

NEW SOUTH WALES BRIDGE ASSOCIATION - COUNCIL MEETING

Wednesday 28 January 2009

Present: Bruce Neill, Kim Morrison, Julian Foster, Marilyn Chadwick, Kim Neale, John Brownie, Warren Lazer, Ted Chadwick, Leigh Matheson

Present via Phone: Trish Carter, Jean Rennick

Apologies: Doreen Kjeldsen

Observer: Liz Fanos

1 Opening

The meeting was opened at 6.15 pm.

2 Confirmation of Minutes of both meetings held 12 December 2008

Motion: *That the Minutes for the two meetings held on 12 December be accepted as a true and accurate record of those meetings.*

Moved John Brownie

Seconded Marilyn Chadwick Motion carried.

3 Completed Tasks from Previous Meeting

Councillor	Action Item	Current Status
BN	Office to arrange forwarding of the ABF component for the Coffs Harbour Congress to the ABF.	Closed
Office	Bulk Game Tickets – approved by meeting. Free tickets not available for Monday and Tuesday sessions. 12 months expiry date and top up required if bulk ticket is used for Monday or Tuesday sessions.	Closed
JF	When and how much should the NSWBA put towards capital repayment. Council to review when account and budget information is available next meeting. Meeting approved \$25K capital repayment.	Closed
KM	A new director may be required for the Thursday evening session.	Closed
WL	GNOT regional Qualifier issues were discussed. Meeting agreed the event should be opened up – subject to the new entries having competed in a GNOT qualifying event. WL to update regulations for the GNOT regional Qualifier.	Closed
WL	GNOT Restricted Pairs report from J McIlrath was tabled. WL to provide feedback to ABF on future implications.	Closed
Office	Source new playing cards as required.	Closed
Office	Air conditioning was also discussed. BN asked that the office arrange to regularly review and document the air conditioning environment.	Closed
Office	Arrange call for councillor nomination details to go on website.	Closed
Office	Arrange for subsidy of \$400 to be paid to the central coast team who attended the John Arkinstall State Teams Final.	Closed

4 Special Business

- Case for changing the administration of Bridge in Victoria:
There was some discussion held on this matter. NSW believes these matters should be discussed at the ABF meeting. The NSWBA council noted the requirement for natural justice to be fully observed, and so are unable to determine how we will vote until we see or hear full arguments from both sides.
- Confirmation of appointment of Honorary Solicitor:
Warren Robinson is confirmed as Honorary Solicitor for the NSWBA. Motion approved by the meeting.

5 Correspondence

- Request from Finesse for holidays in January & March. Approved by the meeting.
- Letter regarding Director's duties. T Chadwick to review the response provided by the office. T Chadwick to arrange for appropriate guidelines to be made generally available on the website.
- ABF seeking coordinator from each state for Nationwide pairs. The Council is not aware of anyone suitable at this stage. The office to advise the ABF.
- 2009 Bridge for Brains seeking promotion in Newsletters: Council approved advertising on the website and in the NSWBA newsletter. Office to advise webmaster and newsletter editor.

6 Chairman's Report

Opportunity to explore merging premises with North Shore Bridge Club (NSBC). BN to coordinate sub committee to review the task. Brief to include what would happen to the current NSWBA premises.

It is timely to ask how NSW can service its affiliated clubs better. A survey run by VBA was also tabled as useful research for this issue. To be reviewed by the four region reps and discussed at the next meeting. BN to coordinate.

7 Treasurer's Report.

The report was tabled and a draft budget for 2009.

The motion was put to make a \$25K capital repayment on our loan with the ABF. The motion was moved by Bruce Neill and seconded by John Brownie and approved by the meeting.

8 Committee Reports

Regions

New councillors appointed – report is delayed until the next meeting.

Youth, Teaching and Library

- LM has had discussions with Peter Gill to organise youth players to attend Batemans Bay congress.

- LM has been approached to run youth lessons. In principle the meeting thought this was a good idea – LM to follow up.
- LM applied for subsidy for PABF last year – was approved at a previous meeting. Office to arrange payment of \$224.
- A Club has asked to 'mass' borrow some books from the library on behalf of their club for a period of 6 months. The idea was approved by the meeting.

Rules & Ethics

KM to arrange a subcommittee to review alleged player indiscretion.

Directors and Appeals

A new director has been found for the Thursday evening session.

Nothing to report for appeals.

House

Quotes for new blinds are on their way.

Tournament

The report was tabled. In brief:

- pocket calendar has been completed and posted on the web.
- Our B4c and B4s red MP sessions have been allocated and Fave Weston/office notified.
- Timing issue with overlap of Yeh Bros and ITS Stage II. A number of fixes were discussed and it was decided to move the State Mixed Pairs back one week and allow the first two nights of Stage II to run on the Monday and Wednesday of the same week.
- \$200 grants have been offered to encourage country players to enter the Seniors ITS.
- Conveners have been reappointed. The meeting decided to return the convening of the Teams of 3 back to the Office as Judy Mott is no longer available.
- Changes to the Metropolitan GNOT allowing players to enter the final directly (as long as they have played in a club qualifying) have been implemented.
- GNP Final: WL advised John Brockwell that the NSWBA was only prepared to send 8 pairs next year if the ABF maintained its current entry fee structure. Negotiations for a discount for bulk entries are proceeding.
- Email received from Richard Douglas: WL to respond and the meeting agreed that we need to cater to our clients.

Promotions & Sponsorship

WL suggested we arrange for advertising on community radio. The meeting agreed this was a good idea and WL will make preliminary investigations.

Office Manager Report

The report was tabled. In brief:

Tasks	Action
GNP	No director has come forward to hold daytime session. I'm willing to hold

	it again on Tuesday night. Possibility of having a dedicated session eg Thursday afternoon at 1.30pm for 3 weeks.
Directing	Substitute directors arranged for Summer Festival period. Liz filled in for Peter Jamieson & Marcia during first week.
Leave	Liz away for 2 weeks from February Monday 2 nd . Return 16 th .
Metropolitan Club mailout	Mixed pairs, Statewide pairs & metropolitan teams, director's affiliation letters sent. Waiting for Country teams info & regs to send to Country clubs
Purchase of new cards	200 packs cards purchased will gradually replace old cards.

9 General Business

Relocation of Double Bay BC:

The council felt that there was no need to discuss this until the NSWBA was formally approached.

Marketing report for ABF due end of February:

KN advised it was time to send the ABF a report identifying how the \$8,000 grant was spent. JF to provide details on appropriate items.

ABF representative for NSW:

Bruce Neill's term expires in March. Bruce is happy to continue – however, we need to advertise the position prior to making a decision.

Survey conducted by VBA:

Tabled for review at next meeting.

Convener for Spring Nationals:

Kim Neale wishes to step down – however nobody suitable has come forward as a replacement. Kim will continue for 2009 event as long as extra support is provided by the office for entry management and coordination of house teams.

10 Action Items from the January Meeting and previous Meetings

Councillor	Action Item	Current Status
Office	Tim Seres books have been received from Ron Klinger and are being reviewed by the Office. Tim Seres scrapbook to be presented to the ABF for the library. Suggested it is presented at the Gold Coast.	In Progress
JF	Report on State Wide Pairs from Valerie Cummings. JF to review costs and entry fees now that the event has been moved from the FABC to the NSWBA.	Carried forward
JF	2008-09 budget for NSWBA and new trust accounts from the FABC.	In Progress
KM DK/TC/JR	KM to liaise with ABTDA to see if they wish to work with us to run the Country mini road-shows discussed during the FABC section of this meeting. Look into planning for mini road-shows aimed at Country clubs. Discussions with Tony Howes positive – the idea being to use those people who will travel to the congress in any case.	In Progress

BN	BN to respond to email from Helen Milward re Tweed Congress.	Carried forward
BN	BN to identify an appropriate person to participate/arrange interview on James Valentines weekly segment of unusual sports (as per excellent suggestion from Helen Sharwood)	Carried forward
ALL	Newtown Festival was a great success and Helen Sharwood received lots of interest. (1) The brochure should be polished and Council thought we should use some of the ABF Marketing Grant to do this. (2) Another suggestion from Helen, was to employ someone to visit community groups and introduce them to bridge (senior citizens, PROBUS, etc). Council liked the idea and will consider how to action this. Peter Jamieson is currently preparing an editorial on this matter.	In progress
LM	NR to draft communication on proposed 2009 Youth budget and circulate for approval.	Current
Office	Office to arrange for a plaque in memory of Tim Seres' contribution.	Carried forward
Office	Archive FABC documentation.	Carried forward
Council	To review requirements for Promotions and Sponsorship portfolio.	Carried forward
BN	BN to arrange notice on the website for interested parties to become involved in a subcommittee to review NSWBA/NSBC site.	In progress
Office	Find out availability and cost of using ground floor for ITS if required.	Carried forward
BN	Case for changing the administration of Bridge in Victoria. BN to advise ABF of NSW response.	Current
Office	Office to advise Finesse the request for bridge holidays has been approved	Current
TC	Letter regarding Director's duties. T Chadwick to review the response provided by the office. T Chadwick to arrange for appropriate guidelines to be made generally available on the website.	Current
Office	2009 Bridge for Brains seeking promotion in Newsletters: Council approved advertising on the website and in the NSWBA newsletter. Office to advise webmaster and newsletter editor.	Current
JF/Office	Arrange capital repayment to ABF for \$25K.	Current
KM	KM to arrange subcommittee to review alleged player indiscretion.	Current
WL	WL to respond to email from Richard Douglas.	Current
WL	WL to ensure changes to dates for the ITS Stage II and the State Mixed Pairs are appropriately advertised.	Current
WL	WL make preliminary investigations into the possibility of advertising on community radio.	Current
KN/JF	Marketing report for \$8KABF grant due end of February. JF to advise KN of appropriate items to go in the report.	Current
Office	To advertise the position of ABF representative for NSW.	Current

11 Next meeting

The next meeting will be held Wednesday 18 February at 6:15pm.

The meeting was closed at 8:15 pm.