



BFACT Council Meeting

4:40 pm Friday 28 March 2025 - Face to face (CBC) & Electronic (Zoom)

MINUTES

Present: Wendy Boxall, Roger Brake(e), Cathy Nichols, Niek Van Vucht, John Donovan(e), Stephen Fischer (CBC), Keith Huggan (Capital), Toni Adams (Gungahlin), Alex Hewat (SCBC), Lyn Carter

Apologies: Richard Hills, David Clarkson, Judy Harris (Cootamundra), Andrew Dawes (Monaro),

Introduction: President welcomes members

Confirmation of minutes of previous Council meeting of 14 Feb 2025, Moved SF, seconded CN

Business arising from prior minutes: Outstanding directors exam/s in progress.

ANC Report (LC) - Booking has been assured, have been told that contract is with their solicitor. Will forward once received, to be reviewed. Dinner costings, tables of 8, platter then 2 courses alternate drop with 2 bottles of wine, to sell @\$100. This gives a slight margin that will also cover the complimentary tickets. There will be a presentation at the end of the Butler - most cost effective option is to pay for the bar for 1 hour, minimum cost \$500, preferably paying for wine at the least expensive option. Secretary to forward draft program, would like feedback by 7th April. John B suggestion of a South East County Championship Pairs & Teams events, mirrors what happened in Orange. Request for any ideas to improve the graded pairs. The interstate Pairs Championship is a 1 day event when it was a 2 day event in Orange. There are events for people to move into when unsuccessful in semi finals etc. The restricted butler is on a weekend as it may be popular. There are Champagne Pairs at CBC on the Friday night before the ANC to welcome people already here. The Interclub teams has been moved out of the congress as we are targeting the same people in other events (2026 is CBC turn to run Interclub).

There has been discussions on board dealing - still waiting on proposal from CBC, re capacity, security etc. Other option is Laura Ginnan, rate slightly higher than what was paid for CiB 2024. Could be up to 10K boards needed. Laura is using the ABF boards to do dealing for the Victor Champion Cup & the SFOB, do we offer to pay some of the transport costs? Chasing up volunteers, would like volunteers from a variety of the Clubs. Do Clubs want to move their 'normal' sessions to Belconnen during the ANC? Representatives to take the suggestion to their committees & report back.

Standing Reports

1. President's Report & Youth report

ABF is keen to move forward on their communication strategy, they want to directly communicate with players &/or clubs. There is a working group looking at it. Secretary to forward email for comment, feedback by 7th April. Jake Andrew, a member of bridge NSW wants to build collaboration between BANSW, VicBA and BFACT. Wants feedback & attribution when using their material. Work ongoing regarding Directors with John McIlraith (semi out of retirement) - particularly regional (Bruce Crossman has helped them). NSW has online leagues on Monday, asking that we promote it (note CBC has Real Bridge Sessions on Mondays). Online works for people where travel can be an issue. Non playing Captains for the ANC discussed, preferred but not always straightforward. BFACT hasn't set the subsidy, waiting on Barry Turner Fund decision, generally 50/50. Noted that BFACT pays for a chaperone per family unit. A CBC Youth report has been received, secretary to distribute. Agreed that CBC pays for the receipts then invoices BFACT. CBC youth sub-committee has Mary as the Chair,



BFACT President, Liam & Will J O'S. Attempting to get a bridge program into schools, difficult to do cold calling. List of Bridge players retired from Schools, to be supplied. Suggestion to ask the current youth cohort what would work for them. ABF Fyshwick premises - carried that SF put together a proposal regarding BFACT taking on 'custodianship'.

2. Treasurer's Report (& CiB)

Quiet time of year, currently a healthy surplus, upcoming costs the selection events, incoming the affiliation fees. President & Treasurer to visit the venue for CiB 2024 on Monday. There has been some negative feedback regarding the move, to emphasise that the move is mainly to make sure the venue is fit for purpose for the 2026 ANC. Spoke to ED ABF regarding use of the ABF resources, to send to SF. Working on sponsorship. Discussions with Tournament Secretary regarding updates to the regulations. Tim Bourke is donating \$5K prize money for CiB. The Open Teams event will be renamed in recognition of Margaret Bourke. Tim has been a member of SCBC in the past - President to check if he wants that to continue as the Club hasn't heard from him. Treasurer requested approval to buy a microphone - can be used for BFACT events in CBC and elsewhere, approved.

3. Tournament Secretary's Report

The *bfact.com.au* emails don't work. Will move information next month. The participation in the trials is dropping, more promotion needed by clubs.

Other Agenda Items (if not covered above)

4. Notification of Out of Session Decision

Funding for youth session on Friday 21 March, pizzas (jointly with CBC).

5. Masterpoint Secretary report

Nothing of note, master points for the team selections in process.

6. CBC report (SF)

BFACT has agreed for the upcoming CBC novice event to be a BFACT event. ?All clubs to run qualifying for GNOT gala pairs & the Club pays for that entry. The CBC knockout is in June.

8. ABF report (SF&WB)

Carried unanimously that SF be reaffirmed as BFACT ABF councillor for the next two years (secretary to give notice for the ABF AGM). Moved WB, seconded RB. There will be an ABF fee increase, SF talked to the reasons behind that. Council resolved that BFACT will in principal support a reasonable increase in capitation fees. Question asked has MyABF performed as well as expected/on track. The AGM papers will be available a week or two beforehand.

9. General Business

The next InterClub is due to be hosted by Capital, BFACT has no objection to JD being Convenor or Director, carried. Recruitment/retention of new players to discuss offline.

10. Next Meeting

Meeting finished at 6:25pm. Next meeting 9th May 4:20pm, electronic & face to face, CBC.