



BFACT Council Meeting

5.00 PM Friday 22 November 2024 - Online

MINUTES:

Present: Wendy Boxall, Cathy Nichols, Roger Brake, Niek Van Vucht, Mary Tough, Keith Huggan, Stephen Fischer, David Clarkson, John Donovan,

Apologies:, Andrew Dawes, Judy Harris, Richard Hills, Ian Thomson

President opened Council meeting at 17.05 & welcomed members to meeting.

Confirmation of Minutes:

Confirmation of previous council minutes (11 October 2024) Moved: KH, Seconded: NVV, carried.

Business arising from minutes that is not covered elsewhere in the agenda: nil

Ongoing matters:

- a) Adoption of Child Safe Strategy. Ongoing, to align with [Integrity](#) (CN..).
- b) Working group to look at BFACT acknowledgement/life membership (KH/MC/..)
- c) BFACT constitution review. Jenny Bergin from CBC may be able to help (may be too busy). CBC constitution is finalised, may be a reference. To revisit next meeting (WB/RB).

Standing Reports

1. President's Report (WB)

2. Treasurer's Report (RB)

Interim figures, ytd approx \$4,800 surplus. CiB surplus was almost 6K higher than last year, reflecting the increased participation. InterClub teams bills to date have been paid, but the small surplus may be eliminated depending on which teams take up prizes (unsure of the uptake of the prizes in the Summer Festival). Treasurer would like to see a change in the allocation of prizes for the Summer Festival, as there is inequity between the different categories (partly due to the changing format of the SFoB). Would like to see it as more definite. To be worked on, will put through a proposal that should be simpler and more effective. GNOT entry fees were roughly 1K less than last year, reflecting the move by the ABF to make the qualifying online. It is expected that the cost will be similar next year, as the same format has been decided on. Moved RB, seconded: CN. Carried.

3. Tournament Secretary's Report (NVV)

Calendar of events close to final, decided on by calendar committee (DW in charge). GNOT qualifying - playing online for such a long time isn't great. No one has seen the results of the survey (must have gone to Council), just that the same format has been chosen. Haven't heard back from Monaro, after it was pointed out it was the same as the Spring Nationals (Gold point, PQP event). Moved: NVV, seconded: KH. Carried.

4. Out of Session Decisions/Notifications (CN)

- Agreement of ABF constitution change to NSWBA to Bridge New South Wales Ltd.
- Lodgement of Change of Committee Particulars (Form A9) with Access CBR.
- Access CBR notification (dated 27 Sept) of change of Annual return requirements - *Incorporated Associations in the ACT no longer need to lodge an annual return with Access CBR (but they still need to complete the usual reports, for example the annual statement of account, and keep them for the last 7 financial years).*
- Sean Galbraith has agreed to be the reviewer for the current BFACT year.
- Initial agreement of dates for Monaro Congress - 18/19 Oct 2025 - clash with Spring Nationals - awaiting on response to confirm.
- Directors course initially planned for Nov 2024 cancelled, due to busy schedule. Possible to



have a one day PD for existing directors. To follow up with SY & BC.

Further Admin

- Stephen Fischer noted that there is a requirement for a Director Identification Number for each individual on a board of an organisation. To do with Australian Government legislation from 2019. Only have to do it once. Takes about 5-10min to do. MT & SF have one. Director is an individual with fiduciary etc responsibility. Hefty fine if not done. Action item: CN follow up. Also need to check with constitution to see if all voting members need to do it.
- MyGovId - for BFACT - RB & CN to follow up.

5. Appointment of Masterpoint Secretary

Deferred to next meeting as JD not at meeting. (NB JD did arrive later to this meeting)

6. CiB Report (RB)

Will send through Convenors report when finalised. Question re venue for 2025 still to be worked on. Will be away quite a bit in coming months. RB happy to be convenor next year, will talk further with Rob Hurst.

7. ANC Report (CN)

Had circulated a brief report on work to date that Lyn Carter has done. Still waiting on details from the Southern Cross - CN to follow up. CN noted there are various views as to the appropriate venue. SF noted if it was held at CBC, it would be best for CBC, not BFACT, to be the appropriate organisation to give a discount to their members. MT noted that parking (at the top parking area) during the day can be really problematic during the week. The regular players may be inconvenienced. It was also noted that the Croatian Club currently doesn't cater for people with disabilities. It was noted that the combination of CBC & the Croatian Club wouldn't cater for the numbers that were at Orange. We don't want to cap player numbers for the event. It is a showcase event. The question was asked is it worth negotiating with QT? Figures for the Rex - rough figures were given for SFOB. Venue question remains in abeyance. A budget to be worked on. Hopefully there will be more info for the next meeting. Also need to engage the clubs in the region with regard side events and participation, preferably in the next 6 months - CN/WB will work on it. NVV supplied the 2017 ANC report (at the racecourse) for reference.

8. Youth Report & CBC report (MT)

A youth player has requested to be the Youth Representative - for CBC, she often helps with the Youth days. CN & MT still to be on youth sub-committee & she can be on that too. WB said she can be invited to the BFACT meetings as an observer/contributor. She would also need a WVVP card. MT will contact her and see what works for all. CBC had their AGM, MT President again and a number of new people on committee. Stephen to take over from Mary as CBC rep. Working on the education program, Jodi back and keen to work on that. Planning on doing 3 (was 2) beginner lessons, followed by an 8 week consolidation course. WJO'S has been in conversation with WB. WJO'S keen on helping BFACT get more teachers. Will be working at CBC for one of their courses. WJO'S & SG are working on teaching material that they are keen to share with the Clubs. SG is running a beginners course at SCBC which is quite popular. WJO'S - our teacher accreditation officer? When the ABF dissolved the position of Education Officer (Joan B accredited teachers & created teaching material) as the ABF reconsidered their position with regard this role. The teaching material is often under copyright from the developer of the material. BFACT can have a co-ordination role in this space, ie it doesn't take over the development of the material. If smaller clubs took on teaching, it would be beneficial to either have the material or help with getting a teacher. To date BFACT doesn't have a 'teaching' position but can have a 'player development officer' that could encompass education and youth. Discussion on current setup of beginner classes at SCBC. Suggestion that BFACT write to the clubs (in particular the smaller ones) to see what assistance could help in this space. DC to put together a paper on what could help, and then discussion with other clubs. Noted the issues with the demographics, and the need for lessons to encourage new members, as membership in some clubs is decreasing.



9. ABF report

Stephen is one of the current BFACT representatives (up for re-election at next AGM, May next year) and IT has indicated he would like to step down. Moved that Wendy is the replacement BFACT representative, taking over from Ian Thomson: DC, seconded: KH. Action item: CN to send an email to the Secretary & Secretariat at ABF tonight advising of decision, so that it is in time for the meeting next week (30th Nov).

Proposed changes to the constitution, as distributed previously, for discussion and vote at the upcoming ABF meeting. Clause 17, sub paragraph L, M & N. SF discussed how the voting works (councillors and supplemental councillors) and also views from other representatives. There should be a larger discussion regarding a review of the constitution. The proposed changes appear to be a blurring of roles. SF to talk to more representatives from other states.

Motion: BFACT does not support the proposed constitutional changes regarding Clause 17, scheduled for the meeting on 20th November (resolution 11.1), and instructs the BFACT representatives to vote against it. Moved: DC, seconded: CN Carried.

South Australia sent through an email regarding the reduction in subsidies for international players and a proposal to help mitigate this. Discussion, may need further analysis as to the best approach. The suggested fee may cover 1 team.

10. General Business

Deferred to next meeting:

Suggested meeting calendar for the year

Charity Quiz night

11. Next Meeting

Face to face, need to notify Manager at CBC (CN), key is not needed to lock up. For Fridays the afternoon Director will be there at the start (at the end of the Friday arvo session). Friday 20th 4:30pm, December. Hopefully a short meeting to focus on ANC issues. JD is often working Mondays & Fridays, but this will be holidays. Can do a mixture of face to face & zoom next year.

Meeting closed 6:50pm.