



BFACT Council Meeting

5.00 PM Friday 9 December 2022 Electronic Conference

MINUTES:

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

Apologies: Annie Macmaster.

President opened Council meeting at 5.00pm and welcomed all members to meeting and advised apologies received As Mary Tough was limited time available she was rescheduled to present her agenda items detailed at item 6 first.

Confirmation of minutes:

The minutes of the meeting of 28 October cleared for uploading to website. Moved Cathy Nichols; Seconded Stephen Fischer. 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.
- B) Proposal to List Member Clubs Contact Details on BFACT Website ongoing (JN)
- C) ACT Incorporated Associations Annual Return Finalised (JN)

STANDING REPORTS

1. President's Report (CN):

- a) President advised she aims to invite all club Presidents to get together sometime after the Summer Festival. Objectives are to introduce everyone to each other and to get feedback on objectives and direction expected from BFACT. A proposed meeting with the Capital president had to be postponed, however, one of the areas he felt needed improvement was the way Bridge is promoted in the ACT. Mary Tough advised that CBC was of the same view and are arranging a meeting with Peter Cox either F2F or via Zoom to which interested parties might participate. BFACT will be advised once dates have been crystallised.
- b) There is to be a meeting of the ABF together with Presidents of State and Territory peak bodies at the end of the Gold Coast Congress. Cathy would appreciate and matters member clubs wish her to raise at that time.



- c) Keith has proposed that the winners of the Interclub Competition should be posted on the BFACT website. This proposal received support from committee. President referred to her to papers circulated in relation to interclub competition. Details of contact relating to the Cooma club are still to be finalised. Committee was supportive of the competition being routinely held outside Canberra. An added benefit will be attracting other clubs from various locations.
- d) President advised that no comments had been received in relation to her WwVP paper she had circulated and she is still working on a Youth Development paper any comments feedback would be appreciated.
- e) Stephen has spoken with Rize Designs in relation to BFACT common email addresses. They advised that they do not host email addresses but have recommended a company that does. He has yet to follow up this option up but it would appear this would entail an annual cost of approx. \$400. This will be followed up after Christmas. A review of the security and structure of the website would be appropriate to ensure it reflects our objectives.
- f) CiB. Nominations from SCBC and Capital for the working group are still to be received. Convenor to be selected and Secretary to find copy of existing CBC contract and forward to President.
- g) Directors course of 19/20 November was well attended some 30 attendees, and was well organised and run by Sebastian with assistance from Christy and Bruce Crossman.
- h) Summer Festival of Bridge Novice & Non-Life Masters representation are currently extremely low continuing a trend at these levels over the past year. Clearly some adjustment needs to be made to attract these player levels.
- i) President advised that her earlier BFACT Calendar distributed on 13 Oct. has been altered. The means of selecting BFACT restricted pairs for the ANC was discussed. One pair would be from the Penline Swiss Pairs held during Summer Festival the second mode for 2023 has yet to be determined. It was agreed a special restricted pairs event would be held at CBC from which the top 2 pairs would be selected. The date is yet to be determined.
- j) Previous President had asked the ABF for policy on gender identified people in mixed events however a response has not yet been received. SF advised that if a response has not been received the request may have been misplaced or misdirected a policy exists which is that people play in the gender they identify as.
- k) Jane Rasmussen appears to be recovering well. And well done to Stephen and team and to Niek and team.

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

- a) Treasurer referred to his financial reports and advised that there were no matters of significance during the last period but would take any questions.
- b) Moved that the Treasurer's report be accepted C. Nichols; Seconded Niek Van Vucht. Carried.



3. Tournament Secretary's Report (NVV)

- a) Tournament Secretary congratulated Stephen on excellent result in GNOT Final and advised that the first level 2023 calendar is up on the CBC website. He will now amend and add flyer for Stage 2 Restricted Pairs event probably in April.

4. Masterpoints Secretary(JD)

- a) Masterpoints Secretary had advised that events processing has occurred as required these are processed as they occur. He has received a reminder from Dave Weston to ensure end of year processing occurs on time to ensure correct prizes to members.

5. BFACT ABF Councillor's Report (SF)

- a) Stephen advised there were several ABF matters to discuss some of which were in the previously distributed communique. The matter of WwVP checks for youth week was discussed at the last meeting. The ABF has made it clear to tournament organisers that anybody involved dealing with people under 18 must have a WwVP check. ABF will be paying for those there in a professional capacity and those attending as volunteers will not have to pay for theirs. The ABF Youth Co-ordinator and Will Jenner O'shea as Convenor will be checking for compliance. Understanding is that a register is not required.
- b) Other matter was Jane's health who is understood to be recovering well but recovery time is expected to be lengthy at least several months before she can return fulltime. This will explain the recent notification that the ABF is seeking someone to undertake role at ABF HQ at Fyshwick. Knowledge of Bridge is not required as role is in relation to office and communication duties Rate is approx. \$40ph.
- c) ABF has recently commenced an in depth consultation on the role of on-line bridge over the next decade or so. It is accepted it will be part of the game and ABF is keen to discover how members wish it see it as part of the ABF. This is being run by Jenny Thompson and there is initial information on the ABF website which will be added to as the review develops.
- d) Further to last meeting teaching discussion the ABF is looking to take on a national co-ordination role to train teachers and to help teachers advance their skills.
- e) Recent announcement on the increase in the cost of Gold Masterpoints to match Red Points represents roughly a 50% increase which will occur in 2024 to allow clubs time to budget. Increase in ABF revenue to raise money for expected cost increases.
- f) A further matter to be discussed at the forthcoming Presidents' meeting is a planned extensive review of the ABF calendar.



- g) The Club administration model of MyABF is expected to be released very shortly this will be a major upgrade to MyABF. The ABF is seeking support personal in the regions.

6. CBC Representative (MT)

- a) The kids under 30 Learn to Play Bridge with Will Jenner-O'Shea is scheduled for the coming Sunday currently there are 9 registered entries with 4 more probable. While Will's WWVP registration number has been supplied his card has not yet been received. Consequently he will be supervised by a WWVP card holder until actual receipt of the card. Catering will be reviewed once numbers are more available.
- b) Roger Brake will oversight the Interclub Teams. Discussion of the combined clubs working group proposed participants ensured nominations from SCBC and Capital are still to be received. This will be followed up.

7. Secretary (JN)

- a) Matters listed in agenda have been covered above by Mary Tough as she was able to attend the revised time table
- b) Incorporated associations return completed and members should have received a copy of the ACT Government's confirmation receipt.
- c) We have yet to be advised of Capital's club representative. JD to discuss with Club committee.

Other Agenda Items & Other Matters

Next Meeting

Next Council meeting scheduled for Friday 3rd February 2023 commencing 5.00PM via Zoom.

Meeting Closed 17.55