

MINUTES
of the
BADMINTON OCEANIA CONFEDERATION
38th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
held at Tefang Portman Seven Stars Bay Hotel & Resort, Xiamen, China

09:30am Thursday 24th April 2025

1. President's Welcome and Opening Remarks

Loke Poh Wong welcomed those attending the meeting and acknowledged the Member Associations, Partners and Sponsors for their contributions to badminton in Oceania.

A tribute was made to Geraldine Brown, acknowledging her 20 years of service with Badminton Oceania as an Executive Board Member, President and BWF Vice President – Oceania.

A moment of silence was held for those who had passed away during the last year – Cedric Baxter (Founding Member), Dr Amanaki Fakakovikaetau (Tonga) and Kenny Yew (AUS – Umpire).

2. Procedures for the AGM

Julie Carrel outlined the procedures for the Meeting and the voting process.

3. Roll Call of Officers and Delegates and Apologies

Executive Board

Loke Poh Wong (President), Glenn Cox (Deputy President), Johanna Kou, Ngaoa Ranginui, Merlie Tolentino

Badminton Oceania Staff

Julie Carrel - Secretary General,
Lynne Nixey – Administration Manager
Sam Kreutze – Participation and Development Manager,
Laurel Vagi - PNG Administration Officer

Member Associations

Julie McDonald (AUS – VD), Tjtte Weistra (AUS – D), David Carrington (AUS – O), Maneatapu Maretapu (COK – VD), Agnes Fremlin (FIJ – VD), Sandra Low (GUM – VD), Kerrin Harrison (NZL – VD), Roselyn Monroyo (NMP – VD), Jerry Tan (NMP – D), Christy Villaflor (NMP – O), Kinivanagi Karo (PNG – VD), Dino John Smith (SAM – VD), Thinking Ngiusanga Maitaki (SOL – VD), Metuisela Vainikolo (TGA – VD)

VD = Voting Delegate, D = Delegate, O = Observer

Guest
Wojtek Czyz

BWF Staff
Sharon Springer – Head of Educational Programs
Sahir Edoo – Head of Development Projects

Apologies
Robin Bryant (Life Member), Stephen Nelson (NZL), Nicolas Mouret (TAH),
Tovia Faalo Tovia (TUV)

Speaking Rights
Speaking rights were extended to all Badminton Oceania staff, BWF staff and Observers.

4. Appointment of Scrutineers

It was proposed that Sharon Springer and Sahir Edoo (BWF) were appointed as Scrutineers.

There being no objections, the proposed panel of scrutineers was approved by the AGM.

5. Minutes

To confirm the Minutes of the 37th Annual General Meeting held as a hybrid meeting on 25th April 2024.

There being no objections, the Minutes of the 2024 AGM were approved.

Moved: Julie McDonald (AUS), Seconded: Maneatapu Maretapu (COK) - Carried

6. Matters Arising from Minutes

Nil

7. Annual Report

To receive the 2024 Annual Report

The SG gave an overview of the report which is available on the website and was distributed at the meeting in hard copy.

There being no objections, the 2024 Annual Report was adopted

Moved: Roslyn Monroyo (NMP), Seconded Thinking Ngiusanga Maitaki (SOL) - Carried

The Meeting paused at this stage to welcome President-elect of the Badminton World Federation Khunying Patama Leeswadtrakul to the meeting. She welcomed

delegates to the meeting and reconfirmed the strong partnership between the BWF and BOC.

The meeting then continued.

8 To receive and approve the 2024 Financial Statements

Income exceeded budget, primarily due to favourable exchange rates

Because of increased income, there was increased expenditure particularly in player development and events

Surplus achieved has been allocated to reserves as per currently policy

BOC is in a healthy financial position with total cumulative funds of \$638,000

Julie McDonald queried if BOC had a policy on hedging USDs. Although there is not a policy, funds come into the BOC USD account and are held until there is a favourable exchange rate aligned with the budget before they are transferred into our operating accounts

There being no objections, the 2024 Financial Statements were adopted by the AGM.

Moved: Julie McDonald (AUS) Seconded: Glenn Cox (EB) – Carried

9. Appointment of Auditor

To approve the appointment of David Turner & Associates as the 2025 Auditors.

There being no objections, David Turner & Associates were appointed as Auditor for 2025.

Moved: Agnes Fremlin (FIJ), Seconded: Maneatapu Maretapu (COK) - Carried

10. Annual Budget

The Annual Budget for 2025 as approved by the Executive Board was presented by the Secretary General aligned with strategic priorities.

There have been some changes to the BWF grant distribution, giving more flexibility around expenditure. There is a projected surplus for 2025 of NZ\$21,500.

11. Presentation of the 2025 – 2028 Strategic Plan

The Strategic Plan for 2025 – 2028 was presented by the Secretary General.

The plan is available on the BOC website and will be circulated to all Member Associations.

12. Constitutional Amendments / Motions for which notice has been given

The Secretary General presented the constitution proposal; explaining that the amendments were required to align with the new New Zealand Incorporated Societies Act.

Following consultation with a Lawyer, the Badminton Oceania Secretary General, Executive Board and the Oceania Member Countries, the Executive Board proposal is:

That the updated constitution as presented is adopted to align with the New Zealand Incorporated Societies Act 2022. Acceptance of these amendments will align Badminton Oceania with the new Incorporated Societies Act of 2022 and enable Badminton Oceania to re-register as an Incorporated Society in New Zealand.

Moved: Glenn Cox (EB), Seconded: Ngaoa Ranginui (EB)

The above changes were adopted by the AGM via majority vote (15 for 0 against).

The BOC office will now lodge these changes with New Zealand Incorporated Societies and work towards re-registering as an Incorporated Society under the new act. It was noted by the SG that if the changes are not approved by NZ Incorporated Societies, we may need to make additional changes which will require a Special General Meeting later in the year.

13. Election of Executive Board Members

Four nominations received for two vacant positions on the Executive Board. These are to complete vacant positions for the term ending 2026.

Nicolas Mouret (TAH) has withdrawn his nomination.

David Carrington (AUS), Sandra Low (GUM) and Kerrin Harrison (NZL) all spoke to their nominations.

A secret ballot was undertaken.

David Carrington (AUS) and Sandra Low (GUM) were duly elected.

Agreed that the voting papers are to be destroyed.

Election of BWF Vice President - Oceania

One nomination received and therefore elected for remainder of current term ending 2027

Loke Poh Wong (AUS)

14. Other Business

Secretary General gave an update on upcoming events in 2025:
VICTOR Oceania Junior Championships – Saipan, June
Oceania Para Badminton Championships and Australian Para International – Bendigo, October
6 Grade 3 tournaments in Oceania for 2025
Australian Open (World Tour 500) – Sydney, November

The Pacific Games are being held in Tahiti in July 2027. For badminton to be included, there must be a minimum of 8 registered countries by end of June 2025. If there are not 8 countries registered, then badminton will not be included in the Games. The SG strongly urged all members to register their interest to play in the Games with their NOC by end of September to ensure we meet these minimum criteria, if a country subsequently withdraws that is fine, it is the July 2025 date and number which is of high importance at this stage.

Badminton has a goal to be included in the Pacific Games as a core sport and to do so will need to include NZL and AUS. The current proposal is to include teams of u21 or u23 players who have not previously represented their country in a team event; these criteria to be confirmed after further discussions with NZL and AUS.

Heather Robson Award

For recognition of an individual's outstanding contribution to the promotion and development of badminton in the Oceania region.

There were 6 nominations.

The winner was Johanna Kou, New Caledonia

The Secretary General made a presentation to Lynne Nixey as she is leaving Badminton Oceania in May to work for the BWF as Head of Technical Officials

Julie McDonald who is standing for BWF Council for the Oceania position addressed the meeting and spoke to her nomination.

There being no other General Business, Loke Poh thanked all of those present and declared the meeting closed

Meeting finished: 10:56am

Minutes approved

Signed:

Name: Loke Poh Wong, President – Badminton Oceania

Date: