



## **NOTES ON MEETING OF 22 MAY 2008 BETWEEN REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ACTCAUC AND OFFICERS OF THE ACTCA RE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ACTCAUC WORKING GROUP REPORT ON *THE FUNCTIONS AND STRUCTURE OF THE ACTCAUC EXECUTIVE*<sup>1</sup>**

**Meeting held:** Office of ACTCA CEO, Bradman Pavilion, Manuka Oval, 1615, 22 May 2008.

**Present:** ACTCAUC: Andrew Shelley (Chair), Brian Lawrence (Director of Umpiring), Andy Turner (Secretary)

ACTCA: Mark Vergano (CEO), Martin Garoni, Chris Doyle

### **1. Timetable issues**

Whilst agreeing that the focus of discussion was *not* drafting changes to the Constitution, it was **noted** that any amendments to the ACTCA Constitution will need to be ready for consideration by the ACTCA Board at its meeting scheduled for 25 July 2008. Hence, timing difficulties will arise, with the Council's annual meeting being scheduled for 21 July.

It was **agreed** that the Secretary of the Council would write to the Secretary of the ACTCA by no later than 18 July 2008 setting out the general direction of any proposed amendments to the ACTCA Constitution, and undertaking to consult about the drafting of detailed proposals for amendments in time for the ACTCA AGM in early September 2008.

### **2. Coverage and title of the Council**

It was readily **agreed** that there are no difficulties with reforming the Council to make scorers eligible for membership and changing its title to something along the lines of 'ACTCA Umpires and Scorers Council': the Council's umpires and scorers should proceed with 'making it happen'.

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<sup>1</sup> See resolution from ACTCAUC General Meeting of 28 April 2008 and consequent letter from Secretary to ACTCA CEO of 5 May 2008. These notes provide neither formal 'minutes' nor a 'transcript' of this meeting.

### **3. Interests of Cricket Australia (CA)**

Discussion **noted**:

- a) there was nothing to be gained from the ACTCA/Council debating/revising the 'four pillars of cricket' (high performance, education and training, building the brand, working with stakeholders) developed by CA;
- b) the 'four pillars' were a good starting point for considering the functions of a professional cricketing organisation, but there was a need to be realistic in designing an executive management structure for a volunteer organisation of the size of the current ACTCAUC: for example, it could be argued that 'building the brand' was a responsibility of CA rather than the ACTCAUC, and there was probably significant overlap within the ACTCAUC between the roles of a Secretary and a 'Manager, Working with Stakeholders';
- c) the duties of the current position of the 'Director of Umpiring' may well be substantially affected by pending reforms to umpire training/coaching, selection and management being promoted by CA, and any detailed consideration of how these changes are best accommodated within the ACT is best done once advice is received from Andrew Scotford (CA's Umpire Manager) – Brian Lawrence expects this within the next few days following a delay after AS' recent family bereavement and illness preventing BL from attending the most recent CA umpiring meeting.

It was **agreed** that the potential impact on ACTCA/ACTCAUC of CA's umpiring management reforms would be considered again following receipt of advice from Andrew Scotford (see also paras 4 (e) and (f) below).

### **4. Implications of ACTCA Strategic Directions**

Discussion **noted**:

- a) there are complex issues (respective expectations, capacity, rewards etc) warranting continuing attention underpinning the development and/or maintenance of mutually beneficial working relationships between a professional ACTCA (and CA) and volunteer Council;
- b) expanding participation in 'community cricket' and the *recruitment and training* of Level 0/1 umpires (and other officials?) to support that expansion is a responsibility of ACTCA (there was extensive discussion of some of the enduring issues, such as qualification requirements for junior umpires and the legislative requirements for such things as police checks of adults working with children);
- c) there is a potential role for the Council in providing the practical mechanisms (including a community of colleagues, information such as an expanded audience for an enhanced *The Finger*, 'train the trainer' approaches to development, 'career paths' etc) for *retaining* those officials within the ACT 'cricketing community'; how this could be done, and its relationship to the development of Level 2 umpires, may warrant further consideration by the Council;

- d) there are issues of mutual interest concerning the training and development of umpires after they have obtained a Level 2 qualification (the minimum qualification for appointment as an umpire in grade cricket, whilst noting that CA classify grade cricket as the top of the 'community cricket tree' rather than as the base of 'high performance cricket pyramid'); for example, there is scope for the Council to specify performance requirements for State/First Grade Panel and/or any other umpires, such as attendance at specified Comets' training sessions, and for the ACTCA to contribute coaching assistance (eg review of videotaped decisions) for those umpires; this might have the added advantage of demonstrating to players the 'training effort' invested by umpires;
- e) the continuing access of the Council's "State Panel" umpires to expanded representative opportunities remains uncertain (see para 3(c) above): in such circumstances, the 'reward for effort' of maintaining State and First grade panels is an open question: it may be the case that increased effort needs to be devoted to managing the expectations of recruits/existing members that the umpiring of First Grade cricket is the 'pinnacle' for the great majority of Council members;
- f) the roles of CA/ACTCA/ACTCAUC in the process for appointing the Director of Umpiring (by whatever title) require further consideration once the role of the position is clarified (see also para 3(c) above).

It was **agreed** that in terms of the structure set out in the ACTCAUC's Secretary's letter to the ACTCA CEO of 5 May:

- i. the positions of Chair, Deputy Chair, Secretary and Finance Officer are *not* contentious;
- ii. the two positions of Manager, Building the Brand and Manager, Working with Stakeholders may better be devoted to other duties (see para 3(b) above, and (iii) below); and
- iii. arrangement's for the Council's Executive management of 'high performance' (including the role of Director of Umpiring) and 'education and training' at grade and community (levels 0-2) require further consideration following the availability of the advice from CA's Andrew Scotford referred to in paragraph 3(c) above; and
- iv. Brian Lawrence is to advise Mark Vergano and Andy Turner when he has received advice from Andrew Scotford.

Andy Turner  
Hon Secretary  
ACTCAUC  
23 May 2008