

**MINUTES**  
of the  
**BADMINTON OCEANIA CONFEDERATION**  
**EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING**  
held via Conference Call  
7:30pm (NZ time) on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> October 2017

**Present:** Nigel Skelt, Loke Poh Wong, Glenn Cox, Johanna Kou, Amanaki Fakakovikaetau, Julie Carrel, Lynne Nixey

**Apologies:** Sunardi Li

Nigel Skelt welcomed all to the Meeting and advised he would Chair the meeting.

**Confirmation of Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> July 2017 were discussed and confirmed.

**Matters Arising**

Nil. Julie Carrel noted that contracts for World Tour 5 events had been sent to NZ and Australia. Any other outstanding matters were covered in her report.

Minutes Accepted: Loke Poh Wong                      Seconded: Johanna Kou

**Secretary General's Report**

Report had been circulated prior to the meeting and Julie spoke to this.

The Continental Workshop was held in Kuala Lumpur and attended by Julie Carrel, Loke Poh Wong (Events), Nadia Bleaken and Robbie Thackham (Development).

The workshop emphasises the structure that the BWF was working under which has the BWF working with Continents who in turn work with their Member Countries. Going forward there is a strong indication of more support to the Continents.

Nigel Skelt advised that the BWF are very aware that what works for one continent does not work in another and are being guided by the Continents as to what they require.

Changes in funding that were discussed at the Continental Workshops are looking positive but final decision on what funding is available will be made at the BWF council meeting in November. The BWF realises that more HR support is required for Continents and it is up to the council from here.

Nigel Skelt felt that there could be more support for funding and events. Julie advised that while Australia is doing a good job with Para that other countries need to do more work in that area. Tonga and NZ both have one Para athlete competing. NZ in particular needs to do more work in this area and if all Oceania Member Countries could produce one Para athlete that would provide a good base for Para in Oceania.

The link for the test website has been sent to all Executive Board members and everyone should take the time to have a look at this. Testing of the website and amendments will be made over the next 4-5 weeks and the new website should be up and running in the New Year.

Financials are looking good and there are no major red flags showing up on these.

Julie stressed the need to spend the money that we have been given for specific programmes, we will have big expenditure coming up in November / December as we pay our MA's according to their MA agreements. The PNG Shuttle Time project is also a big expenditure payment in November. We are on target as far as our budget is concerned. Julie reminded everyone that MA payments are based on KPI's given and if these are not met it will affect payments. There is a large emphasis on Shuttle Time in these KPI's.

Tahiti Loan – as confirmed via email with the Executive Board, a loan of NZ\$15,000 has been given to Tahiti which they hope to have repaid by early December after their Government funding is received. There has been a significant increase in activity from Tahiti since they received the money.

There are two investments due in the next few weeks. The largest investment will be reinvested for a period of 6 months with the smaller amount being reinvested for four months. This will allow us to add to the smaller investment in January if there is any surplus in funds and in line with our reserves policy.

Loke Poh Wong spoke to the extra events being held in Oceania next year and the hope that there will be additional funding available for these. Julie advised that the finances for 2018 will be clearer after the council meeting in November and a budget for 2018 will then be able to be set.

Only one international for next year is currently sanctioned (North Harbour International) and Julie has reminded both NZ and Australia of the need to have additional events sanctioned 9 months prior to the event. It has been flagged that both Tahiti and New Caledonia are keen to hold International events in 2019.

Report was accepted: Moved: Glenn Cox

Seconded: Loke Poh Wong

### **Oceania Championships - Prizemoney**

This was a point brought up at the Continental Meetings as it appears that some confederations pay prizemoney and some do not. It was noted that in 1999 Badminton Oceania paid \$3000 in prizemoney but in recent years there has been none – only higher level world ranking points available.

Glenn queried if paying prizemoney would increase the size of the draws and calibre of the players. It was discussed that paying prizemoney would probably not change these but would help players.

Loke Poh Wong discussed that he felt any additional money should go to the organiser to provide a better event for everyone than to the players for prizemoney. Julie noted that it currently costs Badminton Oceania \$10000 - \$15000 to run the Oceania Championships dependent of whether it was a team event with drug testing etc.

Nigel suggesting waiting for funding after the council meeting and it should be discussed further then. Amanaki discussed that if there was prizemoney to be paid then a sponsor should be sought to assist with this. It was agreed that we would not offer prize-money for 2018 but would look at it for 2019 with a view to securing a sponsor to meet the cost. Loke Poh then queried that if we were paying Senior Prizemoney should there also be Junior Prizemoney and this should be looked into as well.

Julie to look into this issue and prepare a proposal for discussion at the 2018 AGM.

### **Ratifications**

The Executive Board ratified the appointment of Sandra David (AUS) as an Oceania Accredited Referee as recommended by the Technical Officials Committee.

The Executive Board also ratified the email decisions of appointing Joshua Ho (AUS), Cynthia Tam (AUS) and Kelvin Tsui (NZ) as Oceania Accredited Umpires.

### **Badminton Oceania Athletes Commission**

The BWF Continental Events Meeting discussed Athletes Commission and advised that every confederation should have one. The Athletes Commission representative should then have a place on the confederation board. It was discussed if our current constitution allows this. Julie advised that the Athletes Commission could be a committee of the Board who would then report to the Board.

Julie is to discuss the structure and terms of reference of the BWF Athletes Commissions and what does / does not work with them and bring a proposal to the 2018 AGM for this.

### **Communications Manager – Advertising of position**

The BWF Continental meetings had asked confederations to advise what additional HR positions would be of most benefit to them. We have identified that our priority is a Communications and Marketing Manager and secondly changing the Administration Manager position to full time. BWF have advised us to call the role initially Communications as opposed to Communications and Marketing as Julie had first proposed

Communications Manager would focus on Digital Media, Communications to Members and work with members to improve their communications to members. Julie believes that there are strong indications we will get funding for a full time Communications Manager but this will not be confirmed until after the November Council Meeting.

Proposal that we advertise the position now with a closing date in November. By the time this process is completed we should know if we have the funding for the position. If we do, then we proceed from there with recruitment in December with a view to a start in January. If we do not get the funding then we have the opportunity to withdraw the position before the recruitment process begins. The candidate would have to reside in NZ as they will be based in the Oceania office to work alongside the other staff.

Nigel confirmed that everyone was clear on the process and confirmed that it was a full time position. All agreed that the process as above can commence.

### **2018 Calendar – pressure on Technical Officials**

Loke Poh Wong discussed the additional pressure on Technical Officials in 2018 with Commonwealth Games and extra International events particularly in NZ and Australia. Discussion was held on this and the need for countries to step up and push to get more officials. It was noted that the level 4 International events would rely more upon the 2<sup>nd</sup> tier Officials rather than our Oceania/BWF qualified officials. The office is working with the Pacific Island members to see if there are any more potential candidates available to integrate into the Oceania program.

### **30 years celebrations**

At the conclusion of 2017 we will have completed 30 years as Badminton Oceania. Badminton Oceania had a big 25 year celebration; it has been raised if we should do anything to celebrate 30 years. The discussion was around if this was a celebration or acknowledgement; if an acknowledgment the proposal is to do this at the 2018 AGM. Julie to discuss with Geraldine.

### **Women in Badminton**

The Women in Badminton Presidents Award (POWA) is due for presentation in 2018. Nominations are to go out to Member Associations and a committee to be established to identify winner. Geraldine is to be approached to chair the committee and to co-opt a selection panel. Could be awarded at the Oceania Champs or the AGM. Julie to discuss this with Geraldine.

### General Business

The board commended the Badminton Oceania Staff on the great job that they are doing and the results that they are achieving.

Oceania AGM will be held in Bangkok on the 17<sup>th</sup> of May 2018 prior to the BWF Forum and AGM.

Julie has to submit plans and our budget for 2018 to the BWF by the end of November.

Date of next meeting will be confirmed – potentially the first week of December; all Board members will be advised in due course.

Meeting finished at 8:29pm