

**Welcome to the  
Central Coast  
Leagues Club  
Bridge Club**



**NEWSLETTER**

**AUGUST 2023**

**N**EW from  
the OLD  
COMMITTEE

The AGM was held in the Parkview Room on Friday July 28. Attendance was good at 33, with 14 apologies.

Dorothy Berzins, Life Member, conducted the elections. All members of the previous committee had been nominated and were re-elected unopposed.

General business was followed by hot finger-food before the Anniversary Pairs which were held in the same room, ably directed by Margaret Regan.

The raffle for the quilt was drawn. *See Page 8 for Names & Photos & more . . . .*

CCLCBC ANNUAL CONGRESS

Have you entered yet for our fifth weekend Congress ?

- Saturday, September 16  
(Swiss Pairs)
- Sunday, September 17  
(Swiss Teams)

There are cash prizes for Open, Restricted and Novice, with red points at Congress B4 level.

The new starting time is **10am** and instead of the Parkview Room we will play downstairs.

Our Director will be Alan Bustany.

Put these dates in your diary! Entry is at [www.myabf.com.au/events](http://www.myabf.com.au/events)

NB: If you have not already registered for *myabf* it is free and easy! Go to [myabf.com.au](http://myabf.com.au), click on Sign Up and follow instructions.

## RECENT RESULTS

<b>MONTHLY SHIELD (7)</b>	<b>(E) 6.5 tables</b>	<b>Wed Jul 5</b>
1st Louis Koolen & Alan Bustany		65.83%
2nd Dorothy Berzins & Di Coats		59.58%
3rd Leonie Wain & Richard Webb		56.67%

<b>CLUB RESTRICTED TEAMS</b>	<b>(C) 8 teams</b>	<b>Mon Jul 3 &amp; 10</b>
<i>Director:</i> Louis Koolen	<b>W D L</b>	<b>VPs</b>
1st Pauline Caust, Margaret Regan, Suzanne Harrison, Kevin Hughes	6 0 1	106.77
2nd Ian Cameron, George Connell, Peter Hall, Leon Babinski	6 0 1	93.04
3rd Helen White, Ruth Griffin, Agnes Marsh & Charles Adams	4 1 2	85.49

Teams played 7xboard matches, 3 matches the first week and 4 the second. After some initial support everyone coped well with keeping an individual score sheet and "scoring up" with their teammates after each match.

**Congratulations to the championship team - photos Page 7**

<b>ANNIVERSARY PAIRS</b>	<b>(R) 11 tables</b>	<b>Fri Jul 28</b>
1st Di Coats & Helen Milward		67.96%
2nd Anne Grayden & Julie Sadler		61.30%
3rd Alan Bustany & Chris Williams		60.74%

10x 3board rounds were played. Congratulations to the clear trophy winners. A very close contest for second and third!

## CONGRESSES Best Local Players

### CCBC NOVICE/RESTRICTED

Jul 8-9

**Novice:** First out of 22 pairs was member (long-time-no-see) Frank Pellarini playing with his brother, Paul Pellarini. Second were John Aldersley and Marcelle Goslin. Other members who played were Wendy Byrne, Graham Woof, Ruth Griffin & Kevin Hughes.

**Restricted:** 18 pairs competed. Our only members to participate were Margaret Regan and Pauline Caust

**Teams:** There were 14 teams. 5 of our members played in teams with members from other clubs.

## **BWBC CONGRESS**

Jul 22-23

**Open Pairs:** This event was well supported by our club members, won by Sharon & Greg Mayo who beat 2 strong Sydney pairs. In the top one-third were Jan Clarke & Chris Williams (6th), Chris Hannan & Martin Johnson (8th), Gary Heyting & Steph Mathews (10th) and Henrietta Hohnen & Wendy Mitchell (13th).

**Restricted/Novice Pairs:** Again a number of our members competed. Best performed were John Aldersley & Beryl Lowry (3rd, Restricted) and Graham Woof & Carolynne Mucharsky (2nd, Novice). The total of 22 pairs comprised 13 Restricted and 9 Novice.

**Teams:** One field of 23 Open, 5 Restricted and 2 Novice teams played 6x9-board matches. Our members starred, again beating strong visiting players, with first place to Jan Clarke, Chris Williams, Sally Clarke & Di Coats. Also in the top one-third were Hope Tomlinson, Barry Foster, Chris Hasemore & Martin Johnson (5th) and Sylvia Foster, Jaan Oitmaa, Helen Milward & Chris Hannan.

### **!! CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL !!**

## **STATE INDIVIDUAL ONLINE PAIRS**

Jul 29

Feeling a bit guilty because I should have been out gardening on the sunny day, I played in this event conducted on Bridge Base Online (BBO). Advertised as a fun event, with a set system card for all to follow, only 24 people competed.

It looked a bit daunting when I saw that Emerald Grand Masters, Pauline Gumby & Warren Lazer, were playing but they only finished in the middle of the field!

We played 3xboard rounds over 2 sessions with 18 different partners, all but 5 of the field. I played against 18 different people, some of course more than once. 13 players were from 6 different Sydney clubs, the rest from across the State, except for one from Queensland. Nearly all rankings were represented, from Bronze Local upwards.

The event was won by Marelle Irvine, Gold Life Master from Mudgee. 2nd was Rick Lu, State Master, Sydney Bridge Club, equal 3rd Yours Truly, Grand Master and Bev Furner, National Master from Griffith.

## BRIDGE EDUCATION



Three more of the recent graduates with Eunice (LtoR): Catherine Gordon, Gary Schroder, (Eunice), Geoff Wilcher

Eunice started her new Beginners course with 21 participants on Thursday, August 2, 6.15pm.

## HONESTY IS THE (BEST) ONLY POLICY

Following last month's article on alerts I'm sure you are all alerting promptly now!? If enquiring about an alerted call you should ask "what do you understand by that bid?" If asking at the end of an auction the question should be "could I have an explanation of the auction please?"

Experienced players: when you have been asked about an alerted bid, remember that it is wrong simply to name a convention – you must explain exactly what the bid means in your system, ie the suit(s) shown and length, point range, suits denied etc. For the benefit of newer players please explain *clearly, simply and slowly*.

Novice players: It is forbidden to have secret partnership agreements, so you are entitled to be told the meaning of an alerted bid as well as all the bids at the end of the auction. However, remember that you can only *ask when it is your turn to bid*. You should be given full disclosure so that you can draw conclusions as to the shape and strength of the opponents'

hands. You do not need to *understand* the conventions being used and should not question further provided a clear explanation has been given. You have been taught two of the most common conventions, Stayman and Jacoby transfers over majors, but there are many variations of these and there are hundreds of other conventions! You will learn the Blackwood convention in the Improvers Course and more when you reach the Intermediate stage.

Meanwhile, concentrate on your own bidding and play. If you have asked about the bidding, listen carefully to the explanation as this will assist you in defence which is the hardest aspect of the game. Below are a few hints on coping with some of the conventions and other bidding systems you may meet.

### 1. WHAT IS A CONVENTION?

A *convention* is defined as a bid/call that gives or requests information unrelated to the denomination named or not showing length in that suit.  
eg:

- 1C opening that may contain less than 3xclubs
- 2C (Stayman) in response to partner's 1NT opening

### 2. HOW CAN I COMPETE WITH CONVENTIONS?

Usually you need to find out what a *conventional* bid means in order to:

- Make an overcall – or not!
- Choose the best suit/card to lead
- Find the best defensive play

There is one situation in which you can be proactive:

If you DOUBLE a *conventional* bid you are telling partner that denomination is your suit. If on lead, partner MUST lead it to you.

eg 1NT P 2C\* X\*\*

\* 2C (Stayman) is a convention that does not show a club suit

\*\* You hold perhaps ♣AKJ109 and you need a club lead from partner!

### 3. OTHER BIDDING SYSTEMS

You have learned a basic form of 'Standard American' in which your 1H/1S openings promise 5+ cards and your 1NT opening is 'strong'.

Most people in our club also play Standard American, but they may play variations that you do not use. You may meet:

► **2 over 1, Game Force.**

eg 1S – 2C: the 2C bidder has 13+ points (not just 10+), guaranteeing game.

eg 1S – 1NT: the 1NT bidder has 6 – 12 HCP and opener must bid once more.

- **Precision** An opening of 1C is a *convention* that promises 16+ HCP and says nothing about clubs. The response is 1D (another *convention*) with 0 – 6/7 HCP. Any other response is stronger and natural. Note that, even if responder has only 4HCP, they have at least 20 HCP between them, so BEWARE.

The Precision 1D opening does not necessarily contain diamonds and the 2C opening is not strong but shows 5+ clubs and 11-15 HCP.

**To compete:** There are many complex gadgets that you can learn, but keep it simple for now.

- Only overcall their strong 1C with great suit and a good opening hand. If you are VUL and they are NV, it is usually best to keep quiet.
- Over their 1D, overcalls are fine, but if you hold diamonds, then PASS
- Over their 1H/S, normal overcall rules apply

- **Transfer Responses to 1C** ie 1C – 1D shows 4xHearts, 1C - 1H shows 4xSpades, 1C - 1S shows 4xDiamonds.

**To compete:** A simple method in third seat is to double the artificial response to show that suit. Eg 1D response to 1C is artificial, so **double** shows a D suit.

**NEW ABF RANKINGS – July** Congratulations to:

<i>Bronze Life</i>	Jenny Buckley	<i>Bronze Regional</i>	Suzanne Harrison
<i>Silver National</i>	Margaret Regan	<i>Bronze Local</i>	Wendy Byrne
<i>National</i>	Ros Dey	<i>Club</i>	Chris Jamieson
<i>Bronze State</i>	Agnes Marsh	<i>Graduate</i>	Tony Manea

**ROGUES GALLERY**  
**Restricted Teams Championship**



Pauline Caust, Kevin Hughes,  
Margaret Regan, Suzanne Harrison  
**Champions**



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**HAPPY BIRTHDAY for August**

Leon Babinski, Dorothy Berzins, Larry Bryant, Tony Canavan, Jan Clarke, Barry Davies, Mae Erling, John McGrath, Shirley Ross, Graham Woof.

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**NEW MEMBERS**

Please welcome returning player Sue Brumby (0408 618 226)

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## 2023 Annual General Meeting



Attendees  
(left)



The quilt  
(right) -  
see below



Dorothy Berzins (above)

**Your Committee** (above right) - Standing: Margo Burnet, Julieanne Perceval, Wendy Mitchell, Ruth Griffin (Asst. Treasurer), Peter Mackey (Treasurer), Leon Babinski. Seated: Julie Sadler (Vice Pres.) Louis Koolen (President), Anne Grayden (Secretary).

### **RAFFLE DRAWN**

Many thanks to Dasha Brandt and her quilting group for the donation of the quilt. It was won by Pauline Caust, more than \$250 was raised for our Charity Fund.

### **FUTURE OF NEWSLETTER**

There was general agreement at the meeting that members want a Newsletter. However, I am looking for a replacement as Editor or at least some help! A fillable Word survey form (similar to that on p.10) will be attached when this Newsletter is emailed to you. Some printed copies will also be available at the Club.



## MASTERPOINT & MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

These are roles which I am happy to continue. However it is important that my knowledge is shared for the future. Leonie Lovell has offered to learn the ropes and we have made a start.

This does not preclude further interest. I am happy to train more than one person - general computer skills are necessary, especially in spreadsheets. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you are interested or want to know more about what is involved.

*Wendy Mitchell*

## COMING EVENTS

### AUGUST

#### *RealBridge*

Tuesdays	12.30pm	Aug 1, 8, <b>15</b> , 22, 29
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#### *Face-to-Face*

Monday	12.30pm	Aug 7, 14, 21, 28
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Monday Evenings	7.15pm	Aug 7, 14, 21, 28
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Wednesdays	1.30pm	Aug <b>2</b> , 9, <b>16</b> , <b>23</b> , 30
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Fridays	12.30pm	Aug 4, 11, 18, 25
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### AUGUST

#### *Special Events*

Monthly Shield 7	E	Wednesday Aug 2
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Foundation Day Cup	R (RealBridge)	Tuesday Aug 15
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GNOT Qual. 1 & 2	G/P	Wednesdays Aug 16,23
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### SEPTEMBER

#### *Special Events*

Sunny September	E ( <i>best 2 of 5</i> )	Fridays 1, 8, 15, 22, 29
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Monthly Shield 8	E	Wednesday Sep 6
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Spring Pairs	R	Monday Eve Sep 11
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CCLCBC Congress Prs	R/P	Saturday Sep 16
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CCLCBC Congress Tms	R/P	Sunday Sep 17
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State Open Prs Qual 1&2	R/P ( <i>Club trophy</i> )	Wednesdays Sep 20,27
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*Wendy Mitchell*

*Editor*

LOOKING FOR A PARTNER ?

Contact Ruth Griffin: 0407 854 060

**SURVEY RE CCLCBC NESLETTER - August, 2023**

<b>QUESTION</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
<b>1</b> Should there be a monthly Newsletter?		

<b>2</b> Do you read the current Newsletter?		
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<b>3</b> Do you print the Newsletter?		
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<b>4</b> Which regular items interest you?		
<b>a</b> Reports of recent events		
<b>b</b> Photographs of special events		
<b>c</b> Record of results of our special bridge sessions		
<b>d</b> Results of Congresses etc		
<b>e</b> Reports of Committee Decisions		
<b>f</b> Educational articles		
<b>g</b> Analysis of interesting hands		
<b>h</b> Bridge news - state/national/worldwide		
<b>i</b> New ABF rankings		
<b>j</b> New member names & phone numbers		
<b>k</b> Birthday recognition		
<b>l</b> Coming events – our Club		
<b>m</b> Coming events - other		
<b>n</b> Personal Profiles (occasional)		

<b>5</b> Is there anything else you would like to see in the Newsletter?	
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<b>6</b> If you can contribute in any way, please describe:	
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<b>7</b> Your name	
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