



**Annual General Meeting
Sunday 16 September 2023, 5 pm,
CBC & ZOOM
MINUTES**

Attendance:

Anita Delorenzo, Martha Griffiths, Tim Mather, Christy Geromboux, George McLane, George Stockham, Brenda Watts, George Kozakos, John Niven, Rajiv Shah, Michele Grant, Perelle Scales, George Kozakos, Bill Tutty, Jennifer Carter, Bazli Karattiyattil, Simon Grant, Des Manderson, Rob Hurst, Joanna Thomas, Ruitian Lang, Lynne Moss, Christopher Crane, Chris Tough, Alex Hewat, Moira Sharp, Cath Sherwin, Niek Van Vucht, Terri Henderson, Roger Brake, John Donovan, John Niven,

Stephen Fischer, Cathy Nichols., Keith Huggan, Pam Crichton, Mary Tough.

Online: ZOOM: Lyn Turner.

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:** Nil
3. **Acknowledgement of proxy votes:** Nil.
4. **Confirmation of Minutes of the 2022 AGM**
Motion: "that the Minutes of the AGM of 2022 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 2022**
Perelle Scales raised that BFACT could look into a system of mentoring youth via on-line sessions, similar to what is done in another state. The President noted that the Youth training sessions run throughout the year by the Youth Co-ordinator Will Jenner-O'Shea have had a positive impact on youth development in the ACT. See also the Youth Co-ordinator Report for the AGM on the BFACT website.

6. **Report of the President**

- a) The President advised that her full report was available on the BFACT website. (A precis covers ABF initiatives, face to face congresses, national events, player and director development). BFACT has supported player and director development this year and we are fortunate with the calibre of people here to help. On behalf of BFACT and the wider bridge community the President would like to thank Stephen Fischer for all the work and dedication he has put into bridge both in the ACT and the ABF. Stephen is stepping down as Treasurer for personal reasons, and standing aside as the appointed BFACT councillor to the ABF.

Motion that the President's Report be accepted Moved: Keith Huggan seconded Niek Van Vucht, Carried.

7. **Report of the Treasurer**

The treasurer advised that his full report (including Financials and Reviewer's Report is posted on the website). In Summary over the last two years we have incurred significant travel subsidies. This is expected to continue until we return to surplus in 24-25 due to the location of ANC and associated travel costs. We have just under \$50K in a term deposit which is earmarked to run the ANC when it is BFACT's turn to host. It is the Treasurer's view that BFACT is in good financial shape.

There being no questions President Moved the Treasurer's report be Accepted Seconded Niek Van Vucht. Carried.

8. **Re-Appointment of Auditor/Reviewer for 2023-24**

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 has agreed if requested to accept re-appointment for 2023-24.

Moved That Sean Galbraith be re-appointed Reviewer for 2023-24: Stephen Fischer; Seconded Mary Tough. Carried.

9. **Report of the Tournament Secretary**

Niek advised that his report is available on the website. We selected 4 teams for the ANC this year the open team came 2nd in the Round Robin losing in a close run final to the SA team. The youth team as well as the senior's placed 4th.

For next year the intention is to run two week qualifying events for women's and seniors' with the events being modified if there are 12 or fewer entries. For the open teams proposal is a 3 week evening event with a 1 day stage 2 selection.

In response to a question from the floor as to times the Tournament Secretary advised that for Women's and seniors the expectation is Monday evening and for Open a Tuesday evening.

Motion That the Tournament Secretary's report be accepted: Moved; Cathy Nichols; Seconded; John Niven. Carried.

10. **Affiliation Fee for 2023-24**

The Treasurer spoke to Agenda Item 10. He has recommended raising

the affiliation fee to \$10 per member per annum. In recommending this the Treasurer advised that the fee had not risen in almost a decade since 2014. Since that time we have absorbed significant inflation cost as well as needing to increase payment to our Directors. This is a modest increase to bring it in line with increase costs across the board and will overcome BFACT needing to increase costs elsewhere.

Following a question from the floor the Treasurer advised that combined with the ABF fees, the costs per player would be \$30.

Motion: that the annual affiliation fee for 2023-24 year be set at \$10.00 for all members of affiliated bridge clubs.

Moved; Stephen Fischer, Seconded; Keith Huggan. Carried.

11. **Appointment of Returning Officer**

President appointed Chris Tough as returning officer.

The Secretary asked if there were any nominations from the floor. There being none the Secretary advised that there were 5 positions for which there was one nomination for each position.

12. **Election of Office Bearers:**

The Returning Officer announced each Position and Nominee as there was only one nomination for each position that nomination was acclaimed from the floor.

Position	Nomination
President	Cathy Nichols
Treasurer	Roger Brake
Vice President	Keith Huggan
Secretary	John Niven
Tournament Secretary	Niek Van Vucht

The Returning Officer declared each nomination elected from the floor.

13. **Other Business**

The President asked if there were any other matters. As there were none the President thanked everybody for their attendance and declared the meeting closed at 5.25 pm.