

**Minutes of the SABF Meeting held at the Dickie Fritz Hall, Edenvale
on 24 August 2019**

Present

James Grant	President
Jocelyn Ashberg	Vice President
Philip Feinstein	Treasurer
Sheila Francis	Secretary
Peter Ward	
Graham Burrows	
Ice Peenz	
Roz Bernstein	
Helen Kruger	
Ann Sturrock	

Apologies

Arie Ridderhoff

Welcome

The president welcomed everyone and thanked them for their attendance.

Matters Arising

A committee to look at the trials format had been established.

The income statement had been finalised.

Heidi Atkinson had attended the TD Course in Turkey.

A proposal to the ABF regarding teams play on BBO had been submitted.

As a result of James Grant attending the ABF Meeting in Casablanca the following had been agreed.

The ABF would pay Heidi's costs for attending the TD Course. Philip had deducted the costs from the teams entry fee for the Zonals. He would send an email to Helen Kruger to clarify the expenses.

The WBF had agreed to a reduction in entry fees for African countries to enter their events in future. The reduction has not been quantified but in the meantime the ABF has subsidized the entry for Wuhan by 1000 euros. This would be sorted out between the treasurer and Diana Rosslee.

The ABF and WBF are happy to receive entries from South African citizens and bona fide residents to take part in their tournaments. The only qualification is that the residents must satisfy the conditions set out in the [WBF Bona Fide Residence Criteria](#) agreed on in May of this year and published on its website.

Regarding the teams on BBO we have received a positive response from Reunion and Mauritius. Helen to liaise with Roz in order to send personal invitations to other countries to submit entries for the tournament which would commence on 20 October 2019.

The ABF were keen to assist with tournament directing training and were happy to send one of their directors to assist.

As regards our training initiative in South Africa, this is taking off with monthly events in Johannesburg, a comprehensive course from Hennie Fick in the Eastern Cape, and further courses in the pipe line for Pretoria and other parts of the country.

There were no further matters arising from the previous minutes

Congress 2019 Feedback

Overall it was agreed that that this year's congress was a well-run and enjoyable event.

On the negative side the vugraph was a disaster and if we are going to have this feature in future it must be done much more professionally and by people more experienced.

The last minute change in the order of events brought a whole lot of problems even though the entry form was only up for a morning so it was agreed that once we decided on a format in the future there was no going back.

Helen felt that the attendance was not so good because the tournament had not been pushed enough.

On the positive side James felt that the tournament directing was particularly good with all directors doing a professional job. The presence of a disciplinary committee had also proved to be a good idea.

We obviously need to be more aware of security at the events in view of the stolen laptop. It was agreed that all equipment would be secured in future

As regards the laptop H Ebrahim had donated his PC to Heide and it was agreed that the SABF would bear the costs of bringing the software up to date.

Inter Provincials

Rob Stephens has been confirmed as the co-ordinator of this event.

It was decided that the event would take place on Saturday and Sunday only (14/15 September) from 9.00 to 18.00 which would make entry easier for people who worked.

Roz to speak to Rob/Peta Feinstein regarding holding of the Gentle Tournament on that Saturday.

We also confirmed the decision taken at the last meeting that the entry point for the Medwin is upward of 1500 PI per team.

As regards open and closed rooms on BBO, there might be a technical difficulty but if not one room could be set up where kibitzing is not allowed.

Interclub

This event is taking place at the bridge centre in Green Point from Thursday 31 October to Sunday 3 November. Playing times will be Thursday start at 14.00 finishing Sunday at 14.00 at the latest. The event will be R1800 per team ie no increase from last year.

Andre will be running the tournament. Ann Sturrock will organise the booklet. A glass of wine and a few snacks will be offered during prize giving.

The closing date for entries will be 17 October 2019 with entries to Philip.

The event will be advertised on the webpage as soon as possible. James will be responsible for the online entry form.

Congress 2020

Theoretically congress was to be held in Hazyview next year however in line with the view that it was becoming a parochial event it was decided to hold the event in Cape Town to try to attract international players.

To this end the next congress will be a litmus test and it is hoped that this event will regain its sparkle with the participation of local and international players. Congress 2021 will also be held in Cape Town in an effort to solidify this position. To this end it was agreed that Alon Apteker would be requested to take on the role of getting overseas entries. Also the event would be put on Bridgescanners.com as soon as possible and a "blurb" would be sent to Anna Gudge to be included in bulletins in Wuhan and other international events. Helen Kruger would also send out invitations to other African countries.

The event is going to take place at the Italian Club in Milnerton from Monday 9 March from 14.00 to Monday 16 March 14.00. The event will consist of teams from Monday to Friday lunch time with the pairs commencing on Friday at 14.00.

Philip will liaise Hilary Nick regarding the budget.

It was agreed that we would try to get Waleed El Menyawi as chief tournament director and hopefully get him to do a TD course in Johannesburg before the tournament and in Cape Town after it. Helen Kruger will be organising this. If he is not available chief TD then Heidi Atkinson will be the chief TD.

Neil Hayward has already been invited and either Lotte Sorensen or Jan van Dijken will be invited to TD.

Peter Bircher will be invited to be the scorer.

The subject was brought up that many players do not enter congress because they are scared of playing the top players.

To this end it was agreed to hold a two day event on the Saturday/Sunday as a “no fear” event for newer players. The Committee would have the final word regarding eligibility to enter. We hope that this move will encourage players to enter congresses in the future.

Trials Format

The committee which had been set up to discuss future format for trials submitted a comprehensive report.

The committee agreed with one abstention on the following format

2020 World Team Olympiad Pairs Format

2021 World Championship Teams Format

2022 Commonwealth Games Pairs Format

2023 World Championship Pairs Format

Open and womens trials would be held in Johannesburg in February 2020 with seniors and mixed at the beginning of April.

SASCOC

Once again the subject of remaining members of SASCOC was discussed. It was agreed that for the time being we would remain.

Correspondence

We received a mail from Keep Bridge Alive Campaign requesting a donation for this cause. It was agreed that we are not in a position to donate and the secretary would advise them accordingly.

General

There was some discussion regarding the calendar with Graham agreeing to take it on. He would send invitations to the unions to submit their events to him as soon as possible.

It was agreed to give the players going to Wuhan an additional subsidy.

It was agreed that matter of larger tables with bigger screens would be investigated by the secretary.

There being no other business the meeting ended at 16.00