

# SA BRIDGE FEDERATION

## MINUTES– ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> December, 2011

At – Fullarton Park Centre, 411 Fullarton Rd, Fullarton SA

Meeting opened at 7.30pm

1. Present:

President:	Dianne Marler	
Secretary:	Alison Fallon	
Treasurer:	Deb Wellman	
Affiliates:	Peter Chan	SABA – carrying all SABA votes
	John Zollo	SABA
	Sue Phillips	Bridge in the City
	Jill Allanson	Bridge in Barossa
	David Anderson	Reynella
	Graham Quinn	Glenelg
	Phil Gue	Adelaide Bridge Centre
	Peter Janes	Gawler
	Peter Moeller	Riverland

Delegates: Alison Fallon (Blue Lake), Tim O’Loughlin (St Vincents)

Observers: Evan Allanson (Barossa), David Lusk (SABA), Peter Taubner (Glenelg), Graham Terry (SABA), Sue Britten (Riverland), Tim O’Loughlin (SABA), Phil Markey (SABF legal advisor)

Apologies: Tony Lusk (Youth Coordinator), Paul Walker (Gawler), Marise Allen (Broken Hill), Peter Carpenter (Victor Harbor)

2. Minutes of previous meeting:

*It was moved that the minutes of the previous Management Committee Meeting held 30<sup>th</sup> November, 2010 be accepted*

**Moved:** Jill Allanson

**Seconded:** David Anderson

**Motion carried**

4. Matters Arising:

It was agreed, on advice from Phil Markey, that the last sentence under ‘Discussion of the Constitution’ paragraph 1)... ‘Phil Markey confirmed that any motions or changes passed since then are therefore unconstitutional’... was a misinterpretation of his comments.

*It was moved to strike this sentence from the minutes*

**Moved:**                                 **Jill Allanson**  
**Seconded:**                            **Graham Quinn**  
**Motion carried**

It was agreed to add the report from the Constitutional Review Working Party to 'Reports' (item 'f').

5. Reports:  
a) President's Report and ABF Councillor Report  
Both reports were previously circulated.

*It was moved that the President's reports be accepted*

**Moved:**                                 **Graham Quinn**  
**Seconded:**                            **Phil Gue**  
**Motion carried**

b) Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer's report, balance sheet, profit & loss statement, budget and asset register were previously circulated

The Treasurer's report included a recommendation to increase capitation fees for the coming year from \$5.50 to \$6.50.

The Treasurer confirmed that:

- 1) the SABF had purchased 40 Bridgemates (Model 2) and 2 servers.
- 2) an apparent discrepancy in the GNOT accounts was because the entry fees for this year had not yet been paid.
- 3) Money not yet allocated from the marketing grant from the ABF will be allocated by the management committee on application from clubs which had not yet received a full subsidy. Some applications have yet to be processed. The President confirmed that the SABF must demonstrate the money is being used correctly and is required to provide an annual report to the ABF by 31<sup>st</sup> January each year in order to continue to receive the subsidy.

*It was moved that the Treasurer's report be accepted*

**Moved**                                    **Peter Moeller**  
**Seconded**                               **Jill Allanson**  
**Motion carried**

c) Tournament Committee

David Anderson gave a verbal report

- 1) The current schedule of events was working well.
- 2) The Women's State Team trials was considered to have now settled into a good format.
- 3) There would be a clash between the Australian Women's team play offs and the Qualifying of our Women's State Team trials in 2012. It has been decided that if a pair is inconvenienced, favourable consideration would be given, on application, for that pair to automatically progress to the State Women's Trials Final.

- 4) The meeting was informed that accommodation in Darwin for the 2012 ANC was already nearly fully booked.  
This item to be added to the agenda of the next mc meeting.

*It was moved that the Tournament Committee report be accepted*

**Moved**                      **Phil Gue**  
**Seconded**                **Peter Chan**  
**Motion carried**

d) Youth Report

The Youth Coordinator is overseas and is an apology. He will present a report as soon as he returns.

e) Auditors Report

The Auditor's report was previously circulated

*It was moved that the Auditors report be accepted*

**Moved**                      **Graham Quinn**  
**Seconded**                **David Anderson**  
**Motion carried**

f) Constitutional Review Working Party Report

The report was previously circulated

The Chair of the Working Party, Phil Markey, spoke to the report and the matter was discussed.

- 1) There was ambiguity about the correct method of assigning clubs' voting rights because there have been 3 versions of the Constitution in circulation over a number of years and there are contradictions within and between them.
- 2) Legal advice from Russell Harms on behalf of SABA had been previously circulated. Phil Markey reported that he was not sure if he agreed with the conclusion as in his view the evidence was not clear.
- 3) The President and Secretary reported that they had spent many hours looking through SABF records from 2002/3 onwards in an attempt to find a clear paper trail, notices of motion or other records regarding the source of the discrepancy. None was found.
- 4) There was much discussion about the origin of the method of voting contained in the Constitution circulated prior to the Special General meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> Feb 2006.
- 5) It was noted that the Notice of Motion contained in the agenda for this AGM was invalid because it had not been circulated to clubs two months prior to the meeting.
- 6) It was agreed to suspend discussion and voting on the Notice of Motion as listed in the agenda.
- 7) It was agreed by a show of hands that voting rights for the purpose of this meeting would be 1 vote per 50 members per club with at least 3 affiliates having to vote in favour of the motion as well(as per Item 8.4 of the Constitution - Interpretation of the Constitution).
- 8) There was concern that an effective safety net needed to be put in place for the future as under this method the two largest clubs between them carry more

than half the votes. This will be discussed by the Constitution Review committee.

- 9) The President gave notice that, in the interests of the SABF, she wished to withdraw her renomination for President. The President vacated the Chair. Tim O'Loughlin assumed the role of Chair as his was the only nomination remaining for the position of President.
- 10) David Anderson proposed a vote of thanks for all that the President has done for the SABF over the last 11 years. He told the committee that the SABF had started with nothing, with very few clubs, and all it has achieved has been due to her efforts, virtually singlehandedly... 'this State owes Di an enormous debt'.  
There was a round of applause.  
Tim O'Loughlin proposed this be minuted as a resolution from the whole committee.  
All agreed.

#### 6. Election of Office Bearers

All positions were declared vacant.

Nominations for the Executive:

President: Tim O'Loughlin  
Secretary: Alison Fallon  
Treasurer: Deb Wellman

*The meeting accepted the nominations of A. Fallon and D. Wellman for the positions of Secretary and Treasurer.*

**Moved** John Zollo  
**Seconded** Graham Quinn  
**Motion carried**

- 1) It was agreed, after recommendation from the Executive, that nominations for management committee positions were not necessary as every affiliate had the automatic right to send a representative to management committee meetings, with formal written authorisation from their club.
- 2) It was noted that under new regulations the SABF was no longer required to have the financial records audited. The Treasurer requested that the SABF retain the services of an Auditor.

*It was moved that the SABF retain the services of Peter Hodgetts as Auditor*

**Moved** John Zollo  
**Seconded** Graham Quinn  
**Motion carried**

#### 7. Other Business

##### 1) Constitution

After discussion it was proposed to tackle changes to the Constitution in 2 stages:

Stage 1 – Must haves – to be completed within 2 months – to include the issue of a Vice Presidency

Stage 2 - Desirables – to be completed within 12 months.

Clubs will be asked to submit their 'wish-lists' and place in the relevant category.

*It was so moved*

**Moved** Peter Chan

**Seconded** John Zollo

**Motion carried**

2) ANC Butler Trials

- i. At the last mc meeting it was agreed that SA would swap its ANC rotation with NSW. It was also foreshadowed that SA would forgo the right to hold the Butler Trials at that time, and to refer the matter to the AGM. It was so agreed. The ABF have been informed.
- ii. It was noted that some other States are also looking at separating the ANC and the Butler Trials.
- iii. The ABF TC is looking at changing the calendar by separating these two events and also moving the ANC to the warmer months. The test case will be in 2013. A sample calendar from the ABF is to be circulated to the MC.
- iv. It was agreed that the ANC needed to be held in the CBD and to follow up on the preliminary discussions the previous President has held with Pultney Grammar School re hiring their premises for the 2013 ANC.
- v. It was suggested other schools in the CBD also be looked at for use in the school holidays as the ANOT becomes a 'moving target' because of Easter and Anzac day.

*It was moved to accept the outgoing President's report on the ANC and to take urgent action in the New Year, once dates are confirmed, for a suitable venue for the 2013 ANC.*

**Moved** Phil Gue

**Seconded** Deb Wellman

**Motion carried**

Dianne Marler to liaise with the President.

3) SABF representative to the ABF council

*It was moved to accept the nomination of Dianne Marler to this position*

**Moved** David Anderson

**Seconded** Phil Gue

**Motion carried**

SABA foreshadowed a change to their nomination to the ABF council

Next meeting: December 5<sup>th</sup> 2012, 7.30pm  
Venue – Fullarton Park Centre

Meeting closed at 9.30pm