



## **BFACT Council Meeting**

5.00 PM Friday 02 February 2024 Electronic Conference

### **MINUTES:**

*Present:* Cathy Nichols, Keith Huggan, Roger Brake, Niek Van Vucht, John Donovan, Mary Tough, Jim Lawrence & John Niven.

*Apologies:* Andrew Dawes, Annie McMaster, David Clarkson.

President opened Council meeting at 5.05pm. Some members, including the Secretary were unable to connect via Zoom. President asked connected members for their agreement to allow video and audio recording of the meeting all connected members agreed.

President welcomed Jim Lawrence to BFACT and asked Jim introduce the Gungahlin Club to the other members. Jim advised that they played in a small room downstairs at the Gungahlin Lakes club. The room can accommodate 15 tables and the club had 60 members. Generally they have 8-9 tables occasionally as many as 11. Covid placed additional size restrictions consequently pre-booking was essential. Players are not allowed in till 9:30am for a 10am start, so the registration process is a real help. A number of the players are already members of other ABF clubs in Canberra.

### **Confirmation of Minutes:**

The minutes of the meeting of 03 November 2023 cleared for uploading to website. Moved: Cathy Nichols; Seconded: Keith Huggan. Carried.

### **Matters Arising:**

President advised she had made two accommodation bookings in Orange for the ANC on the chance that accommodation is limited. Youth Support will be covered in Presidents Report.

Bruce Crossman has agreed to undertake the role of Director Development Officer. Sebastian Yuen is our Chief Director who reports to the NEC which is in overall charge of Directors/Directing in tournaments in Australia.

RealBridge sessions is an ongoing matter and President hopes to liaise with Mary Tough over the weekend.

BFACT Treasurer has liaised with CBC Treasurer on finance inter-relationship and the effect of the expected CBC move to MyABF. Treasurer and Tournament Secretary to liaise on current terms (MOU) and propose any changes with CBC after agreement with BFACT.

Nationwide pairs is still a work in Progress, there appear to be problems with the stability of the NWP site. This will need to be resolved before any progress is made. It was noted some clubs are incorrectly uploading results to their own club website before the end of the week. This enables other players to gauge what contracts are achievable, so affecting the integrity of the event.

Model Rules: Vice President has reviewed and they are not applicable for BFACT.



President's proposal to substitute as ABF Counsellor will be on an as needed basis depending on Stephen's availability.

### **Ongoing Matters.**

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)

Proposal to List Member Clubs Contact Details on BFACT Website ongoing (JN)

## **STANDING REPORTS**

### **1. Youth Bridge & CBC Report; Mary Tough**

Will Jenner-O'Shea course/workshops has attracted some youth members.

Will has suggested these members be charged \$10 rather than full \$25 cost and that this be subsidised by BFACT via the BFACT youth budget.

Put that BFACT cover the fees for designated youth players (under 26) attending Will Jenner-O'Shea upcoming advanced lessons/Workshop/Training Sessions to a limit of \$300 to be invoiced to BFACT; Moved Mary Tough; Seconded Niek Van Vucht. Carried.

Mary advised that the beginner's lessons at CBC had attracted some 60 participants. Consequently extra classes were scheduled. While stretching the training resources this was considered very promising and encouraging. Will Jenner O'Shea courses continuing. There is a workshop tomorrow and Sunday.

### **2. President's Report (CN):**

- a) President advised she attended the ABF marketing workshop, run by Blaze Marketing, via Zoom on Tuesday. Key was the principal of visibility of management. To this end president proposed she and one other committee member attend a bridge session at Cooma and be available to answer any questions. A key issue from the marketing was to agree how we wanted the ABF to be perceived (Brand DNA) and what was our signal for success. Critical recently had been the effect of Covid. The ABF has been asked to share metrics to help share success and/or recognise where support is needed. There is a full calendar toward the end of the year however Cootamundra have suggested moving their congress forward to August (24-25). This year the Cootamundra Congress will also incorporate the InterClub Teams (a subset of their Teams event.) John D and Niek confirmed the dates for Cootamundra are fine. Cooma & Cootamundra will host the interclub once every 6 years (3 years apart). President will forward an e-mail once she confirms Cootamundra timing. Roger to report on status of CiB as required (he is co-convenor with Rob Hurst).



Canberra in Bloom Report.

Nor sure if CiB flyers went out at Summer Festival of Bridge.

A discussion as to make up of CiB occurred particularly make up of pairs and possible expansion of teams' component. Much was due to limitation of space (restricted space for breakout). Possible expansion using Olive Lott room and/or hiring space at the Croatia Club. Matters will be reviewed as time permits or dictates.

#### **Treasurer's Report (RB):**

- a) Treasurer advised that a report had been prepared and distributed. There has been little of significance. At the last meeting we showed a net deficit of \$8000 currently our Net deficit is \$7937. Next significant income are from affiliation fees in some months. Financials are on track.

Moved Treasurers Report be accepted: Moved: C. Nichols; Seconded: N. Van Vucht. Carried.

#### **Tournament Secretary's Report (NVV)**

Niek advised selection events were on the horizon and has prepared the schedule for MyABF but not yet published. He will do this after the meeting this evening. Registration is expected from mid-February. Flyer to distribute is being prepared however he will require Gungahlin email so they can be included.

TS has received a letter from ABF CEO explaining what is proposed for the GNOT. This has little impact on current plan and he will forward a copy of the letter to Council members.

#### **Masterpoints Secretary (JD)**

John advised there were no issues with Masterpoints. JD will visit Gungahlin to explain when and how to set up MP in Compscore.

#### **Secretary (JN)**

NA due to connection issues.

#### **Other Matters (As Required)**

Interclub Teams is at Cootamundra this year. BFACT will be supplying a director and possibly an assistant director.

#### **Next Meeting**

Next Council meeting Friday 1st March @ 5PM

Meeting Closed 18:05.