meeting scheduled for Friday 09 April 2021 commencing 5PM via Zoom.

Meeting Closed 19:05.



BFACT Council Meeting

5.00PM pm Friday 09 April 2021 Electronic Conference

MINUTES:

Present: Justine Beaumont, Stephen Fischer, John Donovan, Liz Van Der Hor, Keith Huggan, Alex Hewat, Annie Macmaster, John Niven.

Apologies: Niek Van Vucht, Andrew Dawes.

President opened Council meeting at 17.00 and welcomed all members to meeting.

Confirmation of minutes: The minutes of the meeting of 5 March were cleared for uploading to website.

Ongoing Matters.

- AA) Letter to ATO – Still awaiting response from ATO,
- BB) Maximising return on BFACT funds ongoing.
- CC) Amalgamation of Deakin PO Boxes. **Process now finalised'**
- DD) Adoption of QBA Child Safe Strategy, ongoing

STANDING REPORTS

33. President's Report (JB):

- d) Some matters will be taken up later however following a request from the ABF for some information regarding our youth arrangements John Yoon our youth co-ordinator indicated he was prepared to gather the requested information but would step down once this task was completed. It was recognised that John Yoon has undertaken the task, at a high level, for some time. Suggestions for a replacement Youth Co-ordinator were sought and will be followed up.

34. Treasurer's Report (SF):

No matters to report

35. Tournament Secretary's Report (NvV)

- No matters from Tournament Secretary.
- The President raised the issue a proposed MOU between CBC and BFACT regarding the management of BFACT events held at CBC. Following active discussion it was agreed the MOU would be circulated to council members and discussed at the next meeting. Suggestions

should be forwarded during the intervening period to assist in having a finalised document as soon as possible.

Other Agenda Items.

36. ABF Councillor representing BFACT

- c) The President congratulated Stephen Fischer on being appointed BFACT councillor to the ABF. President would write to Roy Nixon and thank him for his contribution to BFACT over the past years. As Stephen will be unable to attend the ABF meeting his vote would be exercised by Ian Thomson.

37. Masterpoints Secretary

- i) Discussion on the proposed 2022 Cootamundra Congress ensued. Pauline Gumby asked that the first weekend in September be avoided to avoid clashes with nearby clubs. Cootamundra was proposing the second weekend in September. As this did not appear to clash the club would lock this date in as soon as possible.

38. Interclub Teams 2021

- k) Proposal that the event be held jointly by SCBC and Valley within Tuggeranong area in July. A specific date has yet to be agreed. It is currently estimated it would be on the same weekend as the ANC in Perth.

39. Rotation of Vice President Position

- a) As a club representative does not constitute an Office of BFACT there was no impediment to Keith Huggan continuing as Vice president for the ensuing 3 months.

40. History of Bridge in the ACT

- a) David Hoffman met with John Brockwell and it appeared that there was a wish for BFACT to publish the book and to seek a grant from the ACT Govt. David has since been put in contact with a publisher who has estimated the cost of publishing 600 books at approximately \$6,500. President would approach ACT Govt. to determine what amount of grant could be supplied.

41. ABF Matters

- d) QBA Child Safe Policy,
- e) ABF Communique Management committee,
- f) ANC 2021,
- g) ABF Youth Census,
- h) ANC Interstate Teams Entry Form, and
- i) ABF AGM 2021.

Matters above discussed and noted we have 5 youth members.

42. Other Business

- a) Treasurer advised that Directors' memberships had been paid to ABDA. Details of directors for which ABDA does not have current email addresses have been passed to clubs.
- b) Following a Directors ruling at a CBC event the director was harassed by a player to the extent that the director was in tears. Enquiries are to be made to determine what support can be given to the director and what penalties should be assessed against the player.

43. Next Meeting

Council meeting scheduled for Friday 14 May 2021 commencing 5PM via Zoom.

Meeting Closed 18.00



BFACT Council Meeting

5.00PM pm Friday 14 May 2021 Electronic Conference

MINUTES:

Present: Justine Beaumont, Stephen Fischer, Niek Van Vucht, John Donovan, Liz Van Der Hor, Keith Huggan, Alex Hewat, John Niven.

Apologies: Annie Macmaster, Andrew Dawes.

President opened Council meeting at 17.00 and welcomed all members to meeting.

Confirmation of minutes: The minutes of the meeting of 09 April were cleared for uploading to website.

Ongoing Matters.

- EE) Letter to ATO – AP advised letter collected 7.55AM 29 April. Public Officer to follow up with ATO.
- FF) Maximising return on BFACT funds. Ongoing.
- GG) Adoption of QBA Child Safe Strategy. President advised that discussion with ABF indicated QBA model was heavily influenced by Qld legislative requirements ABF believed NZ model more generally applicable. NZ strategy will be reviewed.

STANDING REPORTS

44. President's Report (JB):

- e) President discussed prospect with Will Jenner-O'Shea of his taking over role of Youth Co-ordinator. He expressed some interest and president would follow up.
- f) The prospect of establishing a Youth Team in time for the Perth ANC was discussed. Various issues including competition commencing during 1st week of school term indicated this was not viable at this time.
- g) Status of Canberra in Bloom (CiB) including Co-ordinator and cost and availability of Gungahlin Club during 1st to 4th October. Club has confirmed there are no competing bookings for this period and they will review our status for discounted booking cost. We will also need to commence marketing process to mitigate competitive clashes as well as CiB's PQP status.

45. Treasurer's Report (SF):

- l) CBC normally reassess the amount they are prepared to subsidise ANC teams via the Barry Turner Fund. BFACT matches (more or less) this amount as well paying for attendance at victory dinner. Teams consist of six players with a Captain who may be a team member or NPC. CBC have indicated \$13,100 subsidy for this year which they will forward in early June. BFACT will thus issue each player and captain with approximately \$1000.00 plus ticket subsidy for those indicating they will attend. Current assumption is that there will not be a youth team for logistical reasons and due to start of school term. Payment of function ticket will be refunded if player having advised they will attend does not attend without a compelling reason. BFACT will pay function ticket cost direct to organiser.
- m) Tournament Secretary advised he will be writing to all team members indicating requirements and date those requirements must be met. This includes advising of Team Captains (playing or non-playing) uploading of system cards etc. This letter will also include recommending travel insurance and to note cost risks should the event/travel be cancelled. Refund of unrecoverable costs will be considered on a individual case basis.
- n) Treasurer disclosed his involvement with MyABF & recommended that BFACT commence utilising MyABF for all its events. National events, including ANOT, have been successfully run using MyABF. This received positive support from council members given the overheads involved in running National & State events. It is expected BFACT events including CiB, interclub teams could be run using MyABF but club level availability will need to await coming upgrade. Eventually current adhoc finance systems such as CBC pay would be superseded.
- o) Treasurer also drew Council's attention to the included Balance Sheet and Income Statement.

46. Tournament Secretary's Report (NvV)

- TS advised all significant matters had been discussed above.

Other Agenda Items.

47. Policy on underwriting BFACT representative players where competition is cancelled

- b) The President raised issue of developing a standard policy to cover this eventuality. She would discuss with Treasurer ABF to ascertain ABF views.

48. Memorandum of Understanding Between BFACT and CBC (LVDH)

Discussions centered on the apparent 12 month life of the MOU and the clause directing final decision making power of BFACT events to CBC directors.

The view was that the MOU should run unless either party requested a change.

It would be expected that differences of opinion would normally be resolved by mutual agreement. Where conduct of a BFACT event was at issue and a mutual agreement could not be reached then the matter would be referred to a BFACT nationally accredited director would be assigned as arbiter.

The reference to CBC paying BFACT a levy to BFACT was noted and that this had been suspended by BFACT to assist the bridge community generally. It was agreed this suspension should continue for the time being.

President to draft letter to CBC for review by council.

49. Masterpoints Secretary

- j) Masterpoints costs for women's team has been passed to treasurer.
- k) Recent meeting with SCBC on staging interclub teams indicated preferred location of Tuggeranong was not a suitable venue however a venue at Woden SCC has been identified and booking is expected over next few weeks. Once this is confirmed flyers will be distributed to clubs.

50. History of Bridge in the ACT

- d) President discussed matter with ACT Heritage Council who advised we have missed application deadline for this year. Applications will open again in March next year for 7 weeks. Indications are that the current status of project is still at draft stage. ACT heritage advised that books would only be considered if professionally edited. Justine will consult further with David Hoffman.

51. ABF Matters

- j) QBA Child Safe Policy Strategy (Forwarded 30 January)
- k) **National Discipline and Recorder issues (FWD 21 April)**
- l) Proposal to include Mixed Teams in ANC (FWD 22 April)
- m) ABF AGM major Items and decisions (FWD 26 April)
- n) ABF Update re overseas players (FWD 06 May)

52. Other Business

- a) Secretary advised Web Page listing Council Members was not available and "Con-tact Us" page did not include PO Box number. Niek to investigate.
- b) Alex advised SCBC had trialled a daytime session. This has been successful with increasing patronage at each event.

53. Next Meeting

Council meeting scheduled for Friday 02 July 2021 commencing 5PM via Zoom.

Meeting Closed 18.25

BFACT Council Meeting

5.00PM pm Friday 02 July 2021 Electronic Conference

MINUTES:

Present: Justine Beaumont, Stephen Fischer, Niek Van Vucht, John Donovan, Liz Van Der Hor, Alex Hewat, Annie Macmaster & John Niven.

Apologies: Andrew Dawes, Keith Huggan

President opened Council meeting at 17.00 and welcomed all members to meeting.

Confirmation of minutes: The minutes of the meeting of 14 May were cleared for uploading to website subject to a minor correction.

Ongoing Matters.

- HH) Letter to ATO –Matter negotiations with ATO fruitless cannot even get admission that they have received either of the two letters I have sent to Penrith office, including the one sent registered post. On the other hand have received letter from Albury office advising of waiver of our failure to submit our BAS return on time. Will review other avenues to resolve matter with ATO.
- II) Maximising return on BFACT funds. Council agreed to rollover of current strategy.
- JJ) Adoption of Child Safe Strategy. Ongoing.

STANDING REPORTS

54. President's Report (JB):

- h) Status of Canberra in Bloom (CiB): President advised yet to hear extent, if any, of discount for Club booking. Competition for amenities over weekend. In particular Saturday night may require truncated programme over Saturday to Monday. The Club requires the room for two functions from 4pm Saturday. This would require us to dismantle the room before this time and re-establish the room the following morning. This later issue will be compounded by the start of daylight saving. Organisation issues relating to CiB will be progressed as required outside BFACT meetings.
- i) ANC has been postponed to 8th November. This delay may allow us to establish a youth team President will ask Will Jenner-O'Shea to investigate however being University exam period may present some problems. The treasurer confirmed that the inclusion of a junior team would incur an additional cost but this cost had been budgeted.

55. Treasurer's Report (SF):

- p) Treasurer in speaking to his report mentioned two caveats subsidy payments amounting to \$2,200 and affiliation fees not yet billed of approximately \$8,400 this would indicate a yearly loss just over of \$12,000. Treasurer to confirm within invoice with SCBC number of members to be levied.

- q) ANC costs update: Players who receive subsidy and subsequently withdraw from team would be expected to repay full subsidy. BAWA has indicated it will repay Victory Dinner deposits half of which will be refunded to CBC.
- r) Draft Budget for coming year 2022: Items to note are significant drop in Bank Interest due to banks reducing rates, affiliation fees have been increased. Treasurer is to discuss with Auditor future acceptable accounting practice relating to ANC transactions that straddle financial years. Treasurer asked for and received unanimous approval for the current budget which would be subject to advice from the Auditor

56. Tournament Secretary's Report (NvV)

- TS advised as ANC had been rescheduled to 6th-18th November Ross Crichton who had to withdraw his acceptance because of clash with scheduled medical procedure was now available to rejoin the seniors team. The TS advised that as the Crichtons were now available he and his partner had agreed to withdraw from the team and the TS would again be NPC. Council agreed that as the Crichtons had originally accepted and their subsequent withdrawal was based on need for urgent medical attention the re-establishment of the original team was supported. It was confirmed that this decision would not establish a precedent.
- The effect of the above would be to re-establish the original budgeted costs and ANC entry list. TS will advise ANC.

Other Agenda Items.

57. Request for Grant Subsidy by CBC of 50% of cost of workshop held 8th May. (Fwd. 31 May)

- c) Council agreed that as the subsidy was for an educational purpose and open to all Clubs the grant of \$910 would be approved. Council was concerned with the short notice given BFACT. Council was advised this was an opportunity available to CBC over a short window thereby preventing normal process. President BFACT would communicate with CBC that prior approval would be required for any future grants.

58. Memorandum of Understanding Between BFACT and CBC (JB/LVDH)

- a. Following discussions on the various drafts of the MOU it was agreed that the BFACT president should finalise the draft MOU with the CBC president.

59. Masterpoints Secretary(JD)

- l) Masterpoints Secretary advised no significant movement in period women's team results submitted in time for last month's update and resultant invoice passed to treasurer.
- m) Interclub Teams planned for August 15th at SCC Woden. Remaining issues relate to pricing charges by SCC. Key to high cost of coffee is need to have a SCC staff member available if coffee is being served. Solution may be to

charge teams an entry cost that covers most, but not all, of this additional charge with BFACT covering the difference. An objective is the competition rotates and all clubs be given the chance to host the competition.

- n) There being no realistic clash with The Sydney Trumps club planned holiday competition in Canberra ABF are advised there are no objections to the issue of Masterpoints during the competition.

60. History of Bridge in the ACT

- e) President advised there has been no further changes since last meeting.

61. Request for Directors Course by Cooma Club

- a) The lead time required between the decision to run and actually obtaining a suitable teacher to run the last course was discussed. John McIlwraith's current availability was considered. It was agreed President would discuss availability with ABF/ABDA. Costs apportionment was discussed and would be reviewed once costs became clearer.
- b) Annie Macmaster advised of the proposed Cootamundra Club Charity Day, currently planned for 28th August. John D. to forward John Yoon contact to assist Cootamundra obtain a suitably qualified Director.
Current plan

62. ABF Matters

- o) **ANC rotation**, ACT next scheduled 2025. Noted

63. Other Business

- c) John D advised that updating of BFACT Honour Boards at CBC was under Consideration.

64. Next Meeting

Council meeting scheduled for Friday 30 July 2021 commencing 5PM via Zoom.

Meeting Closed 18.10

BFACT Council Meeting

5.00PM Friday 30 July 2021 Electronic Conference

MINUTES:

Present: Justine Beaumont, Stephen Fischer, Niek Van Vucht, John Donovan, Liz Van Der Hor, Cathy Nichols, Annie Macmaster & John Niven.

Apologies: Andrew Dawes, Annie Macmaster, Keith Huggan

President opened Council meeting at 5pm and welcomed all members to meeting.

Confirmation of minutes: The minutes of the meeting of 02 July were cleared for uploading to website.

Ongoing Matters.

- KK) Letter to ATO – Following contact by ATO confirming receipt of my letter of 20 April discussions ensued regarding Minutes of 05 Oct, 2018. These were required to be signed by current committee members and immediate past president. This was finalised on 26 July and following confirming discussions with ATO on 29 July Minutes were dispatched that day via Registered Post.
- LL) Adoption of Child Safe Strategy. Ongoing.

STANDING REPORTS

65. President's Report (JB):

- j) Status of Canberra in Bloom (CiB): Given the NSW Lockdowns, general uncertainty including the need to commit BFACT moneys well in advance of any certainty the President recommended, and Council agreed, to cancel CiB for 2021. It was recognised that CiB is BFACT's chief source of income during the year however any other option would see expenditure for no return.
- k) Director training has been requested through the address on the ABF website. Preference for location is to be within ACT to maximise access by the various clubs. Costs to BFACT would be reviewed.

66. Treasurer's Report (SF):

- p) Treasurer spoke to his report and advised that the financials had been forwarded to the Auditor/Reviewer. Current indications are that we will have a significant loss though not as great as expected in the budget. Affiliation fee invoices have been forwarded and most have already been paid.
- q) President of SCBC advised that the recently established Ainslie Club had enquired about membership of BFACT. BFACT President would write to Ainslie committee advising of benefits of affiliation.

67. Tournament Secretary's Report (NVV)

- TS advised ACT Open Teams selection was coming up in a few weeks however format was still being negotiated.
- Discussion of cancellation of CiB indicated all relevant parties had been advised of cancellation. (President & Secretary ABF, ABF website manager & Bruce Crossman).

Other Agenda Items.

68. Planning for 2021 AGM (JN)

Secretary Advised planning for the 2021 AGM needed to consider:

- d) minimum 28 days notice to members and auditor/reviewer as well as circularising final agenda, finalised and audited/reviewed accounts,
- e) agree and circularise location, timing and format (in person, Zoom or mix) of AGM,
- f) agreement by current council members to stand for their position or otherwise, and
- g) must be held at 1st practicable date after 1st September.

Council agreed initial plan: to hold AGM at CBC on Sunday 19th September at conclusion of Gala Pairs. Secretary to take necessary action and President to agree timing with CBC.

69. Memorandum of Understanding Between BFACT and CBC (JB/LVDH)

- s) Following discussions on the various drafts of the MOU it has been agreed by the BFACT president and the CBC president.

70. Masterpoints Secretary(JD)

- o) Cootamundra Charity day advised as 28th August 2021 with proposed date for Congress being roughly the same time in 2022. The Charity Day has been advertised in today's CBC newsletter.
- p) Interclub Teams, planned for August 15th at SCC Woden, has also been advertised in current CBC newsletter. Given NSW lockdown status event will consist only of Canberra clubs. If any clubs external to ACT were to be included we will need to postpone to some indeterminate date. If Ainslie club enters the comp this may give us the 13/14 teams required. Current expectations are:

- Capital has 4 teams
- SCBC has 3 but can organise a 4th
- Ainslie 2 teams
- Valley 2 to 3 teams
- Gungahlin 2 to 3 teams

This will supply 13 to 15 teams without CBC representation. CBC does not subsidise teams and expects them to enter individually. Remote teams may be able to join online if we can source sufficient computers at SCC. Remote clubs could participate using Real Bridge. This raises issues of logistics, computer access and internet bandwidth.

- q) Proposal is to proceed with known ACT resident teams while maintaining option of possible non-ACT based team(s) participation via real bridge. Registration is not expected to close until close to 28th August.
- r) Treasurer advised that under current format MyABF is not suitable and clubs should deposit direct to BFACT account.

71. Request for Grant Subsidy by CBC of 50% of cost of workshop held 8th May. (Fwd. 31 May)

- f) President wrote to President CBC saying that the BFACT Council agreed to the subsidy but highlighted a preference for advance notice. Treasurer has requested invoice from CBC so subsidy can be paid.

72. ABF Matters

Youth Development Plan. Noted

73. Other Business

- d) Treasurer and Liz advised accounts had been passed to managers for action. Treasurer advised as he had editor rights on MyABF he could create new events directly.

Next Meeting

Council meeting scheduled for Friday 27th August 2021 commencing 5PM via Zoom.

Meeting Closed 5.35pm

BFACT Council Meeting

5.00PM Friday 27 August 2021 Electronic Conference

MINUTES:

Present: Justine Beaumont, Stephen Fischer, Niek Van Vucht, John Donovan, Keith Huggan, Liz Van Der Hor, Cathy Nichols, John Niven.

Apologies: Andrew Dawes, Annie Macmaster, Alex Hewitt.

President opened Council meeting at 5.10pm and welcomed all members to meeting.

Confirmation of minutes: The minutes of the meeting of 30 July were cleared for uploading to website subject to amendment.

Ongoing Matters.

MM) Letter to ATO – Matter finalised. Remove once treasurer confirms successful contact with ATO.

NN) Adoption of Child Safe Strategy. Ongoing.

Council agreed to deal with Agenda Item **4 Planning for 2021 AGM** before dealing with other matters.

4. Planning for 2021 AGM (JN)

Secretary raised the issue of a continuing lockdown means only way AGM could go ahead on 19th would be via ZOOM. He questioned the viability of reaching a quorum (20) via Zoom participation only.

If Gala Pairs was cancelled this would mean no carry over presence for AGM. TS raised issue of GNOT final proceeding. Treasurer advised ABF may agree to go proceed using Real Bridge. TS recommended proceeding on 19th using Real Bridge. Indications are that this approach would be less costly than BBO, however scoring would need to be adjusted from UK to AUS basis.

TS to proceed with arranging for Gala pairs to run via real Bridge and distribute flyer. Flyer will also advise that AGM will follow at conclusion of Gala pairs and link will be forwarded to participants.

Secretary to advise clubs of proposal to hold AGM via Zoom at conclusion of Gala Pairs. Club Contacts would be forwarded link to on forward to interested members in week before AGM.

STANDING REPORTS

74. President's Report (JB):

- s) A positive letter has been received from Will Jenner-O'Shea, the ABF Juniors co-ordinator, who has an interest in junior's bridge so President will follow up. Status of Canberra in Bloom (CiB): president's discussed with Bruce Crossman option of running an online CiB over two days. Indications elsewhere is that this is a successful approach. Treasurer advised that if an event ran over two days there is an option of obtaining PQPs. There are various options but preference was for one which was inclusive of less experienced players. CiB is expected to be run around, but not on 4th October.

75. Treasurer's Report (SF):

- l) Treasurer spoke to the Financials, which together with the Reviewers Report, are now on the website. Some payments are now reflected in different years eg. payments made for the ANC, which has now been moved to 21-22 financial year are now treated as prepayments and will be charged against 21-22. This has no overall effect on our financial position just the year in which expenses are recognised have changed. The effect is for the upcoming year we commence expecting a significant budgeted loss however overall we expect our resources to be lower but still healthy.
- m) A member club has not paid affiliation fees attempts to contact to ensure invoice has been received have not proved successful. President will attempt to contact.
- n) Treasurer will now contact ATO to commence GST deregistration procedures.

76. Tournament Secretary's Report (NVV)

- ABF yet to formalise re ANC & GNOT. Expectations are:
ANC; postponement or online. If online this may be a reduced competition of Teams only.
GNOT; likely to be online using RealBridge. Single knock-out format over 3 days with pairs running last two days for pairs that have been knocked out.

Other Agenda Items.

77. Planning for 2021 AGM (JN)

See Above

78. Masterpoints Secretary(JD)

- r) Masterpoints being processed for forwarding to database

79. ABF Matters

- g) ABF Board Meeting Communique:
Noted

Other Business

80. INTERCLUB TEAMS

President SCBC advised 23 tables, including 5 Novice and 7 Restricted tables, were confirmed for the interclub indicating a high level of interest/support for the competition. Only expenditure was payment of \$300 room deposit to SCC which is expected to be recovered. Plan is to reattempt holding competition later in year.

Next Meeting

Council meeting scheduled for Friday 24th September 2021 commencing 5PM via Zoom.

Meeting Closed 6.10pm