



BFACT Council Meeting

5.30 PM Friday 28 October 2022 Electronic Conference

MINUTES:

Present: Cathy Nichols, Keith Huggan, Stephen Fischer, John Donovan, Mary Tough, David Clarkson, John Niven.

Apologies: Niek Van Vucht, Annie Macmaster, Andrew Dawes.

President opened Council meeting at 5.30pm and welcomed all members to meeting in particular the new CBC rep. Mary Tough and SCBC rep. David Clarkson.

Confirmation of minutes:

The minutes of the meeting of 23 September cleared for uploading to website. Moved Keith Huggan; Seconded Cathy Nichols. Carried

Ongoing Matters.

- A) Adoption of Child Safe Strategy/Working with Vulnerable People (WwVP). Those working with vulnerable people including Children under 18 have, or are in the process of obtaining, certification. The issue is complicated by jurisdictional requirements. The ABF is developing a Child Safe Strategy and we expect to adopt/adapt once completed. Those with current 2022 ACT cards include Cathy Nichols, Mary Tough and John Donovan.
- B) Proposal to List Member Clubs Contact Details on BFACT Website ongoing (JN)

STANDING REPORTS

1. President's Report (CN):

- a) Vice President advised current options are weekend of 12/13 November at CBC no longer viable as rooms have become unavailable so alternate sites including Croatia Club are being investigated otherwise 19/20 November at CBC. President advised that alternate sites are being pursued however hours of availability as well as access are issues.
- b) President advised that her earlier BFACT Calendar distributed on 13 Oct. has been altered. We will need to await Niek's return from Sydney to determine the current version of the calendar.
- c) President advised that she has held a meeting with president of CBC and will scheduled a meeting with Capital's president in the coming weeks.



- d) Noted that the upcoming 2023 ABF Australian Open Teams Playoffs is an opportunity for promoting Bridge in Canberra. Ideally key players could be utilised to market bridge through appropriate radio and other media.
- e) Cootamundra and Cooma clubs are supportive of hosting the Interclub competition on a rotation basis. A paper will be prepared on conclusion.
- f) President is still working on preparatory work for 2023 CiB. The immediate past president is working on a paper outlining tasks involved. CiB will become an ongoing agenda item.
- g) President has had discussions with CBC for them to contribute two members for a proposed CiB organising committee. Volunteer from each of Capital and SCBC were requested. Nominees should ideally be provided before next council meeting.

2. **Treasurer's Report (SF):**

- a) Treasurer referred to his financial reports the deficit reported in the Income Statement of \$9,254 is now approx. \$11,000 in line with expectations.
- b) The Gala Pairs report indicates a small profit of \$310.
- c) CiB did significantly better than budget just over \$5,000 profit thus reversing much of the loss from the ANC.
- d) Our reserves are now some \$114K a significant amount of which will need to be utilised next year as the ANC is in Perth meaning we will be running a deficit. The remainder will be required to cover the significant costs of our running the ANC when next due. This is why current reserves are now above past levels.

Moved that the Treasurers be accepted: Moved: John Niven – Seconded: David Clarkson. Accepted.

3. **Out of Session Council Approval**

- a) As foreshadowed at agenda Item 8 of meeting of 23 September 2022 Council approved out of session the following recommendations for the ANC trials proposed by the Standing Tournament Committee consisting of: Marianne Bookallil (Chair), Niek Van Vucht (TS), Pam Crichton, Bruce Crossman and David Hoffman and forwarded on 23 September 2022.

“It is recommended that BFACT Council consider the following recommendations.

1. The open ACT selection event consist of two qualifying events and a final.
 - a. Stage 1 runs for four weeks on a Tuesday evening at Canberra Bridge Club and nine pairs qualify for the final.
 - b. Stage 2 is held on one day of a weekend run by BFACT and 3 pairs are qualified to the final
 - c. The final is run from Friday evening to Sunday with 12 pairs.



2. The women's ACT selection event is a final only run over a weekend and may include Friday evening depending on the number of entries. "

Council noted the above approval.

4. Tournament Secretary's Report (NVV)

Tournament Secretary has sent his apologies. President advised that once the current calendar has been reviewed by the Tournament Secretary on his return it will be forwarded to members.

5. Masterpoints Secretary(JD)

- a) Masterpoints Secretary had advised that these are processed as they occur CiB return has been submitted and bill should be received shortly if not already received. The return for the recent Cootamundra Congress has been submitted and an invoice should be received shortly. Congress consisted of 17 tables in pairs and 14 tables for teams.

6. BFACT ABF Councillor's Report (SF)

- a) Stephen advised that a mid-year meeting is scheduled in two weeks time. Matters expected to be discussed include future of teaching in the ABF for which very few responses have been received Australia wide so any views/issues on ABF supporting teaching would be appreciated. Current teacher accreditation is undertaken by Joan Butts who will be retiring at the end of the year. A general discussion on identification of teachers and teacher support occurred. Similar issue arises in relation to accreditation of directors. The perception is that this process has been ad hoc in the past and should be more robust procedurally in the future. President advised that the view had been expressed that BFACT have a role in training teachers however the view is that BFACT be more a conduit to training in which case we need to decide on our expectations from the ABF. The view was that a National standard of requirements for accreditation is the preferable approach.

7. Secretary (JN)

- a) Incorporated Associations Annual Return to the ACT is near completion. Only outstanding matter is email addresses of President and Vice President. I would suggest each registering a new email address to which Stephen would point the BFACT titles. This will isolate personal & BFACT business and allow transfer of BFACT emails in bulk should the need arise. Stephen is investigating with Rize designs to investigate automating the E-Mail referral process.



Other Agenda Items & Other Matters

8. Youth Bridge Proposal and Youth Development Sub Committee (MT)

- Mary Tough advised that in June they were approached by Will Jenner O'Shea and Christy (Geromboux) to obtain the occasional use of CBC facilities to encourage and teach youth (under 18) members. With the inauguration of the new committees MT and CN approached the new CBC committee and have prepared a proposal in consultation with Will to present to the CBC Committee for consideration at their next meeting on 17th November. Given the time elapsed it will be necessary to liaise with parents to determine when students will be available this is expected to be the 11th December. There are limited numbers at the moment but this is expected to grow once dates are confirmed and advertised with the School Holiday period should also encourage membership. Previous attempts have faltered on the definition of Youth. Will has advised that international youth categories include: Under 31; Under 26; Under 21; Under 16 as well as an Under 21 Girls only.
- This approach is well established in Sydney and SA club juniors can play regularly on a Saturday against established Players.
- It is proposed to provide Pizza as an inducement subsidised in part from the BFACT youth budget. It is expected Christy & others would be present.
- CBC has indicated it would want a Youth Development Sub Committee. Will has indicated he would be a member. Other possible members were discussed and would be approached to join. Will was also examining approaching schools to undertake lessons in situ or as after school activities with possible inter school competition.
- A general discussion on the expectations of timing, behaviour and supervision, including past issues occurred. The issue of under and over 18 year olds was considered including the presence/availability of alcohol occurred. CBC would be approached to see if previous youth available game timings could be re-established, Also ABF events undertaken in ACT require ACT accredited WwVP monitors and this would be the responsibility of local hosting bodies i.e. Club, BFACT or guardians. The facility should not be allowed to be viewed as some form of babysitting facility.
- Matter to be pursued at following meeting after feedback from CBC meeting is available,

Next Meeting

Next Council meeting scheduled for Friday 9th December 2022 commencing 5.30PM via Zoom.

Meeting Closed 18.50