

NEW SOUTH WALES BRIDGE ASSOCIATION - COUNCIL MEETING
Wednesday 20 March 2009

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

Apologies: Kim Neale, Doreen Kjeldsen, Jean Rennick

Observer: Liz Fanos

1 Opening

The meeting was opened at 6.15 pm.

2 Confirmation of Minutes of meeting held 18 February 2009

Motion: *That the Minutes for the meeting held on 18 February, as amended, be accepted as a true and accurate record of the meeting.*

Moved Warren Lazer

Seconded Bruce Neill Motion carried.

3 Completed Tasks from Previous Meeting

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.	Done
JF	2008-09 budget for NSWBA and new trust accounts from the FABC.	Done
BN	BN to arrange for interested parties to become involved in a subcommittee to review NSWBA/NSBC site. BN discussed with appropriate people and will draft terms of reference.	Done
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.	Done
KN/JF	Marketing report for \$8K ABF grant due end of February. JF to advise KN of appropriate items to go in the report. Office has logs of claims.	Done
Office	The country representatives would like a current list of email contact details for clubs in their region.	Done
Office	Publicise Seniors ITS grant of \$200 per person in newsletter & on the website.	Done
BN/JF	BN/JF to review Office staff pay increase and present proposal to council.	Done

4 Special Business

None

5 Correspondence

- Thank you from Keith McDonald on behalf of the ABF for the donation of the Tim Seres scrapbook to the ABF library.

6 Chairman's Report

- Jean Rennick has decided to resign as Outer Metro Councillor. Council will need to approach someone from the region to replace her.
- Alex Yezerski, Ted Griffin and David Stern have agreed to form a subcommittee to evaluate the long term premises situation for the NSWBA.
- There were no nominations to take up ABF Councillor role, so Chairman will continue and hold third vote.
- Salary reviews for Office Staff completed with Council approval by email.

7 Treasurer's Report.

The Treasurer's report was tabled. In brief;

Tournament income

Whilst overall income is marginally up, this is wholly due to the new GNP event and including FABC events in our accounts for the first time. In reality there is a significant decrease in attendances – the SNOT income in particular was down almost \$9,000. This is unlikely to be timing either given it is now several months after the event finished. The GNOT Met final in 2008 was also down a fair way. Any work we can do to stop the decline will help.

Cashflow

Cash reserves at 31 January are about \$270,000 held mainly in the Colonial high interest account. This includes \$64,000 of FABC Trust Fund monies. Projections indicate a comfortable cash surplus of over \$200,000 in addition to these monies during the current financial year.

ABF Loan

The ABF loan balance has been reduced to \$100,000 following the recent capital repayment of \$25,000.

Committee Reports

Regions

- Recommended that there should be an introductory letter to regional clubs from their representative and to encourage communication with them.
- Road show – 1 day smaller number of people –covering masterpointing & directing. Where & when to be assessed by Trish, Doreen & Bruce

Youth, Teaching and Library

5 Youth teams went to Batemans Bay – subsidised by ABF

Rules & Ethics

Nothing to report.

Directors and Appeals

1 appeal was heard.

House

Three quotes for new blinds were tabled. Quote from Peeping Tom Blinds approved.

Tournament

1. Grand National Pairs. We have committed to having 8 pairs in the National Final. The number of spots in the National Final may not be filled and the Sydney Metropolitan Region may be offered more spots (no entry fee, but also no travel grant). The Regional Final has been put back to November 22, 2009 - NSBC unavailable on the originally programmed date.
2. Letters of invitation to the Country Teams have been sent out.
3. Entries to the Mixed Pairs Qualifying were down considerably with a few days to go. The clash with the Aust. Team Playoff was an obvious cause. Decision taken by Warren Lazer and Mat McManus to allow players involved in the Playoffs to just play the first night for half-entry fee. Final numbers were 14 tables (15 tables in 2008).
4. An email has been received from Michael Wilkinson suggesting the ITS should be cross IMPed rather than IMPed against median.

Promotions & Sponsorship

Surry Hills Festival to be held on 18th April. Office to check if spaces still available.

Office Manager Report

Event/Tasks	Action
Mailout	Completed for Country teams and Directors Accreditation
Membership	Chasing up non renewals
Fire Warden Training	Completed 13 th March
GNP mailout	Sent to all Metro clubs on behalf of Convener, John McIlrath

9 General Business

The Council voted that the signing of the mortgage documents be approved

Moved by Bruce Neill
Seconded by John Brownie

Motion Carried.

10 Action Items from the March Meeting and previous Meetings

Councillor	Action Item	Current Status
JF	To evaluate whether more could be paid off the loan to the ABF	Carried forward
TC & DK	Whether there should be communication to all clubs from their regional representatives	Carried forward
Office	Check on availability of stall space at the Surry Hills Festival	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
LM	LM to draft communication on proposed 2009 Youth budget and circulate for approval.	Carried forward
Office	Office to arrange for a plaque in memory of Tim Seres' contribution.	In Progress
Council	To review requirements for Promotions and Sponsorship portfolio.	Carried forward
Office/D K/TC/JR	The country representatives would like to provide to each club a document on the recent changes to the laws. This could be published in the NSWBA newsletter or sent with the mail out. Office to assist.	Current
Office/JF	Review membership fees with a view to making more equitable - review the numbers and remove pensioner/concession rate.	Carried Forward
ALL	The promotional brochure needs some polishing using promotional grant. Spokesperson to be employed to visit community groups to talk about bridge. Peter Jamieson to put editorial in the Bulletin.	Carried Forward
MC	Archive FABC documentation. MC & JF to organise	Carried Forward
BN	To follow up advertising on 2MBS	Carried Forward
TC/WL	Trish has suggested that the Country Teams event could be run as a pairs and the top two pairs form a team. Possibility of rewarding those who make the State finals (held in Sydney).	Carried Forward
TC	The Region representatives will review the zonal boundaries for the regions.	Current
Office	Week before each Monday night event office to ring players who have not entered to encourage them to play	Current
Office	Check with Surry Hills Festival to check if spaces available	Current

11 Next meeting

The next meeting will be held Wednesday 22 at 6:15pm.

The meeting was closed at 7.25 pm.