



## BFACT Council Meeting

4:15pm Friday 20 December 2024 - Face to face (CBC Deakin) & Online (e)

### MINUTES:

*Present:* Wendy Boxall, Roger Brake(e), Cathy Nichols, Richard Hills, Niek Van Vucht, Stephen Fischer (e), Keith Huggan (e), David Clarkson, Toni Adams (e), Mary Tough (observer), Lyn Carter (for ANC report)

*Apologies:* Judy Harris, Andrew Dawes

President opened Council meeting at 4:15pm and welcomed members and Lyn. *(NB meeting started earlier than planned as afternoon session finished early)*

### ANC Report (Lyn Carter)

We have been advised of timing issues earlier this week. These include:

- The Kanga Cup is generally in the first week of the July school holidays, & is the most expensive time in the year for local accommodation due to the high player numbers (together with associated family & officials). Accommodation discounts are not on offer.;
- We were advised by the Canberra Convention Bureau that there will be a Brumbies versus the English Lions match in July 2026. The Kanga Cup has been asked to move their dates so there isn't a clash *(NB - later found out that the date/s supplied were for 2025):*
- The ANC congress may conflict with International Youth Championships, normally scheduled for July;

The next full ABF meeting is in the 1st week of Feb, at the Gold Coast Congress. *(NB - later found out there will be a board meeting at the SFOB)*. Dates for the ANC 2026 can not be given at this point as we are waiting on exact dates for these other events. (The next main congress in the ABF calendar is Coffs in August).

Lyn & Cathy met with Maddie from the Canberra Convention Bureau. Maddie can liaise with various establishments to get venue quotes and/or accommodation discounts.

We have been given quotes from Canberra Deakin Football Club (there is constraints if it is in term time but the quote fits well within the budget) and QT which came in as too expensive. There has also been discussions with the Hellenic Club, the Racecourse and the Southern Cross Club. Maddie has taken over negotiations with the bigger venues and suggested the Canberra Labor Club/Mecure in Belconnen. Lyn & Cathy to check it out. Waiting to hear back from Maddie regarding any other options, but things can be slow this time of year.

Wendy, Lyn & Cathy to meet ED of ABF at SFOB in January.

Lyn has put together a draft program, however still waiting on a number of details. For the side events BFACT affiliated Clubs could be asked to host particular days by supporting the organisers, for example morning/afternoon tea.

President thanked Lyn and Cathy for their work so far.

### Confirmation of Minutes

Confirmation of previous council minutes (22 November 2024) Moved: KH, Seconded: NVV.

### Business arising from prior minutes:

Paper on ways BFACT can assist clubs to increase membership (DC) - distributed prior to meeting (feedback received from Capital & Cootamundra). Discussion included looking at CBC opening up Mentoring in May to other Clubs, forming partnerships with some senior citizens clubs, aged care facilities etc (for example Goodwin



has a number of properties all over Canberra & use buses for transport). 20 people at the beginners course at SCBC, how can we help them - is it supervised sessions or 'open book' sessions with regular players, where they can look at their notes etc. TA noted that approx 50% of the GBC members are also members of CBC. Increased collaboration between the small clubs needed for supervised and/or beginner lessons, Capital/SCBC/GBC to liaise on this. Real Deal Bridge was also noted.

### Ongoing matters:

- a) Adoption of Child Safe Strategy. Ongoing, to align with [Integrity](#).
- b) Working group to look at BFACT acknowledgement/life membership
- c) BFACT constitution review

### Standing Reports

#### 1. President's Report (& ABF)

WB & SF attended the last ABF Council. The motion regarding the change of constitution was withdrawn. There will be an ongoing governance review of the ABF. President did mention issues regarding lessons and directors for smaller clubs. The ABF indicated that they would help with funding a Directors course. Does BFACT need to get quotes? Gungahlin noted that the person needs to be experienced with training adults and there are probably 2 types of courses, 1 specifically for Club directors that includes technical aspect of the software, and the other for more advanced topics, especially the types that don't come up in the smaller clubs. To be followed up offline. Teaching material - BNSW has information on their website & TBA uses information on the NZ website (excluding Acol). Did talk to Steve G regarding his course, minimum of 2 tables, 6 weeks plus 2 weeks of supervised. President to have conversation with WJO'S re player development. ED of ABF report highlighted that the ABF will be working at a deficit for the next couple of years. MyABF is going well and SF is back working on IT issues. The president had a very pleasant time at the SCBC AGM & Christmas party - please pass on thanks to the Club. Moved WB, seconded: CN. Carried.

#### 2. Treasurer's Report

BFACT is in a positive financial position, with ytd a healthy surplus. CiB is October next year and details need to be on the website. Have looked at the Croatian Club upstairs, quote is \$550/day. To work through regarding disabled access. To work with President on fees for next year. Likely to keep the Early Bird fee the same, to look at the full rate. President together with Treasurer to decide on entry fees. Moved RB, seconded: WB. Carried.

#### 3. Tournament Secretary's Report

Having some problems with the BFACT website (unable to upload files) and also some 'full' email accounts. Have emailed the generic address and the specific technician address but no response as yet.

### Other Agenda Items (if not covered above)

#### 4. Notification of Out of Session Actions/Decisions (CN)

- Registration of [Director identification number](#) with the Australian Government by President, Treasurer, Secretary & Tournament Secretary.
- Approval of the minutes of 30 August 2024.
- Form 2943 (change of registration details) has been sent to the ATO notifying them of the change of Public Officer.
- Email to Bungendore Bridge Club

#### 5. Appointment of Masterpoint Secretary

Meeting resolved to invite John Donovan to be the Masterpoint Secretary.



## **6. Youth Report & CBC report (SF)**

The identified person has withdrawn interest in being the youth development officer. There has been a request for a youth night at CBC, still to go to the CBC committee for approval. There has been a request for BFACT to support this, by supplying funds for refreshments. Last years budget for youth was \$4K, however not all was spent.

## **7. General Business**

Charity quiz night - to be dealt with out of session  
Suggested meeting calendar for the year - deferred

## **8. Next Meeting**

Friday 14th February, via zoom, 5pm