

MINUTES
of the
BADMINTON OCEANIA CONFEDERATION
EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING
held at Badminton Victoria Boardroom
3:00pm on Wednesday 13th February 2019

Present: Geraldine Brown, Loke Poh Wong, Glenn Cox, Johanna Kou, Leody Vainikolo (via Phone), Ngaoa Ranginui, Julie Carrel, Lynne Nixey

Apologies: Nigel Skelt

Geraldine welcomed all to the Meeting and welcomed them to the Oceania Championships which are currently being held.

Confirmation of Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 10th November 2018 were discussed and confirmed.

Minutes with amendments were agreed by Consensus

Matters Arising

Tuvalu – The Medical letter was received from Tuvalu. However, due to the time passed we have been unable to claim anything back from Travel Insurance.

All policies have been updated.

Para-Badminton – will be covered later under Secretary General's Report

Major Events – Congratulations to New Zealand for being awarded the 2020 World Junior Championships and the 2025 World Senior Championships. This will be very good for the region and we look forward to the competitions.

Athletes Commission – Met on 12th February. Further information under Secretary General Report

PSP – will be covered under Secretary General Report

2019 BWF Approved Plans

Our plans have been approved by the BWF after a long process where Badminton Oceania submits the plans to BWF, BWF returns then with alterations and after discussions a final plan is agreed upon. The plans have not changed from what was presented to the Board in November, however the budget has changed.

In the budget presented in November, there was US\$10,000 for Player Development Scholarships. The BWF advised there was to be an additional US\$20,000 for training at the European Training Centre. Badminton Oceania allocated the US\$10,000 to the Oceania Tour (players who win each event in the tour – 8 tournaments in 2019, will be eligible for training or competition costs to the value as listed in the Tour information).

However, the BWF has advised that with the addition of the US\$20,000 they have removed the original US\$10,000 so we will now need to fund that amount ourselves. As we had already promoted the Oceania Tour, we will go ahead with this and allocate the money from other budgets within Player Development

Geraldine has raised this issue with the BWF Chair of Development. Geraldine will discuss further at the Council meeting in Birmingham early March.

NZ / Australia have been asked to nominate people to attend the European Training Centre. Participants must have passport of their country and if they qualify under the BWF qualification they must be selected by their NOC to go. NZ will need to provide a letter from NZOC to say that if NZ players who were selected for the BECoE qualify for the Olympics then they will be able to attend.

During the Oceania Champs there has been the opportunity to have had country meetings with all our participating countries to discuss player development plans.

Geraldine Brown congratulated the Oceania staff on the work that is achieved with the amount of funding that is received.

If anyone has any further queries regarding the BWF plans, they should take the opportunity to meet with Julie while in Melbourne to discuss these.

Secretary General Report

Report Tabled

Final 2018 accounts will shortly be with the Auditor. Currently we are looking at a surplus of around \$10-\$11,000 for 2018. There will be some slight adjustments made by the Auditor, but we are not anticipating any major changes.

Julie presented the budget for 2019 which requires ratification. Items of note from the Budget are as follows:

CC HR Grant – Assists with the costs of five Oceania Staff. These are the Marketing and Communications Manager, Administration Manager, Regional Development Officers in Fiji and Papua New Guinea and the Coaching and Development Officer.

PSP - Badminton Oceania will be taking over the management/finances of PSP from Badminton Australia. The money will now be paid to us from GHD, we will then distribute it to the countries and providers as per the PSP contract. This was previously all handled by Badminton Australia, they have requested not to continue with the administration of this. Ben Exton who was previously contracted for PSP Admin and Finance will no longer continue and the fees previously paid to both Badminton Australian and Ben Exton will now be available to Badminton Oceania.

Coach Education – actuals in 2018 were \$45k with a budget of \$18k in 2019 was queried. 2018 costs included a Level 2 course (tutor fees, travel and accommodation, participants accommodation) and we will have one less BWF L1 course this year. Also, now that we have more tutors available in countries the costs should be less.

Events – query re the smaller budget for 2019. 2018 costs included Thomas and Uber Cup qualifying event – this is not held in 2019.

Technical Official Support – Development Grant for 2019 will be for Referees only. Targeted for Stephanie Ho and Sandra David to attend the BWF Referees Course in 2022. BWF has declined to

support the next level down of Umpires/Referees. We will have no Umpires ready for BWF selection in 2020 hence no financial support.

Technical Officials Special Project Grant – have received funding for Sidney Galos (Umpire – NZ) who will be assessed at BWF level in Denmark later this year. This funding will allow him additional training before his assessment along with assistance with his airfare to Denmark. We had applied to send our Continental Accredited umpires out of our region to events for experience, but this was turned down.

Technical Officials – Contingency Grant. Julie will apply for a contingency grant in June this year for us to provide assistance to the next level of Umpires to travel to events to gain experience.

Budget was approved by consensus

Staff – We currently have a large staff presence at the Oceania Championships. Ian Bridge and Tom Leonard are our newest staff members, they have both been present at the event which has allowed them to meet our member countries.

Geraldine Brown noted that Tom has been doing an exceptional job on the Friday newsletter, the daily Oceania Champs updates and the promotional material being produced for the event. The board agreed and they appreciate the updates.

The Administration and Finance Manager role will be changed to a .75 position from 01 April due to Lynne's appointment as a BWF semi-professional Referee. We are currently working out the logistics on how this will work as we receive funding aligned to a full-time position and would require a part-time person to fill that .25 role. Congratulations were extended to Lynne on achieving the semi-professional role.

PSP – This will be changing name to ASP (Australian Sports Partnership). Financial items from 2018 are still to be acquitted, Julie will be meeting with Badminton Australia on Friday to work through this. We are currently running a joint inclusion programme with Gymnastics in PNG.

Julie and Nadia will be travelling to Tonga during the first weekend in April to meet with the TNBA Board. We are hoping that we can implement a project in Samoa in the next funding round commencing in September, which is after the Pacific games. The current program is funded to September this year and with a new funding round for 2-3-year programs. PNG PSP program is based predominantly around Para.

Athletes Commission – Julie attending the first meeting of our new Athletes Commission and gave them an overview of the Badminton Oceania structure and what we do. Some questions were posed to the commission about the Oceania Championships event and we will receive feed back from them about this. Julie to meet with the Chair of the Athletes Commission regarding the meeting and questions. It was asked if we would receive minutes of this meeting and Julie will check this.

Para – Badminton Oceania under-wrote the 2018 Australian Para Badminton International and 2018 Oceania Para- badminton Championships which were held in conjunction with each other in November 2018. It was budgeted for a \$23,000 loss but returned a \$18,000 profit which was shared 50/50 with Badminton Australia. We also provided Badminton Australia with an additional \$5,000 grant for staffing costs which they were not expecting, this was paid in December 2018

Tokyo qualification for Para is complicated. There are bipartite positions available for Continents - one male and one female if there is not a male or female who has qualified outright. Ian Bridge will be travelling to Dubai for the Para-Championships with four Australian and one NZ player. This will give us

an opportunity to see how committed they are, how they are tracking and what the intentions of other Continents are.

Para-Development. We have a small budget for this and are currently targeting Fiji and Papua New Guinea for in-country development with Ian Bridge to visit both countries. We are planning to hold a Development camp in June in Australia and also prior to the Australian Para-Championships in November

Para-Events. Julie is meeting with the Board of Badminton Australia on Saturday and one of the topics for discussion will be the Australian Para-Championships 2019. There are challenges around sufficient suitable accommodation for the event. This is an Australian led event which BA has to deliver, Badminton Oceania will not be under-writing it this year but is prepared to assist where required.

Pacific Games – Julie / Tom and Peter Cocker recently travelled to Samoa and undertook both Umpire training for 35 people and meetings with Pacific Games organisers. The venue is currently under construction and due to be ready two weeks prior to games. Badminton has had 14 ITO's approved and we have appointed Stephanie Ho (NCL) as Referee, Peter Cocker (AUS) as Deputy Referee / Umpire Co-Ordinator. We will be looking to appoint 8 Umpires (likely 2- NCL, 2 – TAH and 4 - NZ/AUS) who are Oceania qualified and below (ie no BWF) and will require the appointed Umpires to work with the locals to enhance their Umpiring skills. At this stage it is estimated we will have 10 countries compete (target was 8, must have 6).

Other – Badminton Oceania has sent a letter to BWF with a proposal for Associate Members of the BWF to also have a delegate paid for to attend the BWF AGM/Forum. Geraldine will speak further to this at the meeting in Birmingham.

Solomon Islands is now confirmed as a full new member.

2019 Annual General Meeting

The Badminton Oceania Annual General Meeting will be held on Wednesday 22nd of May in Nanning, China. Badminton Oceania will cover the airfare for Executive members and two nights accommodation. Country delegates will have airfare and four nights accommodation covered by the BWF as per normal arrangements. All board accommodation will be on a twin-share basis

This year there will be a vote for the BWF Vice-President and is the only voting that will be undertaken at our AGM.

We will hold an Executive Board meeting prior to the AGM, the program for the day will be as follows:
09:30am – Board Meeting, 11:30am – AGM followed by Lunch. 2pm to 5pm Oceania Workshops which all delegates/board members must attend to receive their BWF extra night for attending the CC AGM.

2020 Annual General Meeting

The 2020 AGM will be aligned with the Thomas and Uber Cup finals which will be held in Denmark. As per a decision made previously, the costs associated with a meeting in Europe are too high, so therefore the 2020 AGM will be held in conjunction with the Oceania Champs in February. This will likely be held in Victoria, Australia.

There will be 3 board elections held at this AGM for the 3 Pacific Island positions on the Board. A Pacific training camp will be held prior to these Oceania Championships.

2021 Oceania Championships are planned to be held in Samoa providing the venue is suitable

Other Matters

Currently we have a disciplinary process covered in our constitution but no mention of a grievance process (which is not disciplinary) eg – what is the process for people who have an issue with our countries or staff or programs that is not a discipline issue? After discussions with the BWF the recommendation is that we have a grievance policy that sits outside of our constitution and that the constitution is amended to note that if there is a grievance then the policy is to be implemented. BWF are looking to have a meeting with Geraldine and Julie to discuss our constitution and any other suggested changes

Question was raised around when nominations forms for the BWF VP position are sent out. As per our timelines, these will be forwarded along with notice of the AGM 60 days prior to the date of the AGM. They will be sent to countries by 23rd March.

Geraldine thanked everyone for their attendance at the meeting.

Meeting closed: 16:06pm