

**Central Coast
Leagues Club
Bridge Club**



NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2010

**Welcome to the January edition of the Central Coast Leagues Club
Bridge Club Newsletter**

The festive season has come to a close; for those members of our club that want to compete at a higher level the ABF Summer Festival of Bridge in Canberra beckons followed by the 49th QBA Gold Coast Congress at the end of February. Wherever you are playing I hope that you will be polite to both your partner and the opposition and I wish you the best of luck; that all your finesses work and that those dodgy slams roll home!

When this club was formed in 1987 it was responsible for the collection of the Bridge Club annual membership fee and, where necessary, the ABF and NSWBA affiliation fees. The Leagues Club took over this responsibility for some years but now that their membership fee is to be paid in the month of the member's birth it is now our responsibility. We have to pay affiliation fees of \$8 per 'Home Club' member to the NSWBA by the end of January based upon our 'Home Club' membership at the end of October 2009. Then we have to pay \$12 per 'Home Club' member to the ABF in early April based upon our 'Home Club' membership at the end of March. The Treasurer, with help from committee members and directors, has been collecting the renewals since the start of December and so far about half of the membership has renewed. This means

that we have collected enough money to pay the NSWBA before the end of January for our current membership - if we pay after the end of January we would have to pay an extra dollar per member.
Colin Mitchell, President.

Masterpoint Promotions

Congratulations to the following members who achieved a new rank in the quarter ending 31 December 2009.

Margaret Douglas	Graduate	Carol Farrell	** Local
Jan Kukura	State	Patricia Kull	National
Margot Williams	*Local	Ruth Zachert	*State

McCutcheon Trophy

The McCutcheon Trophy is awarded at the end of each calendar year to the player who accumulates the highest total of masterpoints during the calendar year. Nobody from our area has ever come anywhere near winning it but there are also awards for each rank and sometimes local players get a mention. This year Louis Koolen ran eighth in the National Masters list with 93.50 mps; in the Gold Life Masters list Garry Clarke ran third with 166.46, and Shirley Crockett ran tenth with 126.66.

Program for 2010

The new program is now available. One mistake has been discovered so far (only one?) - the Annual General Meeting will be held on August 14 (not August 8) starting at 10:30 am.

There are some changes to the program compared with last year. The majority of the major events that were played on Saturdays have been moved to those week days where there is generally a large attendance. Thus the Club Swiss Pairs will be held on Fridays, May 7 & 14; the Club Pairs on Wednesdays, October 20 & 27 and the Club Teams on Fridays, November 12 & 19. There will be one GNOT Club Selection event in February and one GNP Club Selection event in May.

Partnership Service. Ring Elizabeth Lawrence on **4344 1785** if your regular partner is unable to play and you want a game. Elizabeth voluntarily runs our partnership search service.

Stand By Service. There is a stand by player for each session (except Monday evenings) if you are suddenly without a partner. This service is for emergencies only - it is not to be used on a regular basis.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS - JANUARY

Tuesday 26 Australia Day Pairs (R)

FORTHCOMING EVENTS—FEBRUARY

Monday 1 Monthly Shield (C)

Thursday 4 Interclub Teams (R)

Saturday 6 & 13 Club Mixed Pairs Championship

Monday 8, 15 & 22 GNOT Club Selection Event (G)

The Interclub Teams, Club Mixed Pairs and GNOT events all require pre-entry. Full details can be found on the club notice board.

CONGRATULATIONS to the following members who have won recent club events.

Club Teams Barbara Grant & Louis Koolen
Vicky & Bob Morris

Club Pairs Barbara Grant & Louis Koolen

Foundation Cup Helen Gulliver & Toni Dixon

Restricted Teams Norm Berger & Pam Townsend
Elaine McGorm & Pam Harris

President's Cup Vicky & Bob Morris

Summer Pairs Camilla Barlow & David Bowerman

Remembrance Day Pairs Patricia Bowles & Graham Winder

Christmas Pairs Marie Purkiss & Graham Winder

Monthly Shield Lyn Pears & Nancye Joss

Lessons for beginners

On Friday March 12 a free 'Introduction to Bridge' presentation will be given by Lorraine Harkness. Attendees will be given a brief introduction to bridge concepts and then given eight hands to play. If you have any family or friends who have said that they always wanted to learn to play get them to come along to this presentation - they will soon find out if bridge is a game that they will enjoy.

This will be followed by a set of six lessons at the club with Lorraine starting on Friday March 19. Supervised play for several weeks will follow the lessons.

Earlier in the year the Tuggerah Lakes Kincumber Community College will be offering bridge lessons with Wendy Mitchell starting on February 9 from 10 am to midday and February 10 from 7 to 9 pm. Bookings must be made with the college at 4353 0017 or via the internet at www.tlcc.nsw.edu.au.

Hand from the New Years Cup

Board 5, N/S vul, Dealer N.

I was sitting East and picked up this hand: ♠KQ853 ♥K9 ♦KJT ♣T98. With 12 HCP and a balanced hand I opened one spade. LHO bid two hearts and MFP (My Favourite Partner) responded with four spades. This is not a 'shutout' bid but as I had a minimum hand I passed. LHO led the heart queen and as MFP placed dummy on the table she muttered something like "don't make too many". Of course I did as the full hand was :

	♠J	
	♥T76	
	♦7652	
	♣AQ632	
♠AT9762		♠KQ853
♥A54		♥K9
♦A83		♦KJT
♣5		♣T98
	♠J4	
	♥QJ832	
	♦Q94	
	♣KJ74	

I won the heart in hand; drew trumps (didn't take long did it?), played the heart ace, trumped a heart and led a club. This was won by South who, after looking at dummy which contained only trumps and diamonds led a diamond giving me the twelfth trick. A club return would have been safer and given me the task of finding the diamond Queen. Given the bidding I

would have placed the diamond queen with South and led the diamond jack, ducking in dummy if the queen was not played by South.

The slam had only been bid and made once by Gwen White & Graham Winder. A combined 24 HCP with a singleton in one of the hands will not usually give twelve tricks, despite the superb trump fit. With 11 trumps the theory is that there will be eleven tricks. CM