

## **ABF TOURNAMENT COMMITTEE**

### **MINUTES OF MEETING IN CANBERRA 22/23 APRIL 2006**

#### **RESOLUTIONS OF THE MEETING AND OTHER MATTERS**

What follows is a précis of the proceedings of the TC meeting of 22-23 April 2006. More detail can be obtained by reference to the full minutes.

##### **04.06.01 Playoff qualifying points (PQP): Seniors Playoff Panel — 2007**

(i) It was resolved that the threshold for qualification for the Seniors Panel for the 2007 Playoff (i.e. based on 2006 PQPs) will be the lesser of (i) 24 PQPs or (ii) the number of PQPs necessary to admit 64 players to the Panel.

(ii) It is confirmed that Seniors players must obtain 15 PQPs in 2006 **Seniors** events before they can transfer PQPs obtained in 2006 Open events to their 2006 listing of Seniors PQPs.

(iii) It was resolved that, before any Seniors player can transfer PQPs obtained in Open events to his/her listing of Seniors PQPs, that player must advise the Registrar of PQPs (Martin Willcox) of his/her date of birth.

##### **04.06.02 PQP: Open Playoff Panel — 2007**

It was resolved that the threshold for qualification for the Open Panel for the 2007 Playoff (i.e. based on 2006 PQPs) will be the lesser of (i) 24 PQPs or (ii) the number of PQPs necessary to admit 64 players to the Panel.

##### **04.06.03 PQP: Women's Playoff Panel — 2007**

It was resolved that the threshold for qualification for the Women's Panel for the 2007 Playoff (i.e. based on 2006 PQPs) will be the lesser of (i) 15 PQPs or (ii) the number of PQPs necessary to admit 64 players to the Panel

##### **04.06.04 Ineligibility for PQP awards**

(i) It was resolved that, should a player or players in a teams event become ineligible to obtain PQPs during the course of the event, the player(s) will receive the PQP award already obtained up to the point at which the ineligibility occurred but will not receive any further PQP award that might otherwise be due to re-ordering of PQP positions as a result of other ineligibilities. (This implies that re-ordering of PQP positions as a result of ineligibilities is done at the conclusion of the event, not at the time that ineligibility occurs.)

(ii) It was further resolved that a player, who fails to meet the conditions of the board rule, may appeal a decision to declare that player ineligible to receive PQPs on the grounds of extenuating circumstances and that the appeal shall be heard by the Chairman of the ABF Ethics Committee whose decision shall be final.

#### **04.06.05 P QPs for the South-West Pacific Teams (S-WPT)**

It was resolved that the award of P QPs for the S-WPT is absolute and cannot be affected by subsequent performance in the NOT. (This means, for example, that a team can obtain 96 P QPs from the S-WPT/NOT, 24 for winning the S-WPT plus 72 for winning the NOT.)

#### **04.06.06 P QP awards for the McCance Pairs**

It was noted that the event previously known as the McCance Seniors Teams at the VCC has become the McCance Seniors Pairs from and including 2006. The McCance Pairs will be a Category D pairs event and as such will have P QP awards as follows: first 24, second 18, third 12, fourth 6. (For categorisation of P QP events, see Table 1 and 2 on pages 10 and 11.)

#### **04.06.07 Summer Festival of Bridge**

It was resolved to revert to the arrangement whereby 16 teams qualify from the S-WPT to the NOT. (There were two proposals about how the elimination/qualifying rounds of the NOT should be played. These proposals were left on the table for later consideration.)

#### **04.06.08 2007 Playoffs — Last Train events for 2007**

It was confirmed that:

- (i) The Last Train events for Women's and Seniors will be held on Monday and Tuesday 15/16 January 2007 in conjunction with the Summer Festival of Bridge
- (ii) The Open Last Train will be held on Thursday and Friday 18/19 January 2007.
- (iii) The Last Trains will be played in pairs format
- (iv) The top three contending pairs in each Last Train category will form the sixth team for the 2007 Playoffs
- (v) Irrespective of any withdrawals that might occur after the Last Train team is announced, the Last Train will always provide the sixth Playoff team.

#### **04.06.09 Concurrency of Playoffs**

It is confirmed that, irrespective of where the 2007 Playoffs are held, the Open and Women's Playoffs will be played concurrently and that the Seniors Playoff will be played subsequently.

#### **04.06.10 2007 Playoffs — dates**

The dates of the Open and Women's Playoffs will be Thursday 22 March to Monday 26 March 2007. Dates for the Seniors Playoff was not set.

#### **04.06.11 2007 Playoffs — format**

It was confirmed that a teams format be used in the 2007 Playoffs. There will be a 160-board qualifying stage to qualify four of the six teams for the semi-finals. The first stage will comprise a double Round Robin of ten 16-board matches. The draw for the first Round Robin will be random; the draw for the second Round Robin will be designed so that the top teams from the first Round Robin will meet towards the end of the second stage. Semi-finals and the final will be played over 64 boards .

#### **04.06.12 2007 Playoffs — board rule, bidding boxes, recorders**

To meet the board rule, players must play four matches in the qualifying stage, two 16-board stanzas in the semi-final and two 16-board stanzas in the final.

Bidding boxes will be used in all stages of the Playoffs, but the players will not be required to record details of bidding and play.

Recorders will be used in the semi-final and final stages.

#### **04.06.13 Calendar – Sydney Festival and GNOT National Final**

It was resolved that, from 2007, the GNOT National Final should commence on the last Friday of November. This will free up the period between the third weekend of October and the last weekend of November for the Sydney Festival. It seems certain that the Sydney Festival will take up an earlier date in the free period rather than a later date.

#### **04.06.14 Eligibility of players for titles**

The principle of certain members of a winning team being ineligible for the award of the title, due to their playing insufficient boards, was introduced. (A similar principle applies to WBF events.) **It should be noted that this principle is quite distinct from and has absolutely no relationship to the principle (the board rule) that applies to the award of PQPs.**

In the first instance, the principle will be applied to the S-WPT/NOT which, for the purpose of application of the principle, will be regarded as a continuum.

(i) It was resolved that a player must play not less than four S-WPT sessions to be eligible for the award of the S-WPT title and the NOT title.

(ii) It was resolved that a team of four may augment its numbers to five or six, and that a team of five may augment to six, before the commencement of the eleventh round of the S-WPT.

(iii) The meeting reached no consensus about the number of NOT sessions that a player must play to be eligible for the award of the NOT title.

#### **04.06.15 Protocol for award of Playoff Qualifying Points (PQP) for 2006 – applicable to 2007 Playoffs**

See Tables 1 and 2 below.

**Other matters dealt with and/or discussed**

1. Tie-breaking procedures
2. 2007 Playoffs
  - a. Location
  - b. Entry fees, rebates and subsidies
  - c. Regulations
  - d. Housekeeping matters
3. Butler pairs championships. Confirmation of procedures for dealing with replacements for pairs that withdraw between stage 1 and stage 2 of the Open and Women's Butlers and between stage A and stage B of the Seniors Butler.
4. Proposal for a Grand National Pairs tournament.

**TABLE 1. Categorisation of Playoff Qualifying Points (PQP) events and PQP awards.**

Teams events			Placing							
			1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th
Category A	Open	NOT	72	36	18	18	9	9	9	9
	Women's	NWT	72	36	18	18				
	Seniors	NST	72	36	18	15	12	9		
Category B	Open	ANC Teams	42	18						
	Open	GNOT	48	24	6	6				
	Women's	ANC Women's	42	18						
	Seniors	ANC Seniors	42	18						
Category C	Open	GCT, ANOT, VCC, SNOT	36	18	9					
	Women's	SNWT	36	18	9					
	Seniors	GCST, BEST	36	18	9					
Category D	Open	S-WPT	24							
	Women's	NWT (Swiss)	24							
		HRMT	24	12						
	Seniors	NST (Swiss)	24							
Uncategorised	Open	Playoff – 6 teams	36	30	24	18	12			
	Open	Playoff – 4 teams	36	24	12					
	Women's	Playoff – 6 teams	36	30	24	18	12			
	Women's	Playoff – 4 teams	36	24	12					
	Seniors	Playoff – 6 teams	36	30	24	18	12			
	Seniors	Playoff – 4 teams	36	24	12					
	Open	ANC – reps	6							
	Women's	ANC – reps	6							
	Seniors	ANC – reps	6							
<b>Pairs events</b>										
Category A	Open	ABPC	65	60	55	35	30	25		
	Women's	ABPC	65	60	55	35	30	25		
	Seniors	ABPC	65	60	55	35	30	25		
Category B		Nil	48	36	24	12				
Category C	Open	GCP, ASP, SROP	32	24	16	8				
Category D	Open	DCOP	24	18	12	6				
	Women's	ANSWP, VCC	24	18	12	6				

		(WSP)								
	Seniors	GCSP, WASP, ANNSP, MP, TNSSP	24	18	12	6				
Uncategorised	Open	Playoff – 16 pairs	36	32	28	24	20	16	12	8
	Women’s	Playoff – 16 pairs	36	32	28	24	20	16	12	8
	Seniors	Playoff – 16 pairs	36	32	28	24	20	16	12	8

**TABLE 2. List of acronyms for PQP events.**

Acronym	PQP event	Acronym	PQP event
ANC	Australian Interstate Teams	HRMT	Hans Rosendorff Memorial Teams
ANC reps	ANC representatives	MP	McCance Seniors Pairs
ANOT	Autumn National Open Teams	NOT	National Open teams
ANSSP	South Australian Seniors Pairs	NWT	National Women’s Teams
ANSWP	Autumn National Women’s Pairs	NST	National Teams
ASP	Australian Swiss Pairs	SNOT	Spring National Open Teams
BEST	Bobby Evans Seniors Teams	SNWT	Spring National Women’s Teams
ABPC	Australian Butler Pairs	SROP	Swan River Open Pairs
DCOP	Dick Cummings Open Pairs	S-WPT	South-West Pacific Teams
GCP	Gold Coast Open Pairs	TNSSP	Tassie National Seniors Swiss Pairs
GSCP	Gold Coast Seniors Pairs	VCC	Victor Champion Cup
GCT	Gold Coast Teams	VCC(WSP)	VCC Women’s Swiss Pairs
GCST	Gold Coast Seniors Teams	WASP	Western Australian Seniors Pairs
GNOT	Grand National Open Pairs		