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29th July 2024

Badminton Tasmania
3 Sherwin Court
ROSETTA TAS 7010

Dear Badminton Tasmania

Open Letter RE: Affiliation Arrangements

As we are all aware, the STBA are holding a Special General Meeting on the 6th of August, to both update our constitution which is overdue, but also to ask our members a resolution on affiliation.

While we acknowledge the potential ramifications of any changes (which would ultimately fall on the BT board to decide), it is concerning the lack of contact from the state body. We want to identify the following key dates and outcomes:

1. The issue was first raised with Badminton Australia on the 24/06, and during a further phone call on the 03/07 where it was advised discussions would occur between the NSO and SSO.
2. We then advised BT of the committee's decision to proceed to the SGM on the 08/07, outlining the issues and requesting discussion, after hearing nothing further from either the state or national body.
3. After an email exchange with BT on 11/07 and 12/07, you advised that the board would not be able to get back to us until after 31/07.
4. The STBA provided information to members on the 16/07.

It is disappointing that no board member reached out to the STBA to discuss the issues any further, including ways to manage affiliation moving forward.

The STBA committee have concerns about the level of fees payable, and to assist in negotiating better affiliation outcomes, are asking our members whether they will allow us to remove the requirement to affiliate. We acknowledge that this request is confronting, but the committee wish to confirm our determination to retain affiliation regardless of whether we are required to do so or not.

As per communication sent to members and BT, we want to reaffirm that:

1. Resolution 1 regarding the STBA constitution has nothing to do with disaffiliating.
2. If members wish to retain affiliation in the current arrangement, we will honour their wishes if they vote against Resolution 2.
3. If members approve Resolution 2 regarding affiliation, this will not automatically translate to the association disaffiliating.
4. If approved, the STBA's priority as advised is to negotiate a workable relationship to continue affiliation to the benefit of STBA and BT, which can happen concurrently with the meeting.

To expedite the process, we wish to provide information on what we feel would be an appropriate fee based on the structure of badminton across Tasmania. Calculation has been provided on page 2 to support this request, however in short, we request our affiliation fee to be reduced to **\$14,704** per year, plus tournament levies and insurance costs, but can be reviewed based on the calculations used and the operation costs of BT.

We acknowledge that calculations are based on information the STBA has on hand which may not be 100% accurate. The information used is from correspondence over the last 12 months, including correspondence from:

- The national body on the increase to the state affiliation fees;
- The state body regarding the 23/24 budget; and
- The state body on the affiliation fees of all regions.

We can continue to discuss benefits that would assist the Constituent Association Members In future discussions but believe in the short term a fee reduction as outlined would represent fair fees.

We thank you for your consideration on this and would appreciate a response to assist in retaining a workable relationship regardless of the outcome of the SGM.

Kind regards



Matt Stewart | President

on behalf of the Southern Tasmanian Badminton Association

Calculation of Affiliation Fee Reduction Request

These figures are from the recent correspondence from BA and existing expenditure budgets of BT:

Item	Budget	STBA Split
Badminton Australia Affiliation Fee	\$ 20,448	50%
Honorariums	TBD ²	1/3 rd
State Team Entry Fees	TBD ³	50%
Miscellaneous ¹	\$ 3,800	50%
Total	\$ 24,248⁴	\$ 12,124⁴
Estimated Total (based on 23/24 figures)	\$ 30,508	\$ 14,704

¹ Miscellaneous includes \$2,000 for BT travel to BA AGM, \$1,200 for Office Supplies, \$400 for an Auditor, and \$200 for website costs, as per budget provided.

² Honorariums are proposed by BT, and accepted by CAMs. CAMs should pay this equally given it is approved by them. Honorariums are currently \$3,500 per year.

³ State Team Entry Fees are based on teams submitted. Latest budget for State Teams is \$2,760 per year.

⁴ Does not include honorariums or state team fees.

The recommended split puts more costs onto the STBA than any other region, and reflects a willingness to absorb more due to our position.

Addressing the Deficit

- BT charge Tournament Levies. STBA paid \$224 for the STBA Invitational but have assumed a lower fee of \$175 across all tournaments.
- BT run the GOSEN Teams and Australian Multicultural tournaments, Greater Northern Championships and the City of Launceston under the BT Participation Program, and outreach programs funded through Sporting Schools, BA, and the State and Federal Governments with the following budget:

Detail	Annual Amount
Income	\$ 120,600
Expenses	\$ 116,471
Profit/Loss	\$ 4,129

While we understand that income is variable, it is good to see that programs run by BT are run at a profit.

A final calculation of the operating costs, considering affiliation fees, tournament levies, and BT profit, is shown below. While the end result shows only a

Item	Annual Amount
STBA Affiliation Fee	\$ 14,780
NWBA Affiliation Fee	\$ 7,788
GNBA Affiliation Fee	\$ 3,069
Tournament Sanction Fees	\$ 1,925
BT Program Profit	\$ 4,129
Subtotal	\$ 31,691
Operating Costs	\$ 30,060
Surplus/Shortfall	\$ 1,631