

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



**NEWSLETTER**

**JULY 2024**

**A** **NUAL**  
**GENERAL**  
**MEETING**

You have already received notification of this from the Secretary:

**THURSDAY July 25, 2024**

**10.30 am at Central Coast  
Leagues Club**

- All Management Committee positions are open. Nomination sheet is displayed at the Club.
- If you cannot attend the AGM please record your name on the Apologies sheet
- If you are attending please record your name on the displayed sheet and indicate whether for AGM or Bridge only or both (needed for numbers for finger food served at the end of the meeting).

**Anniversary Pairs (R): 12.30 pm**

**COMMITTEE CRUMBS: July 1**

- With more heaters have in operation there has been overloading of electrical circuits. Air purifiers will now operate at two times: after the Monday Eve until Wednesday and Thursday Eve until Friday.
- Tuesday RealBridge table numbers were steady this month at 4 to 4.5. Please continue to support these sessions.
- Thursday afternoon sessions have been consistently cancelled due to lack of numbers. However they will be offered for the rest of this month. Pre-entry essential.
- Last month directors proposed that the ability to see results at other tables on the Bridgemates be disabled. The committee accepted this for a one-month trial. This setting has now been re-enabled as another trial.\* (See Page 6)

## RECENT RESULTS

<b>PRESIDENTS CUP (R)</b>	<b>7.5 tables</b>	<b>Mon Jun 3</b>
1st Gary Heyting & Steph Mathews		65.54%
2nd Michael Greenfield & Chris Jamieson		62.29%
3rd Adele Mills & Dorothy Berzins		61.59%

<b>MONTHLY SHIELD 5 (E)</b>	<b>10 tables</b>	<b>Wed Jun 5</b>
1st Gary Heyting & Steph Mathews		63.66%
2nd Kevin F. Hughes & Gina Robertson		61.57%
3rd Anne Grayden & Julie Sadler		59.49%

<b>WINTER PAIRS <i>RealBridge</i> (R)</b>	<b>4.5 tables</b>	<b>Tue Jun 11</b>
1st Chris Williams & Jan Clarke		63.66%
2nd Dorothy Berzins & Larry Bryant		57.87%
3rd Gary Heyting & Marilyn Scott		56.94%

<b>MONTHLY SHIELD 6 (E)</b>	<b>11 tables</b>	<b>Wed Jul 3</b>
1st Di Coats & Dorothy Berzins		62.70%
2nd Henrietta Hohnen & Wendy Mitchell		60.21%
3rd Jan Clarke & Alan Bustany		58.97%

## JUNE 2024 CONGRESS AND TOURNAMENT REPORT

Another busy month for congresses and state and regional contests, and our club was well-represented.

### **Grafton Bridge Club Online Butler Swiss Pairs (1 June)**

Sixty-six pairs played in this online event. Dorothy Berzins and Elizabeth Lawrence (26<sup>th</sup>) and Gwen White and Rosalind Dey (27<sup>th</sup>) finished in the top half. Agnes Marsh and Len Pascoe finished 51<sup>st</sup>.

### **NSWBA State Butler Pairs (3 June)**

Twenty-four pairs competed, including Alan Bustany and Di Coats who finished a respectable 16<sup>th</sup> in a very tough field. Well done!

### **Newcastle Bridge Club Congress (15-16 June)**

Thirty-four pairs competed at Newcastle, including several from CCLCBC.

Three of our pairs finished in the top ten:

Jan Clark and Di Coats finished 5<sup>th</sup>; Gary Heyting and Steph Mathews 6<sup>th</sup>; Greg and Sharon Mayo 10<sup>th</sup>. Kevin Hughes and Leonie Lovell, Graham Woof and Diane Nichols, Chris Hasemore and Martin Johnson also competed in the pairs event.

Sixteen teams played, and three teams with CCLCBC players finished in the top half:

Di Coats and Jan Clarke (with Terry Bodycote and Paul Weaver) claimed 2<sup>nd</sup> place; the Tomlinson team (Hope Tomlinson, Barry Foster, Chris Hasemore and Martin Johnson finished 7<sup>th</sup>; and the Foster team (Sylvia Foster, Jaan Oitmaa, Dasha Brandt and Deb Guthrie finished 8<sup>th</sup>. The Lewis Team (Louise Lewis, Kevin Hughes, Steph Mathews and Gary Heyting ) finished 10<sup>th</sup> .

### **North Shore Bridge Club Festival of Bridge (22-30 June)**

Sally Clarke played with Anita Curtis, Liz Wilkinson, and Patrick Neary in the Fixed Income Solutions Swiss Teams, finishing 11<sup>th</sup> out of 22. Steve and Mary Colling with Lindy and Ken Anderson finished 16<sup>th</sup>.

### **Country Teams Regional Finals (30 June)**

Prior to this competition, qualifying events were held at various clubs to select the teams to play in this Regional Final, which was held at the Brisbane Water Bridge Club. CCLCBC and BWBC each sent 2 teams and CCBC sent 1 team. To make the numbers up to 6, CCLCBC put together another team of people who had played in the qualifiers.

Congratulations to all who qualified, and especially to the CCLCBC 1 team (Pauline Caust, Alan Bustany, Anne Grayden and Julie Sadler) who claimed first place; the CCLCBC 2 team (Hope Tomlinson, Barry Foster, Chris Hasemore, Martin Johnson) who finished 2<sup>nd</sup>. You make us proud!

The BWBC 1 team (Jan Clarke, Sally Clarke, Di Coats and Chris Williams) finished 3<sup>rd</sup> and the BWBC 2 team (Sylvia Foster, Jaan Oitmaa,

Jim Routledge & Karen Ody) were 4<sup>th</sup> . These 4 teams have qualified for Hunter/Central Coast Zone final at Tomaree on Sunday, September 29.

*Steph Mathews*

### **BEGINNER GRADUATION – June 20**

Before the last supervised session with buddies, 11 beginners were congratulated by President Julie Sadler. Each received a graduation certificate as well as information sheets, system cards, free game cards and a name tag (with orange sticker). Thanks to Gina Tap they also received ‘mortar board’ chocolates!



Pictured above are:

Michael Twomey	Tuck Yuen	David Roberts	Alicia Roberts	Jenny Bennett	Robyn Smith	Joe Everitt	Kat King
	Eunice de Vries	Ernest Shapero	Chevonne Twomey	Julie Sadler	Gabi King		

Absent: John Boyages, Denise and Alan Hopkins

It is great to see them playing with their buddies in regular duplicate sessions (especially the new Thursday evening). Each then will play for 1 month for free. Please remember that they do not need further lessons from



anyone yet! Their orange sticker protects them from Brown Sticker conventions if you play any, but not from other conventions or from penalty doubles.

## **PROTOCOL BOOKLET**

The above beginners were the first to receive our newly produced ‘Bridge Protocol’ booklet. Leonie Lovell, on behalf of the New Player Support Committee, spoke to the group before play on June 13. She described her own experiences as a developing player, welcomed the ‘newbies’ to our club, outlined what they can expect in months ahead and encouraged them to contact her group for advice and assistance.

As most of you will know, our first printing (95 copies) was superseded within a week. Apologies for your need to correct your booklet, but it was attempted to make this process as easy as possible. The ‘errata’ were mostly small and not crucial to your play and knowledge in general but it was decided that we should be technically correct. \*

The original audience was new and developing players. However the booklets contain information that even the most experienced players have forgotten or misunderstood, so all our members will receive one.

In issuing the booklets our membership was divided into several groups:

New players, 2023 and 2024	37
Committee, Directors	16
Players with under 50 MPs	55
Regular Players	47
Occasional Players	<u>50</u>
	<b><u>205</u></b>

130 booklets have been issued to date. Please see Wendy M at the club (if she doesn’t see you) if you have not received yours.

\* See Page 9 for ‘DID YOU KNOW?’

.... **from Page 1**

\* *Editor's Note*

Seeing what other players have bid and made on the hand you have just played was always possible before the advent of electronic scorers as each contract, lead, tricks made and the score were written on paper 'travellers'. However time wasting was a problem then too.

Observing these results can be interesting, informative and depressing! A glance at these can tell you what to discuss with partner *after the session* and can be educational to developing players. If you want this facility to continue to be available you must ensure that you use it efficiently and that it does not slow the play of hands at the table.

The following is an abridged version of a July 2017 article which seems pertinent. See how you measure up!

## **So you think you're a fast player?**

### **Try this quick quiz...**

by MATTHEW MCMANUS

#### **For bridge players**

**T**he major complaint that directors have to deal with is slow play. Whether it's because there's no time to play all the boards or whether it's players waiting for a table to finish so they can move the slow play is the main cause of discontent for most players. So, if you are brave enough to take it, here is a quiz to see if you are one of those players who cause dissatisfaction...are you ready to start?

#### **1 Are you ready to start?**

One of the very obvious things that I observe is that players who are notorious for their slow play are also typically those who, when the round or match is starting, are making a cup of tea, chatting with friends, arguing with their partner or team mates – anything but being ready to commence play. If you do have a reputation as a slow player, how about trying the effect of sitting at the

table before the director hands out the boards, all set to start play immediately? Those extra couple of minutes will make a difference.

## **2 Are you carrying too much weight?**

No, I am not being personal, but like a racehorse which is handicapped to slow it down by having to carry additional weight, a lot of slow players add to the delay by what they have to transport when they get up to move to the next table. A coat or jumper, a bag, a book or magazine, a score book, a pen, a glass of water or cup of tea, and various other paraphernalia. Why not try the effect of travelling light? Put as much as you can away in a corner before the start of the session.

## **3 Are you guilty of “scoring on the green”?**

Golfers will know that one of the big no-no’s is scoring on the green. That is, filling in your scorecard immediately after putting out, rather than moving off the green so that the group following can hit up. Bridge has its own version of this. It can be the players who are running late filling in personal scorecards before moving on. But there are other instances. Looking at the travelling score sheet to see what others have done, or inspecting the Bridgemate to see your percentage on the board is a privilege, not a right. If you are running late and other players are waiting to come to the table, you have lost that entitlement. Similarly, spending too much time poring over the results at the end of a hand, and engaging in lengthy post mortems with partner, is a significant cause of slow play.

Furthermore, there can be similar problems during the play of the hand. Some easy directions: if you are on opening lead, NEVER fill in your personal score-sheet until after you have made the lead. If you are dummy, ALWAYS put your cards down on the table immediately after the opening lead is faced. If play is being delayed by having to enter the data in the Bridgemate, try this procedure: after dummy’s hand goes down, give the Bridgemate to dummy, who can then enter the board number, the contract, the declarer and the opening lead, before handing the unit back to North or South. At the end of the hand, it is

then a simple matter of entering the number of tricks and having the score confirmed by the opponents. Finally, at the end of the hand, after the number of tricks is agreed, the very first thing you should do is to put the cards back into the board. If the director does need to move the board on, it will greatly speed things up.

#### **4 Do you feel bad/remorseful when the director says “take an average”?**

If I had a dollar for every time I’ve been told, “it wasn’t our fault”, I wouldn’t be directing, I’d be living in the lap of luxury on the Riviera!

There are two possibilities: one – it really wasn’t your fault. In that case, it will be a very rare occurrence for the director to say, “take an average”. As it is so uncommon, it will hardly make a difference to you, and you will understand that what the director is doing is for the benefit of the game, keeping it moving and making things better for everyone. However, if it is happening to you a lot, you need to ask the question, “why?”

The standard amount of time allowed per board is about 7 minutes. That means, each player has about 2 minutes per hand to consider their bids and plays. (The reason it doesn’t quite add up is that dummy doesn’t need any thinking time during the play period.) Of course, occasionally there will be particularly difficult problems when you may need to take extra time. That is not an issue. However, if you are consistently taking more than your fair share, that is a big problem. Apart from being discourteous to the opponents – and anyone who has to wait for you to finish – it is a significant breach of the properties of the game.

Experienced directors know who the slow players are. Apart from having to consistently hurry them up, directors regularly receive complaints about having to play against “so and so, who is so slow”. When the same names keep coming up, the pattern and the truth is pretty well established. Clearly something needs to change for the good of the game and the enjoyment of all.



## 5 Are we done yet?

The fact that all the boards have been played is not a good indication that play has been timely. The biggest grumbles that the opponents of slow players have involve being pressured to rush through the last couple of boards because of the amount of time that has been used up earlier. A far better test of whether you are slow is to monitor where you are midway through the round. When the director says, “we have reached the half way point, you should have finished \_\_\_ boards”, have you completed at least half your boards? If the answer to this is “no” more than 25% of the time, you cannot keep blaming your opponents – you are a slow player.

How did you go? I expect you passed. But maybe you may know of someone else for whom this article might be useful? Your partner perhaps? Remember that saying, “it’s not me, it’s my partner” is not really an excuse. Bridge is a partnership game. If your partner is to blame for making the game less pleasant for others, then at some point you have to take responsibility as well.

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### **DID YOU KNOW . . . . (from Page 5)**

#### **The difference between a *Call* and a *Bid*?**

A bid is ‘an undertaking to win at least a specified number of tricks in excess of 6 in a specified denomination.’ eg 1S, 3NT, 4H, 7D.

A call is ‘any bid, double, redouble or pass.

So all bids are also calls, but P, X and XX are calls, not bids!

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### **NEW ABF RANKINGS – June** Congratulations to:

<i>Club</i>	Henk Keulemans
<i>Graduate</i>	Gillian Sadler

## BRIDGE NSW IS NOW OFFICIAL

Please go to [nswba.com.au](http://nswba.com.au) (there will be a new website later in the year) to read the announcement and full details.

The table below illustrates the structure of the new body and its members.

(Our congratulations to Alan Bustany who is a member of the Council and Board.)

Bridge NSW Council	Bridge NSW Board	Board Support	Committee Chairs	
Catherine Chaffey (Chair) Southern Highlands Bridge Club	Catherine Chaffey (Chair) Bob Rankin (Secretary)	General Counsel Alison Hanson	Clubs & Community Glenda Parmenter	
Glenda Parmenter Armidale Bridge Club	Jake Andrew	Accountant (interim) Christine Evans	Events Maurits van der Vlugt	
John McIlrath Hunter Region Bridge Association	Alan Bustany		Education Steve English	
Phil Glover Wagga Wagga Bridge Club	David Hudson		Youth Josh Heller	
Marie Pickering Illawarra Bridge Association	Glenda Parmenter		People & Governance Dagmar Neumann	
Alan Bustany Central Coast Leagues Bridge Club				
Marjorie Askew Ballina Bridge Club	<b>ABF Representatives</b>		<b>Bridge NSW Office</b>	<b>Contact</b>
Mary Anne Loveridge Sydney Bridge Club	Dagmar Neumann Rob Ward		Executive Officer David Havyatt	<a href="mailto:office@bridgensw.com.au">email: office@bridgensw.com.au</a>
Sharon Thompson North Shore Bridge Club		Marketing & Communications Officer TBA	<a href="tel:0477525252">tel: 0477 52 52 52</a> <a href="#">(to be operational from 20 June)</a>	
Derrick Browne Trumps Bridge Centre				
Lynleigh Evans Southern Highlands Bridge Club				

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY for July

Pauline Allen, Margo Brennan, Kath Bromley, June Clarkson, Helen Cooke, Terry Dyer, Barry Foster, Joe Griffin, Christine Hadaway, Jim Havyatt, Henk Keulemans, Louis Koolen, Alison Mackey, John Mitchell, Bob Morris, Alfie Nation, Richard Webb.

## NEW MEMBERS

Please welcome the following new players and add their names and phone numbers to your Program Book:

Kat King (0410 406118); Gabi King (0413 429 256); Joe Everitt (0409 872 644); Eric Fairclough (4302 7809).

# IT'S A FUNNY GAME

Monthly Shield, Wednesday July 4

The bidding:

North	East (Hohnen)	South	West (Mitchell)
P	1H	X*	XX**'
p***	p****	P	

Board 1 Dir: N Vul: Nil	♠ 87 ♥ T98652 ♦ T96 ♣ A9	
♠ KT95 ♥ A ♦ Q542 ♣ KQJ6		♠ A62 ♥ KJ73 ♦ KJ3 ♣ 752
4 15      12 9	♠ QJ43 ♥ Q4 ♦ A87 ♣ T843	N: S: E: 4 ♣ 4 ♦ 2 ♥ 4 ♠ 5NT W: 4 ♣ 4 ♦ 2 ♥ 4 ♠ 4NT

\* A rather light takeout double

\*\* 10+ HCPs, denying hearts

\*\*\* I have hearts

\*\*\*\* Not too worried (?)

Henrietta Hohnen played the hand brilliantly in what turned out to be a 4-1 trump fit, for an overtrick, earning a score of +720.

The interesting result was being discussed while relaxing with a red after the game. The funny part came when Henri saw (and didn't believe) that she had opened on a 4xheart suit!

## JUSTICE OF THE PEACE

Leonie Lovell is available every Wednesday if you have documents that need witnessing.

## COMING EVENTS

### JULY

#### *RealBridge*

Tuesdays (E) 12.30pm July 2, 9, 16, 23, 30  
Best 2 of 5 for outright awards

#### *Face-to-Face*

Monday 12.30pm July 1, 8, 15, 22, 29  
Monday Eve 7.15pm July 1, 8, 15, 22, 29  
Wednesdays 1.30pm July 3, 10, 17, 24, 31  
Thursdays **Pre-Entry** 12.30pm July 4, 11, 18, 25  
Thur Eve **Pre-Entry** 7.00pm July 4, 11, 18, 25  
Fridays 12.30pm July 5, 12, 19, 26

#### *Special Events*

Monthly Shield (6) E Wednesday 3  
Club Restricted Teams C/P Monday 8, 15

**(No Side Game)**

Anniversary Pairs R Thursday 25

**(preceded by AGM at 10.30 am)**

### SEPTEMBER

#### *Special Events*

Club Swiss Pairs (1) C/P Thursday 1  
Club Swiss Pairs (2) C/P Thursday 8  
Spring Pairs R Monday Eve 9  
Monthly Shield (7) E Wednesday 7  
CCLCBC Congress Pairs *all day* Saturday 14  
CCLCBC Congress Teams *all day* Sunday 15

#### **ANC – Australian National Championships (July 6 – 18)**

15 of our members are packing their winter woollies and making the trip to Orange for this event to earn red and/or gold points. Good luck to all!

**BWBC Super Congress** Another opportunity for red points – Pairs on Saturday July 20 and Teams on Sunday July 21.

Go to [nswba.com.au](http://nswba.com.au) for details and the link to enter.

*Wendy Mitchell*

*Editor*