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TOURNAMENT ORGANISER REPORT 2022

2021-2022 started with lockdown in progress. We held our Congress as a pairs event only on StepBridge with a total of 80 pairs. We had three sections – Open, Restricted and Novice, with prizes awarded in each section.

We commenced our RealBridge Tuesday and Thursday sessions in September 2021 with many thanks to Ronnie Ng for setting them up. We continue to hold Tuesday sessions with around 5 tables per session, but the last Thursday session was held on 14th July, due to a lack of patronage. We will trial Thursday afternoon face to face sessions from 4th August.

We re-commenced face-to-face sessions in October 2021, with a limit of 20 players per session. Masks were mandatory and each player was required to be double-vaccinated. On 8th December we held our Welcome Back to Bridge party. We had 12 tables for bridge, preceded by a delicious lunch.

In February the first Inter-Club Teams session was held since February 2019. It was held in the Parkview Room with 12 teams attending.

The inaugural Pauline Evans Trophy was held in March with 7 tables. This was restricted to players with less than 100 masterpoints, and it was good to see so many attend.

We have had very low attendance on Monday afternoons, and with great reluctance, have suspended sessions for now. We will review the possibility of re-instating the session in September when a survey will be sent out and a decision made at the Management Committee meeting in October.

Up until the end of June, we managed to run every event in our calendar. Unfortunately, in July we had to cancel both the GNOT Qualifier and the Club Restricted Teams due to only three teams entering for each event.

As a trial this year we have held our two-session events over a single day. This has not been totally successful, with issues arranging catering as no food can be brought into the Club. There have also been problems with some players being unable to play a full day of bridge, and with the day that was chosen (Thursday). It appears that we will have to revert to sessions over two weeks, but with less session times the calendar will be very full. I would be very happy to take any suggestions on how to schedule these events.

Julie Sadler Tournament Organiser