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President: Di March

Secretary: Anne Grayden

Treasurer: Ronnie Ng

## Tournament Organisers Report.

4 August 2018

The program of bridge provided for members is organised in the last three months of the calendar year. A Program sub - committee spends many hours to provide a program of bridge events that will appeal to all of our members of whatever rank - from the single session walk-in pairs to events that will give our members the opportunity to play in the finals of State and National events. I have, somewhat laboriously, calculated that if one of our members had played every session at the club in the last year he/she would have played 364 sessions! If they had qualified for every Regional Final [Country Teams Championship - 2 sessions - & Grand National Open teams - 2] they could have played 368 sessions. If he/she had also played in all of the local congresses - [BWBC in July (4 sessions), Central Coast in March (5 sessions) and in November (2 sessions) they would have played **379** sessions without leaving the Central Coast!!

The number of Club Championship events that the club can offer it's members is six. Those that we conduct are - Pairs, Mixed Pairs, Graded Pairs, Swiss Pairs, Teams, Restricted Teams and Teams of Three. In the early years of the club the Pairs and Teams were run over three sessions on Saturday afternoons [to allow for those club members who worked during the week!]. The Teams Championship is still run over three sessions; the other championship events are run over two sessions. Astute members will have noticed that the list has seven championships - some years ago the Mixed Pairs was removed from the list and the Mixed Pairs Championship is now awarded to the highest ranked pair in the State Mixed Pairs Club Selection event.

The club ran four qualifying and selection events which provide our members with the opportunity to play in State or National Finals. The first of these was the State Open Pairs Club Selection in August. The club was willing to pay the entry fees of four pairs to the State Final in November at the NSWBA - only three pairs accepted the offer and one of those dropped out at the last moment. The other Central Coast clubs were well represented but none of the pairs qualified for the final. In the Country Pairs Final Julie Sadler and Anne Grayden played leapfrog all day with a South Coast pair but when the music stopped they were 4 mps behind first place.

The State Mixed Pairs Club Selection was held in March. Three pairs accepted the invitation to play in the State Final in May - Adele Mills & Stewart Duxbury, Henrietta Hohnen & Austin Driscoll and Wendy & Colin Mitchell. Henrietta & Austin played in the Country Pairs Final but [in racing parlance] did not run a place!

The Country Teams Championship Regional Final was held in June 2018 at our rooms. Eight teams played to represent our Region at the Zone Final. The team of Jaan Oitmaa, Sylvia Foster, Lorraine Lindsay & Karen Ody came third in the Zonal Final held at the end of June.

The Regional Final of the Grand National Open Teams was held at our club in August 2017. There were ten teams - 2 teams from our club - winners were Di Coats, Diana Ellis, Chris Hannan & Jan Clarke representing BWBC. They represented the Central Coast Region at the National Final in Tweed Heads in late November.

Two events were aimed specifically at the novice players in the club. The first of these was the UHMP [Under a **H**undred **M**aster**p**oints] played in September and October at the maximum of 6 nominated sessions. This was the third year of the event. 13 pairs competed in the Local Final at our club in November earning Red masterpoints at State Championship level.

The other event was the Australia Novice Pairs - for players with less than 100 mps. Scored across Australia six of our pairs came in the top half of the field with Margaret Campbell & Alison Mackey coming 73<sup>rd</sup>.

The number of red mp sessions that the club can run in a calendar year is dependent on the number of green mps awarded by the club in the previous year ending 30 September. We received 18 sessions for  
TournamentOrganiserReport2017

the 2018 calendar year - these are the one-winner sessions such as New Year's Cup, Winter Pairs etc that do not require pre-entry. At the moment it appears that we will lose one session next year as we have not issued sufficient green mps. Running Howell movements rather than Mitchell where possible produces more green masterpoints which is advantageous for our members as well as the club.

And finally - **The Directors**. Without them we would not be able to enjoy our bridge. They had to apply the new Laws that came into force on 1 August 2017- prior to that they attended training sessions and workshops. There were many changes affecting some of the more usual transgressions, such as insufficient bids, and there was the occasional long search through the rather handsome rule book before the correct decision was given - they must have been correct because as far as I know there have been no appeals! Articles were published in the Newsletters of August, September and October for our members to read.

In the technical area of scoring there was the occasional minor glitch with Compscore but phone help was always at hand - initially from our Chief Director Ronnie and if he was unable to help [this did not happen very often] then from Peter Busch [the creator of Compscore] was and if he was unavailable the National Director Development Officer, John McIlrath was. So many thanks to Chief Director Ronnie Ng, George Boettiger, Louis Koolen, Leon Babinski, Matt Raj Mal, Julie Sadler, Alan Bustany and David Bowerman. Ronnie resigned as Chief Director recently - he is now working fulltime daytime and is also our very efficient Treasurer. Alan Bustany has been appointed as Acting Chief Director and has been coping well!.

And in conclusion here is a little table showing membership & percentages:

Masterpoints	Members	Percentage	
Under 100	79	41.4%	Novice
Under 300	117	61%	Restricted
Under 400	131	69%	Intermediate
Over 400		31%	

Looking ahead I would like to see higher participation in the special events that are run for Novice, Restricted & Intermediate players.

*Colin Mitchell*

Colin Mitchell,  
4 August 2018.