

**MINUTES**  
of the  
**BADMINTON OCEANIA CONFEDERATION**  
**33<sup>rd</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**  
held at  
**Sovereign Park Motor Inn, Ballarat, Australia**

**10:30am on Sunday 9 February 2020**

**1. Presidents Welcome**

Geraldine Brown welcomed all to the 33<sup>rd</sup> Annual General Meeting of Badminton Oceania. It was noted that 9 of 16 country members were present.

**2. Moment of Silence for Heather Robson – Life Member**

Julie presented a synopsis of the life of Heather for the members (see below for a copy of this)

**3. Roll Call of Officers and Delegates and Apologies**

Geraldine Brown (President and Chair), Nigel Skelt (Deputy President), Julie Carrel (Secretary General), Nadia Bleaken (Development Manager), Loke Poh Wong (Executive Board Member - AUS), Johanna Kou (Executive Board Member – NCL), Glenn Cox (Executive Board Member – NZL), Leody Vainikolo (Executive Board Member – TGA), Ngaoa Ranginui (Executive Board Member – COK), Ian Bridge (Coaching and Development Officer), Tom Leonard (Communications Manager), Andrew Greenway (Delegate – AUS), Ian Willans (Delegate – NZL), Nynette Sass (Delegate – SAM), Tevita Hausia (Delegate – TGA), Leo Cucuel (Delegate – TAH), Thomas Mereana-Ngauru (Delegate – COK), Jamie Parsons (Observer – AUS), Dean Lewis (Delegate - KIR), Karyn Gibson (Delegate - FJI), Yann Hnaissilin (Delegate – NCL)

Apologies received from Robin Bryant (Life Member – Oceania / AUS), Sandra Low (GUM), Joe Hitchcock (NZL)

**MOVED:** Ian Willans **SECONDED:** Johanna Kou  
“THAT the apologies be accepted”. Carried unanimously

Geraldine Brown moved that speaking rights be extended to Badminton Oceania staff and to any observers.

Agreed by consensus

**4. Opening remarks from the Chair**

Confirmation of Voting rights

Executive Board Members	one vote each
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Member countries in attendance	one vote each
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Executive Board members cannot place an Executive board vote and a country vote  
Full voting rights extended to New Caledonia as an Associate member

Agreed by consensus

Scrutineers – Tom Leonard & Nadia Bleaken appointed

**MOVED:** Leo Cucuel

**SECONDED:** Nigel Skelt

"That Tom Leonard and Nadia Bleaken are appointed as Scrutineers".

Carried unanimously

Any additional items for General Business were called for:

NZ – World Junior Championships

#### **5. Confirmation of minutes of Annual General Meeting held on 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2019**

**MOVED:** Johanna Kou   **SECONDED:** Glenn Cox

"THAT the minutes of the 2019 AGM be received and adopted as a true and accurate record of the meeting".

Carried unanimously

#### **6. Matters Arising**

All action items from the Annual General Meeting were completed.

#### **7. Annual Report and Audited Statement of Accounts**

Presentation of Annual Report

Geraldine spoke to her report and noted how pleased she was of Badminton Oceania and the region. She congratulated the staff on their hard work.

Julie Carrel spoke to the rest of the report and presented information on staff and programs.

Presentation and Approval of Financial Statements

Julie Carrel presented the Financial Report – no questions received.

#### **Approval of Annual Report, Statement of Accounts and Ratification of 2020 Budget**

**MOVED:** Nigel Skelt   **SECONDED:** Nynette Sass

"THAT the Annual Report of 2019 be received".

Carried unanimously

**MOVED:** Glenn Cox   **SECONDED:** Andrew Greenway

"THAT the Financial Statements of 2019 be received".

Carried unanimously

Julie Carrel summarised the budget for 2020.

Ian Willans queried how Para badminton could grow as there is no additional funding for Para badminton for the forthcoming year - discussion ensued with Julie confirming the BWF provides USD50,000 per year to us for Para badminton participation and development activities with BOC to determine the best way to utilise this money. There is an onus on each country to secure funding themselves within country for their own programmes and players.

**MOVED by consensus**

“THAT the 2020 budget be ratified”.

Carried unanimously

**8: Presentation of 2020 Plans**

Julie Carrel presented plans for the 2020 year

These plans were submitted to the BWF by 01 December and have subsequently been approved

Discussion:

Leo Cucuel - noted regarding Air Badminton, that it would also bring challenges, particularly in regard to facilities for traditional badminton as they will now face the comments that they do not need indoor facilities as they can play outdoors.

There is an awareness that there are copies of the outdoor shuttle available in the marketplace. Be aware – these do not have the same aerodynamic properties of the “real” Air badminton shuttle

Thomas Ngauru – Air badminton will be good for the Cook Islands, especially in the outer islands with no facilities – traditional game will still be indoors with facilities in Rarotonga.

No further questions

**9: Constitutional Amendments**

The BOC Executive Board (EB) have met in detail on the ‘BOC constitution notable changes’ and are happy with it, as has BWF – mirrors the BWF constitution.

The BWF advised some additional changes to the constitution which had been previously distributed.

There were no questions or discussion regarding the new and updated constitution therefore the adoption of the constitution was put to a vote.

**MOVED:** Ian Willans **SECONDED** Leody Vainikolo

“That the proposed constitution with changes as advised is adopted”

Carried unanimously

The BWF has asked that all Continents implement the new constitution from 22 May 2020. To this end a Special General meeting will need to be called to agree that the constitution will be in effect from 22 May 2020. The SGM may be voted via email and requires 45 days' notice. Information will be forwarded to all countries in due course.

**PROPOSED:** Glenn Cox **SECONDED:** Leody Vainikolo

"That a Special General Meeting is called to confirm the commencement date of the constitution"

All agreed

## **10. Election of Officers**

There were 3 vacancies on the Executive Board for new Board Members for a 4-year term. 3 nominations were received and therefore these 3 were duly elected:

Karyn Gibson (FIJ)

Johanna Kou (NCL – current Executive Board member)

Ngaoa Ranginui (COK – current Executive Board member)

Geraldine thanked Leody Vainikolo for her time and contribution given during her time on the Executive Board.

## **11. Appointment of Auditor**

David Turner & Associates

**MOVED:** Nigel Skelt **SECONDED:** Nynette Sass

"THAT David Turner & Associates be re-appointed as the Auditors for Badminton Oceania".

Carried unanimously

## **12. Other Business**

Julie gave an update on BWF AGM requirements. This will be held in Aarhus, Denmark and the BWF provides a travel grant & accommodation subsidy for 3 nights, BOC office will assist Pacific member countries with bookings.

Please start thinking about who will attend on your behalf. In addition to the BWF members forum and the BWF AGM there will be the opportunity to meet with Julie and Nadia. This meeting will discuss progress with MA Agreements; the person who attends needs to be up to date with what is happening in country and be able to discuss this with our staff.

Ian Willans – NZL spoke about the World Junior Championships in September in Auckland, NZ. The tournament is fully funded and BNZ is grateful to their long-term partners & sponsorship (almost 1 million NZD). NZL look forward to welcoming everyone to NZL WJC September 2020.

The 2021 BWF AGM is likely to be in China aligned with the Sudirman Cup and as such it is likely the BOC AGM will be in conjunction with this. The Executive Board will make a decision on this and will confirm to our members at a time later in the year.

Meeting closed at 12:08pm

**ACTIONS FROM 2020 AGM:**

<b>Topic</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>
2021 AGM	Executive Board to confirm where this will take place	Secretary General

**Heather Robson remembered:**

Heather Robson passed away in Akl, NZ on Thursday 10 October 2019, age 91

Heather was very well known and respected in both the badminton and tennis worlds both as a player and administrator

In tennis she competed twice at Wimbledon, in 1954 and 1957, reaching the 3<sup>rd</sup> round of singles and mixed doubles (with husband Jeff) and the quarterfinals of the WD; she won 8 New Zealand national tennis titles

Heather did not start playing badminton until she was 20 years old, however she went on to win 7 NZ Women's Singles titles – a record which still stands today, 9 WD titles and 3 MX titles. In 1954 she reached the semi-finals of the WS at the All England Championships. Following her playing career she became a respected administrator including President of BNZ for 2 years and serving on the BNZ management committee for 13 years. She was the Technical Director for the 1990 CG in Auckland

Heather was pivotal in the creation and development of Badminton Oceania along with Roy Ward – Australia

She was the inaugural President 1987 – 2000, currently the longest serving Continental Confederation President.

In 1998 Heather received an International Badminton Federation Meritorious Service award and in 2012 she was awarded a Lifetime Achievement Award by the BWF

In 2001 she was awarded a Member of the NZ Order of Merit for services to racket sports in the New Year's Honours list

Heather was not afraid to speak her mind and was a strong woman for her time; whilst she would not call herself a feminist, she was very supportive of women's rights and of Women in Badminton, now days called Gender Equity.

The POWA Award – President of Oceania Women's Award, honours Heather. This award is to give recognition to someone who has contributed significantly to the promotion, development and advancement of badminton for women throughout Oceania. This award will be presented to the 2019 recipient on Wednesday next week following the individual championships

Heather was an invaluable treasure to the badminton world, bringing her extreme passion and expertise to the sport. She was a highly devoted member to Badminton Oceania; she always showed great interest in our organisation and received a lot of pleasure seeing our growth and achievements. She will be missed but not forgotten by the badminton community throughout NZ, Oceania and the world