



AUST BILLIARDS & SNOOKER REFEREES

Meeting Minutes

GROUP ATTENDING MEETING: VICTORIAN REFEREES

DATE: 6TH FEBRUARY 2009

PRESENT: ABI NEWMAN, ALAN SYMONDS, ANDREW BRANDON, CEDRIC GOMEZ, CRAIG SMITH, DAMIAN WILLCOX, DAN WALLACE, EDDIE CRISTINA, JIM LEWIS, JIM NAUGHTON, JOHN IVETT, KIM IVETT, LARRY EFORGAN, LEIGH CONDON, MARTIN DEELEY, MICHAEL D'SILVA, PAUL COSGRIFF, PETER JACKSON, PRAVEEN CHANDRA.

APOLOGIES: DAVID COSGRIFF, DAVID FAIREY, GEORGE HOY, JACK ZAKS, LEN WINESTONE, NEIL ALLISON.

CHAIRPERSON: JOHN IVETT

OPEN: 7.10PM

CLOSED: 10.40PM

	ITEM:	ACTION	RESPONSIBILITY	TIME FRAME
1.	Welcome & introduction of attendees.	<p>Welcome to all.</p> <p>Special note of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dan Wallace – referees on a local club basis, consistent for many years and helps out VBSA tournaments as required. • Chris Large – a player from Dandenong Club interested in becoming a referee, was going to attend however sends his apology. • Paul Cosgriff – ABSC secretary to present ABSC report. <p>Also noted at the beginning was the recent sad passing of Bill Orr, John handed out leaflet from funeral that contained some information on him along with a brief verbal description by John.</p>	John Ivett	n/a
2.	Apologies	<p>Paul noted on night of David Cosgiff's apology.</p> <p>Prior apologies received were David Fairey, George Hoy, Jack Zaks, Len Winetsone and Neil Allison.</p>	John Ivett	n/a
3.	2009 Referee Certificates	<p>All 2009 certificates handed out to applicable referees.</p> <p>Any issues with the certificates please provide feedback to John asap.</p>	John Ivett	asap



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4.	2008 Summary & Report	<p>(Previous 2007 meeting minutes in folder as reference and may prompt some to raise any issues to be followed up in general business)</p> <p>Referred to Annual Report (Green sheet in folder)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mentioned Billiards and need for some improvements in this area. • Went through highlights section on sheet. • Referred also to items/observations/things to do in 2009 section on sheet. <p>John asked for questions of which the following were raised;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rule books (Paul asked about). Copies will be organised shortly for all referee's. Any extra copies required for clubs will be at cost (approx \$5). IBSF to give approval on contents. • Also mentioned was that ABSR were working hard to reduce fees (VBSA absorbing costs for Vic referees for 2009) and is currently financially sound which means that money can be put back into referee needs etc. • Jim.N raised about RACV parking, was disadvantaged last 2 years due to capacity being full when arriving, and having to park on street. Was out of pocket \$45 from 2008. Both Paul and John recognise the issues with parking and will endeavour to minimise these in future. Will do better in 2009. 	John Ivett	asap
5.	Review Folder Contents	<p>Covered in sequential order with the following specifically noted;</p> <p>VBSA calendar highlight, in particular the tournaments underlined, ranking events requiring support of Vic referees. Please have a think about your availability and plan ahead. 25th Year for Lance Panell Paul advised.</p> <p>Paul spoke of the Drug policy and that on occasions an exemption may be made for players with medical conditions and using prohibited drugs, must have documentation for approval of usage presented to ABSC.</p> <p>Discussed dress code briefly. (Laughter re John's striped shirt occurred, quite funny)</p> <p>Slow play document highlighted, Paul mentioned example at Masters where it occurred in semi, went too long, TD then had to adjust the final to reduced frames due to limited time. Non-offending player is disadvantaged by slow play by offender. Referees need to enforce rule to minimise slow play where possible.</p> <p>Pre-match player address. It's far more successful to follow up with players if expectations laid out at the beginning of all matches, no surprise should an incident occur.</p> <p>We were successful in having ABSR reduce fees for 2009 from \$20 to \$10 (paid by VBSA) for active refs.</p> <p>Eddie raised supper concern when refereeing finals and attending afterwards with teams. Not enough food to include referees. John assured all that feedback has been given to Kings, Princes etc.</p>	John Ivett	n/a



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6.	ABSC report – Paul Cosgriff, Secretary.	<p>Paul highlighted the following;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Has been pursuing TV network interest. Possible Digital TV which has many sports channels. Require approx 3-400,000 sponsorship needed. GFC (Global Financial Crisis) affecting the situation making it hard to get sponsorship. • Highlighted various tournaments on the ABSC calendar; • Pot Black (double ranking points), sponsored by CL&S. Need 40 players to get the dollars. • Oceania in PNG. Let John know if interested in attending. John later advised that all positions now full. Opportunity had passed to participate and receive many benefits like blazer, re-imburement of funds etc. • Paul wanted all to take note and keep in mind the Juniors competitions and help out where possible. • Aust U21 snooker in SA, please think about attending and helping referee. • Highlighted the 2 parts to Lance Panell this year. • 16th and 17th May require availability to help with Vic titles. • Frankston RSL invitational on 24th May. • Kings on last weekend in May which is set to be a huge tournament again. • West Coast – June • June also holds the Exclusive City of Melbourne. Details still to be confirmed. Many felt it too much in one day. Proposal is to play round robin on Sat only with no elimination match. Sunday to hold at RACV getting down to last 4 from 32 knockout. Mon 22nd during day Semi's and Final at night on 22nd all at RACV. (no pennant on Mon 22nd) This will only change if TV coverage received. • Aust Nat Billiards at Brunswick with exhibitions at RACV during week. If Vic don't host it, it most likely won't happen. • July – Juniors to be held at Kings. Also Vic Juniors to go to Albury and would be good to have some referees attend. • Fred Osbourne a week later this year. Week after is the Lightning and Aust Nationals (must be Aust citizen). • Aust Masters in Sydney – need referees, good to have Vic ones. Held on 28-31Aug at Mingara Club. • Sep – Chilli (may not have the same name) will go ahead. • 9-11 Oct Princes Cup, a week later this year to encourage international players to attend this and Mounties. 	Paul Cosgriff	n/a
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6	<p>ABSC report – Paul Cosgriff, Secretary. continued</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paul talked about how Mounties came about. • ABSR in conjunction with ABSC are working on improving the NSW Snooker structure as well as NSW referee situation. • Talked about top 16 coming in at last 32 in ranking tournaments, this was impacting. Best of 5 can be a lottery at times also. Looking at benefits to less skilled players. Good players should play best of 7. Proposal for top 16 to come in at start being looked at. This would be more enjoyable for referees and give lower players opportunity to play the best players. • Referees in control of matches is a crucial practice, especially if TV rights won, the best quality of play and adjudication should take place. 		
7.	<p>Jumped to item 9 – Referees Practical Demonstration meetings</p>	<p>John asked if these should continue as they are and if they are of benefit etc. All agreed they very much enjoyed them. Larry suggested to perhaps review the demo match situation. Noted by Alan.S that it may be good for all to bring along their own experiences from the year or pre-advise John to list and bring along. All can learn from experiences, what to do and not to do, what worked and what didn't. Asked what day would best suit. Agreed for the next one was Easter week on Wed night 15th April, details TBA.</p>	All	Next one 15th April 2009
8.	<p>Item 10 – Vic Referees Association</p>	<p>A proposal to implement a new Victorian Referee Association was discussed. How would all feel about this? Leigh raised a point of what would be the pro's and con's of setting it up. Some briefly mentioned would be identity, clarity of roles, governance expectations, government grant opportunities, more cohesive group, stronger recognition etc. Paul explained how ABSC and ABSR are associated and that it would be good to include all states. John advised we would start off with Vic and roll out to other states with model. John talked about local council grants opportunity and that Kim was also looking into various options. Majority was in favour of investigating further with prospect of instigating Referee Association.</p>	All	Coming months.



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9.	Item 8 – Referee Performance Observations.	<p>John raised item to talk about Strengths, Weaknesses and Opportunities re Referee performance. All participated and came up with the following lists.</p> <p>Strengths - Communication, availability, commitment, support, team work, presentation, reliability, comradary, knowledge of rules.</p> <p>Weaknesses (annoyances) - Addressing player conduct, Billiards, time at events to communicate, punctuality (must be 20min prior to start), policing player dress standards.</p> <p>Opportunities - Carry kit & aids, check spots before match, use pre-game address, more practical sessions, senior leadership, seminars. Damien also mentioned having a billiards practical session.</p>	All	Ongoing
10.	General Business.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Damien raised Push Shot and Simultaneously hit balls, how to address these, very difficult to identify. Discussion took place and item referred to next practical session. • Response was that err on the cautious side. Michael advised that the Sussex manual give striker the benefit of the doubt, very difficult to prove. • Praveen raised the 'Participation certificates', could we get these after major tournaments. They were issued at Oceania. Question went out to all asking should these be issued? All agreed it would be good to receive some recognition, especially when facilitating finals. • Praveen also mentioned the anti-doping policy and those that drink alcohol and then come in and play with smell of alcohol on breath. Found this unacceptable. Response was that it is not against rules to finish drink before match however cannot consume alcohol whilst playing. If overpowering address with TD first before creating situation with player. • Talked briefly about the 2 posers sent out so far in 2009, some differing responses, all asked to think about answers and must refer to rule numbers and reasons for answer when replying to John. Damian gave good response to second poser. • John asked all to think about them and reply. Would also like to have responses from all to gauge understanding and provide support where needed. All input is appreciated and this builds team knowledge. 	All	

COMPLETED BY: KIM IVETT

NEXT CHAIRPERSON: TBA

NEXT MINUTE TAKER: TBA