



BFACT Council Meeting

5.00 PM Friday 10 March 2023 Electronic Conference

MINUTES: DRAFT

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

Apologies: David Clarkson, Annie Macmaster, Andrew Dawes.

President opened Council meeting at 5.00pm and welcomed all members to meeting and advised apologies received.

Confirmation of minutes:

The minutes of the meeting of 03 February cleared for uploading to website subject to date corrections. Moved Cathy Nichols; Seconded Keith Huggan. Carried.

Business Arising from Prior Minutes:

- a) Possible nomination from Capital for CiB.
- b) On Line bridge review is still in progress.
- c) MyABF review is still in progress.
- d) ABDA has been advised that BFACT will no longer pay membership and will have to bill members individually.

Other matters are covered in President's report below.

Ongoing Matters.

- A) Adoption of Child Safe Strategy/Working with Vulnerable People (WwVP).
The ABF is developing a Child Safe Strategy and we expect to adopt/adapt once completed. Ongoing (CN)
- B) Proposal to List Member Clubs Contact Details on BFACT Website ongoing (JN)

STANDING REPORTS

1. President's Report (CN):

Presidents meeting Gold Coast, Saturday 25th Feb

- a. NSW is in the process of splitting the NSWBA from the Club, similar to what SA did a number of years ago (& the ACT), and what Vic more recently is implementing.
- b. All areas have attracting youth as an issue



- c. SA has a new thorough Strategic Plan and have started up 3 project groups aligned with the Plan. These include Youth and Healthy Ageing. *NB. I believe it is worthwhile to tap into this, to save reinventing the wheel.* A trial is underway bringing in players from aged care centers.
- d. Qld. did a series of zoom sessions for clubs – one on master pointing, one on directing, & one on legal issues.
- e. Vic has compiled a long list of things they do as a state body to help explain where the fees go.
- f. ABF Marketing - Peter Cox - need to put fun/lifestyle back into bridge. Did ‘O’ week at UNSW. There is mini bridge, pub nights, mentoring, host to welcome players, untapped areas. The number of new members is low. ABF needs the states/territories to tell them what they need. A marketing video will be on the ABF website soon. Congresses should be about getting people back there.
- g. Rob Ward - ABF did a ‘plan on a page’ last year. Current proposal is to appoint a full time executive director.
- h. Jenny Thompson talked on the online review, will do quantitative and qualitative analysis of survey. Some affiliated clubs are only online (approved by State or Territory), some have a manager for online and a separate manager for face to face. Lessons can be given online.
- i. Richard Ward talked on teaching - the Education Manager now is more of an administrative role due to the structural change. Some areas should have ‘hubs’ to help with teaching. There was a suggestion for an annual or regular teacher conference or zoom get together.
- j. Allison noted that the ABF calendar is being reviewed. Some States/Territories have asked for more licensed events.
- k. Noted that there is a shortage of Tournament Directors. The ABF supplies funding support for trainee Tournament Directors.
- l. Barbara Travis, on the Tournament Committee, is looking at rewriting the alerting rules.

Action items from previous BFACT meeting

- m. InterClub Flyer has been updated, to be available on the web in the near future.
- n. The convener for the 2023 InterClub Teams event is Roger Brake, Canberra Bridge Club (CBC).



- o. The co-conveners of the 2023 Canberra in Bloom (CIB) are Roger Brake (CBC) and Cathy Nichols (SCBC).
- p. The contract with CBC for use of the venue (for Canberra in Bloom) is at the discussion/draft phase.
- q. A meeting of the CIB working group is planned for March.
- r. An option for the CIB may be to have a talk/lesson pre session, particularly for participating Novice players.
- s. Will Jenner O'Shea has received his WwVP card for ACT. Copy @ CBC.

A discussion surrounding the advantage of a novice/beginners level within competition was met with support. A further discussion where directors were funded by BFACT for competitions held at CBC the directors should not also undertake directing duties for in house CBC competition without agreement by BFACT and an agreed cost sharing via CBC.

Acceptance of Presidents Report Moved J. Niven seconded Niek Van Vucht. Carried

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

- a) Treasurer referred to his financial report and advised that there were no matters of significance since the last report however affiliation fees were due soon and this should reduce losses from 12k TO 4.5k. The high cost of funding for SA ANC during the financial year means that a profit is highly unlikely. The ANC being held in WA next financial year would predict a loss next financial year as well. Moved Niek Van Vucht Seconded J Donovan. Accepted.

3. **Tournament Secretary's Report (NVV)**

- a) Currently 8 Pairs entered for women's event, nil entries in open stage 2 however stage 1 entries will automatically be eligible, nil applicants at this time for Novice pairs.
- b) Currently for BFACT events if a substitute is considered better than nominated player then the result of the substitute pair is capped at the original pair's level. The TS would like to remove the subjectivity and replaced with a pair containing a substitute their result is capped to the best of the original pair. The TS would like council to consider the suggestion and come back with comments/suggestions. The matter should be an agenda item for next meeting. Acceptance of TS report acceptance Moved: John Donovan Seconded: John Niven. Accepted.

4. **Masterpoints Secretary(JD)**

- a) No significant matters to report, Masterpoint accounts have been passed on to Treasurer.



- b) Cootamundra had asked for clearance to run their annual congress on 23-24 September 2023 and use of Red points. There are no known reasons preventing this.

Acceptance Moved John Niven; Seconded Stephen Fischer. Carried.

5. BFACT ABF Councillor's Report (SF)

- a) All relevant matters covered above.

6. Secretary (JN)

- a) BFACT was unable comply with the time limit to submit recent grant request. Given that this (may) be an annual timetable we should prepare in advance for next year's timeframe.

Other Agenda Items & Other Matters

- a. Deputy President noted that the ACT Govt. has sent out a proposal to change administration within incorporated associations and requested feedback by April. Secretary advised he was not aware of the proposal and requested a copy of the proposed changes.

Next Meeting

Next Council meeting scheduled for Friday 14th April 2023 commencing 5.00PM via Zoom.

Meeting Closed 17.45