

Minutes of WCF Council Meeting 27th April 2012

The meeting was held at Tiffins on the Park Hotel, Adelaide, South Australia starting at 10.30am

Present:

Amir Ramsis Naguib – Egypt and WCF President [chair]
Keith Aiton – WCF Management Committee
Peter Freer – Australia
Tony Hall – Australia
Robyn Wallace – Australia
Brian Cumming – Canada
Jeff Dawson – England
Ian Lines – England
David Maugham – England
James Hopgood – Scotland
Martin Stephenson – Scotland
Stuart Lawrence – USA
Martyn Selman – USA
Chris Williams – Wales

1. Matters arising from the minutes of the WCF Council meeting of 17th July 2011

Tony Hall raised several points:

- (a) Had anything happened about filming? *No, not yet.*
- (b) Could mallet specifications be moved to the Equipment Regs? *Something to consider.*
- (c) Had anything happened about Pakistan? *No, it went away.*
- (d) Why not invest funds in Australia where interest rates are currently 6%? *We didn't like the potential exposure to exchange rate fluctuations.*
- (e) The three week turnaround for Council email discussions is causing problems. *Something to raise with the other members.*
- (f) Have we looked at revising the Statute requiring members to produce audited accounts? *No, not yet.*

2. Input on the seeding the ACWC KO consultation

Tony Hall raised the issue of family separation in blocks (which was topical as all the Fletcher brothers were in the same block). David Maugham said that it would be difficult to define what constituted a “close tie” such as family, unmarried partners, same sex marriages and so on. He suggested that we should not even separate by country. Jeff Dawson would support family separation if we also had country separation. *[Editor's Note: current Sports Reg 21.4 does in fact give same country separation in the Block draw, although where there is a great preponderance of players from one country, it is not possible to avoid several players from that country in each block.]* Peter Freer asked about the last round of block play. Brian Cumming said just stripe the blocks and leave it at that. A quick straw poll of those present produced the following results:

In forming the blocks:

Should only have country separation – 1

Should have country and family separation – 2

No separation -10

In the last round of block play:

Should only have country separation – 0

Should have country and family separation – 6

No separation – 6

Jeff Dawson suggested leaving separation in the last round of block play to manager discretion.

The discussion moved on to the subject matter of the consultation.

Tony Hall expressed the view that the consultation document clearly showed that seeding the KO by grade was by far the best thing to do. David Maugham agreed with that view and said he wanted to see the KO draw seeded by the best method. If any other method were to be used then it should not be significantly worse, mathematically, than seeding by grade. He also wanted to be able to assess the impact of the dynamic grading system which was being used at a world championship for the first time. Stuart Lawrence expressed the USA view that they could consider a compromise method to reward block winners and mentioned an idea attributed to Chris Patmore that block winners (in ranking order) should be able to choose their first round opponents. Jeff Dawson said that he might be able to live with block winners being able to choose their opponents within a draw seeded by grade.

3. The WCF 10 year schedule of future events

(a) Apart from Egypt expressing an interest in hosting the GCWC and U21 GCWC in 2013 there were no firm expressions of interest for other events. The USA might be able to consider the ACWC for 2016, but that was very tentative. Scotland said that they might be able to host a small event, for example a tier of a WTC. The meeting felt that the members should be canvassed more widely.

(b) 2014 AC WTC

No-one from the Tier 2/3 countries seemed keen on travelling to New Zealand, or felt that if they sent a team it would not be representative. European venues should be sought, if possible. People were interested to find out what New Zealand came up with to make a trip to that part of the world attractive. The view was expressed that promotion and relegation should happen, at least within Tier 2.

4. ACA suggestion to adopt WCF Sports Regulations as national tournament regulations

Tony Hall said that the ACA has revised tournament regulations that in large part are the same as the WCF Sports Regulations. He asked if we can get to a stage where the WCF Sports Regulations are used as tournament regulations in each country. No-one had any

objection to that suggestion, pending the publication of the latest version of the WCF Sports Regulations.

5. Feedback and suggestions from members

James Hopgood asked if the email Council discussions could be better managed as he found it difficult to keep track of WCF emails - he also wondered whether there was other technology available to manage the discussions. Chris Williams suggested putting "WCF" first in the subject line to aid filing.

Tony Hall asked about the GC WTC in South Africa. He had not seen a proposed format yet and was concerned that players might be asked to play more than two Bo3 matches in a day, which he thought would be too demanding. He asked when the format was going to be published. He also said that in team events in Australia they had experimented with 2-game matches and that had been very well received.

6. Any other business

There being no other business the WCF President thanked everyone for attending and contributing to the discussions.

The meeting closed at 12.30pm and lunch was taken.