



Annual General Meeting
Sunday 17 September 2022, 5 pm,
CBC & ZOOM
MINUTES DRAFT

Attendance:

Justine Beaumont, Barry Butz, Stephen Bartos, Lynne Moss, John Niven, Rajiv Shah, Michele Grant, Perelle Scales, George Kozakos, Marianne Bookallil, Simon Grant, Ian Thomson, Stephen Fischer, Alex Hewat, Miklos Tifan, Teri Henderson, Pam Crichton, Cathy Nichols, John Donovan, Michael Burt, Atul Hajela, Niek Van Vucht, Bruce Crossman,

OnLine ZOOM: Ken Anderson, Keith Huggan, David Hoffman, Julia Hoffman, Moira Sharp.

1. The president opened the meeting at 17.05 and confirmed a quorum was in attendance, that the meeting was being conducted face to face and via ZOOM.
2. **Apologies:** Janet & Peter Kahler
3. **Acknowledgement of proxy votes:** Nil.
4. **Confirmation of Minutes of the 2021 AGM**
Motion: "that the Minutes of the AGM of 2021 be accepted as a true record of that meeting". Proposed: Niek van Vucht, Seconded: Stephen Fischer. Carried.
5. **Matters arising from the Minutes of the AGM of 2020**
No matters arising.
6. **Report of the President**
President was pleased to report that post Covid face to face bridge seems to be gradually accelerating. Council continued to meet on zoom, which, barring technological hiccups, seems to suit everyone, and permit participation by our distant clubs.

BFACT hosted an online, truncated Canberra in Bloom Congress last October, which made a modest profit. We hope for greater things this year, with the Congress resuming its usual, longer, face to face, format. I hope that the addition of PQPs for the Mixed Teams

lures more participants. It is interesting to note that congress numbers generally are lower, but Orange was at capacity.

Other news is that this year we were able to support 3 Youth players at the ANC. They combined with 3 Youth from WA to form a team. Unfortunately, Covid disrupted the event, but we hope that our young contestants, and their parents, were not put off by their experience.

BFACT has committed to running annual Directors' workshops. We held one in July, and plan to conduct another in November this year. Thereafter, annually, unless demand dictates more frequently.

More good news is that the ACT Heritage Council has awarded a grant towards the publication of a book on the history of bridge in the ACT region, written by John Brockwell and co-authored by David Hoffman. BFACT and CBC committed modest financial support, which permitted the grant application to be made.

I will not be re nominating for my position this year, so this will be my last AGM as President. I am grateful to all Council members for their good will and support of our organisation, but particularly that of our Secretary, John Niven. The diligence with which he embraces his duties ensures smooth seas and fair winds.

Motion that the President's Report be accepted Moved: Niek Van Vucht, Seconded: John Donovan. Carried.

President was presented with Floral Arrangement and apologised for Zoom hiccups.

7. Report of the Treasurer

The treasurer advised Financial Statements and Reviewer's report have been available on the BFACT Website. It has been another quiet year due to the effects of Covid. Much of the activity in the statements is due to the ANC initially scheduled for Perth in July but then held online in November. The net effect was a small loss for the year due in part by the failure to hold a face to face Canberra-In-Bloom and also the return of \$10,000 to the Barry Turner Fund reversing the receipt of the previous year. Allowing for these transactions we achieved a minor profit of approx. \$5000 compared to a budgeted loss of almost \$26K.

I expect the coming year will see an increase in the financial activity as people return to the bridge table. BFACT remains financially stable with sufficient assets to cover expected financial requirements.

BFACT council has approved a budget for the coming year with an expected loss of some \$3000. The costs for the coming year are

expected to be higher in particular the travel costs associated with the Adelaide ANC travel costs.

Motion that the Treasurers Report be accepted. Moved: Pam Crichton, Seconded Perelle Scales. Carried

8. **Report of the Tournament Secretary**

Niek advised that his report would be available on the website later this evening. As the president advised this year 3 ACT youths joined with 3 WA youths to form a hybrid team. The Open team made it to the finals at the ANC coming second.

Motion That the Tournament Secretary's report be accepted: Moved; Perelle Scales: Seconded; Miklos Tifan. Carried.

9. **Appointment of Auditor/Reviewer for 2021-22**

The President advised that Sean Galbraith of Galent Management Consultants, Canberra who has undertaken the review of our annual accounts since 2020-21 is recommended for and been requested to accept re-appointment for 2022-23. Moved: Ian Thomson Seconded: George Kozakos. Carried.

10. **Affiliation Fee for 2022-23**

Motion: "that the annual affiliation fee for 2022-23 year remain at \$8.50 (including GST) for all members of affiliated bridge clubs". Moved; Marianne Bookallil, Seconded John Donovan. Carried.

11. **Appointment of Returning Officer**

The President advised Ian Thomson has been appointed returning officer. Ian advised that he had one nomination for President, one nomination for Treasurer, one nomination for Secretary and one nomination for Tournament Secretary. The Returning Officer asked for any further nominations for council positions be presented. Keith Huggan being nominated for Vice President by Stephen Fischer and seconded by Nick Van Vucht and accepting the nomination was included in list of nominees. The meeting proceeded to election of Office Bearers.

12. **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	Cathy Nichols	Declared elected
Vice President	Keith Huggan	Declared elected
Treasurer	Stephen Fischer	Declared elected
Tournament Secretary	Niek Van Vucht	Declared elected
Secretary	John Niven	Declared elected

13. **Other Business**

Perelle Scales said she had observed that when playing online she noted that NSW had very experienced players partnering youth players.

This is very clearly a policy of NSWBA. Perelle recommended that BFACT adopt a similar policy to help the development of our Youth Team members. Our new president advised that she would recommend the matter to council and discuss with our Youth Coordinator: Will Jenner-O'Shea. She also suggested a regular report be received by Council on matters of youth development. There being no further business, the President thanked everybody for their attendance and declared the meeting closed at 5.25 pm.