

Welcome to the

**Central Coast
Leagues Club
Bridge Club**



NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2024

CONGRESS
NEWS
Sep 14 & 15

The Director of our Congress was David Reddel from Orange – our regular congress directors were engaged elsewhere!

A number of embarrassing problems occurred, outside of our control, especially on the first day: fouled boards, non-supply of the sandwiches ordered and incorrect winners announced. The food situation on the second day was better, but some players still went hungry.

Thank you for your understanding and be assured the reasons are being addressed.

Results, Photos and more on following pages.

MELBOURNE
CUP DAY

**Tuesday 5th November
Parkview Room**

The colour theme this year is

LIME GREEN & BLACK

We always have lots of fun & our younger Club members are putting in lots of effort for you to enjoy the day, please use a little imagination to dress up.

Sweepstakes for sale from 9am, 9.30am Bridge & then Lunch & Fun from 12.30pm.

Pre-entry via our website is essential for catering purposes. Costs for bridge and/or lunch will be shown and you can indicate dietary requirements. Entries will open next week.

RECENT RESULTS

MONTHLY SHIELD 8 (E)		8.5 tables	Wed Sep 4
1st	Anne Grayden & Julie Sadler		63.10%
2nd	Frank Pellarini & Henk Keulemans		58.77%
3rd	David Snow & Chris Hasemore		58.50%

MONTHLY SHIELD 9 (E)		8.5 tables	Wed Oct 2
1st	Anne Grayden & Julie Sadler		66.96%
2nd	Steph Mathews & Gary Heyting		63.69%
3rd	Di Coats & Dorothy Berzins		61.31%

With only one session to go, there are now 20 pairs who have played at least 4 sessions with the same partner. The leaders are:

Di Coats & Dorothy Berzins (162), Steph Mathews & Gary Heyting (144), Anne Grayden & Julie Sadler (134). Remember that the more eligible pairs there are, the more outright masterpoints can be awarded.

Three more pairs can become eligible by playing together in November: Alison Mackey & Di March, Peter Mackey & Lyn Baber, Julieanne Perceval & Marion Ellis.

SPRING PAIRS (R)		4.5 tables	Mon Eve Sep 9
1st	Eunice de Vries & Wendy Mitchell		70.83%
2nd	Lorraine Lindsay & Chris Hasemore		54.86%
3rd	Anne Grayden & Julie Sadler		53.47%

TUESDAY ECLECTIC September RealBridge **Best 2 of 4 sessions**

Of the 22 people who played during the month, 7 pairs played with the same partner at least twice. After choosing their best two scores, three of these pairs (half the field rounded down) earned extra masterpoints in the form of outright awards:

			MPs
1st	Henrietta Hohnen & Elizabeth Lawrence	61.15%	0.15
2nd	Jacqui Wilson & Gwen White	58.00%	0.11
3rd	Julie Sadler & Anne Grayden	56.50%	0.08

STATE OPEN PAIRS Q 1&2**(R) 6.5 tables****Thu Sep 26***Director: Ronnie Ng*

This is the first time the event has been conducted on one day. Unfortunately participation was down compared to past years:

Year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2021	2023	2024
Tables	10.5	10.5	8.5	10	11	8	9 (RB)	9	6.5

2xboard rounds were played in a Howell movement so that each pair played every other pair.

Master points were awarded to the top half of the field in each session at State Championship level. This means the red points earned were twice as many as a normal Club B4c red point event.

Scores from the two sessions were then combined, but there were no out-right awards:

		1	2	Overall
1st	Eunice de Vries & Wendy Mitchell	127	170	297
2nd	Jan Clarke & Di Coats	151	144	295
3rd	Sally Clarke & Sharon Mayo	141	122	263
4th	Anne Grayden & Julie Sadler	135	125	260
5th	Karen Ody & Jim Routledge	116	142	258
6th=	Dorothy Berzins & Gwen White	119	138	257
6th=	Margaret Regan & Henrietta Hohnen	135	122	257

Congratulations to all. The club will pay for 3 pairs to compete in the State Open Pairs Final (which incorporates Country Open Pairs) to be held at the Sydney Bridge Centre, November 16 & 17.

Please Note: Any eligible pair from the whole field is permitted to play in the Final. If you were not in the top 3 but would like to play, contact Tournament Organiser Julie Sadler!

SEPTEMBER 2024 CONGRESS AND TOURNAMENT REPORT

It's been a busy month, and many of our members have been playing in events at home and away. Here's a summary:

Greg Quittner Swiss Pairs (1 Sep)

Only two of our members played in this event, and they finished well in the top half: Helen Milward and Gary Barwick finished 12th in the field of 30. Well done you two!

Tomaree Congress (7-8 Sep)

Out of the 50 pairs, Greg and Sharon Mayo claimed 1st place; Sylvia and Barry Foster finished 11th; and Dasha Brandt and David Bowerman finished 12th. Well done! For the teams competition, Greg and Sharon teamed up with Terry Bodycote and Paul Weaver and finished 6th out of 28 teams. Louise Lewis, Vic Pietraszkiewicz, Steph Mathews and Gary Heyting drove up for the day and finished 9th; Sylvia and Barry teamed up with Dasha and David and finished 18th.

CCLCBC Congress (14-15 Sep)

Our members turned up for this event in record numbers, which is fantastic! If you haven't already done so, you can check the NSWBA website for a complete report of all results.

Here are some highlights. For the Swiss Pairs, 56 pairs were divided into two sections of 14 tables each, based on total masterpoints per pair. In Division 1, first place went to Mark and Julie Guthrie of the North Shore Bridge Club; our own Helen Milward and Gary Barwick finished 2nd; and Helen Lowry (North Shore) and Jake Andrew (Sydney Bridge Centre) claimed 3rd. Congratulations to all!

Of the other competitors, eleven pairs included CCLCBC members, and three of our pairs finished in the top ten: Barbara Grant and Louis Koolen (8th), Eunice de Vries and Wendy Mitchell (9th), and Greg and Sharon Mayo (10th).

In Division 2, first place went to Maggie and David Havyatt from Illawarra; Sandy Boyd and Shannon Queree (Parramatta Bridge Club) claimed 2nd place; and Jodie Gudaitis and Lucy D'Ambrosio finished 3rd. Again, nearly half the field included CCLCBC member pairs, and two finished in the top 10: Kevin Hughes and John Aldersley finished 7th, and Wendy Byrne and Margo Burnet finished 10th.

Twenty-four teams played in one field on Sunday, nearly half of which included CCLCBC members. The Barwick team (Gary Barwick, Helen Milward, Helen Lowry and Jake Andrew) claimed first place; the Russell team (Judith Parsons, John Russell, Martin Brown and Michael Hogan) from the Sydney Bridge Centre finished 2nd; and the Mayo Team (Greg and Sharon Mayo with Michael Simes and Paul McGrath) finished 3rd.

Three of the top 10 teams included CCLCBC members: The Sadler team (Anne Grayden, Julie Sadler, Larry Bryant and Chris Williams) finished 5th; the Foster team (Sylvia Foster, Jaan Oitmaa, Jim Routledge, and Karen Ody) finished 8th; and the Regan team (Margaret Regan, Henrietta Hohnen, Wendy Mitchell and Eunice de Vries) finished 10th.

The best Restricted Team comprised our members: Peter & Alison Mackey, Trish Howard & George Connell. The best Novice team John & Bernadette Sandra, Kerry Robertson & Sue Ashley – all members of Brisbane Water Bridge Club.

See pages 9 to 11 for Congress photos and further detail

GNOT National Qualifying (20-22 Sep)

This event was held on-line and included the 64 teams from around the country who prevailed in their club and regional qualifying rounds.

The 6-person Berzins team - Dorothy Berzins, Di Coats, Alfie Nation, Gwen White, Larry Bryant and Margo Brennan - qualified to represent the Central Coast in this national knockout tournament. While the Central

Coast team got knocked out in the first round, simply making it to this stage is a huge accomplishment. In the repechage, the Central Coast team finished a respectable 40th out of 54 with five wins and five losses amidst very stiff competition. A hearty congratulations to Dorothy, Di, Alfie, Gwen, Larry and Margo!

This year the Grand National Open Teams National Final (GNNF) will comprise two separate events: the GNOT National Final (GNOTF) – 4 teams – and the GNOT Non-Metropolitan Teams Final (GNOTNMF) – 8 teams (for which the Hunter1 team qualified). Both finals will be held at the Vaucluse Bowling Club on Saturday, November 23 and Sunday, November 24, 2024.

Sydney Bridge Centre Spring Congress Teams (28 Sep)

Frank and Paul Pellarini ventured to Sydney for this event. They teamed up with Hien Dang and Mandy Dodds and finished 12th out of 16.

Country Teams Zonal Finals (29 Sep)

In July we reported on the regional final of this event. The 13 teams who qualified at the regional level went on to play in the Central Coast/Hunter Zonal final, and four of those teams included players from our club. After 12 matches Greg and Sharon Mayo with Paul McGrath and Michael Simes finished 1st with eight wins, two draws and two losses. Chris Williams, Sally Clarke, Jan Clarke, and Di Coats finished 3rd; Hope Tomlinson, Barry Foster, Chris Hasemore, and Martin Johnson finished 5th, and Alan Bustany, Pauline Caust, Anne Grayden and Julie Sadler finished 10th. Congratulations to all!

Steph Mathews

BRIDGE EDUCATION

1. **Beginners:** Eunice's new group (Tuesday evenings) started with more but now has 9 pupils.

2. **Improvers:** This course is for beginners who have now had some playing experience. It has been decided to offer this course (as happened last year) in two parts.

The first part will be held on **Wednesday Evenings** at 6.30 pm commencing October 30. The second part will be held in 2025, dates to be advised.

The whole course consists of 7 lessons and will largely follow Derrick Browne's Improvers text, with some additional topics. The cost is \$80, including text, notes, hand records, exercises.

There are also 5 (optional) practice sessions at \$5 each which cover the concepts taught.

15 players from recent Beginner classes have been contacted and so far 10 have confirmed for Wednesdays. If you have not yet done so, please contact Wendy – 0423 388 529 or wmi20245@bigpond.com.

Any player who has previously completed the Improvers Course is welcome to repeat it all, or specific sessions only, at half cost.

The first part of the course is as follows:

October 30	No Trump bidding and play; Transfers to Majors
November 6	The Stayman Convention, responses & rebids; Finesses
November 13	Interposing – Overcall or Double; 3rd Hand Play
November 20	Mixed Practice + Rule of 20
November 27	Mixed Practice + Rule of 7

3. Workshops – Intermediate/Advanced

The first 2 Saturday workshops were attended by 10 and 12 players respectively.

The workshop on **Leads**, scheduled originally for October 5 will be postponed because of the long weekend to October 19. The October 12 topic is 'Transfers to the minors'.

Wednesday workshops are due to start on October 9 with ***Puppet Stayman***.

REMEMBER to place your name on the list at the club for all workshops. If there are less than 6 people interested the workshop will be cancelled.

OPENING LEADS

Everyone agrees that defence is the hardest part of the game of bridge. The opening lead that you choose is critical to the start of the best defence. How good is your judgement?

As a warm up to the workshop on Leads you might like to try the following questions taken from *One Thousand and one Bridge Problems Workbook* by Frank Stewart.

In all problems, you are West. Your hand is shown – choose your lead after considering the bidding given.

1.	♠ 8652	West	North	East	South
	♥ K6				1H
	♦ JT73	Pass	1S	Pass	3H
	♣ KJ2	Pass	4H	All Pass	

2.	♠ QJ93	West	North	East	South
	♥ AJ93				1H
	♦ 76	Pass	1S	Pass	2C
	♣ QT2	All Pass			

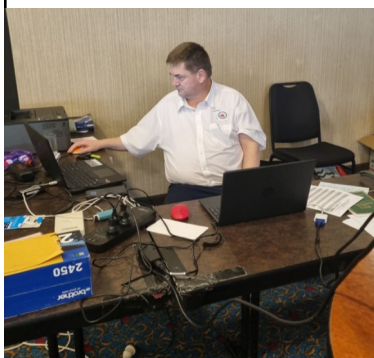
3.	♠ 83	West	North	East	South
	♥ QT4				1H
	♦ KJ92	Pass	1S	Pass	1NT
	♣ AT4	Pass	2NT	All Pass	

4.	♠ 4	West	North	East	South
	♥ A842		1C	Pass	1H
	♦ QT863	Pass	1S	Pass	3H (forcing)
	♣ AJ5	Pass	4H	All Pass	

5. ♠ J98642	West	North	East	South
♥ 76			3C	3H
♦ A64	Pass	4H	double	All Pass
♣ 76				

See Page 14 for Frank's answers (and no, I did not get them all right!)

CONGRESS CONTINUED . .



Our gratitude to

- the hardworking convenors – Louis Koolen & Margaret Regan
- the team of helpers plating sandwiches led by Julieanne Perceval
- standbys Ruth Griffin, Gina Tap, Maureen Baker and Sunday caddy Stuart Gibson
- all those who assisted in assembling and disassembling the venue
- raffle organiser Ruth Griffin and generous donors and ticket buyers - \$831 was raised by a raffle each day for wines/sweets prizes – all proceeds will go to our charity, Allawah House.



Special mention to all the new players who braved their first ever Congress and earned red point in the process!

SWISS PAIRS DIVISION 1

1st \$300

2nd \$200

3rd \$100

Helen Lowry
& Jake Andrew
(Not shown)

Best Unplaced Local
Pair **\$100**



Mark & Julie
Guthrie



Helen Milward &
Gary Barwick



Barbara Grant &
Louis Koolen

Pictured with the winners is CCLCBC President,
Eunice de Vries.

SWISS PAIRS DIVISION 2

1st \$200

2nd \$100

3rd \$50



Maggie & David
Havyatt



Sandy Boyd &
Shannon Queree



Lucy D'Ambrosio &
Jodie Gudaitis

SWISS TEAMS

Open

1st \$600



Jake Andrew, (Eunice) Helen Milward
Helen Lowry, Gary Barwick

2nd \$400



Martin Brown, (Eunice) John
Russell, Judith Parsons,
Michael Hogan

3rd \$200



Paul McGrath, (Eunice) Sharon
Mayo, Michael Simes, Greg Mayo

Best unplaced local team: \$200



Julie Sadler, (Eunice),
Anne Grayden
(Chris Williams, Larry Bryant)

Restricted \$300



(Eunice), Peter & Alison Mackey
Trish Howard, George Connell

Novice \$300



John Sandra, Sue Ashley, (Eunice)
Bernadette Sandra, Kerry Robertson

MASTERPOINTS

September 30 is a very important date in the Masterpoint calendar. The number of green points issued by a club in the preceding 12 months determines how many red point (B4c) events a club can conduct in the next calendar year.

Pre-Covid our club ranged between 17 and 19 red point events per year. Subsequently we were allowed to offer 17 events (without issuing enough green points) but the formula was applied again this year when we were able to schedule 14.

It is pleasing to report that for 2025 we have earned 16 events, almost back to pre-Covid levels.

USE OF MyABF

1. REGISTERING

In last month's newsletter it was explained why we want our members to register. Of the 81 members not already registered, 17 have now done so, thank you. However, we need more of you to 'come on board'. Here is another way to access registration:

From our club Home Page, choose ***Links*** and then ***Australian Bridge Federation***. At the far top right click on **MYABF** and follow the steps . .

2. REAL BRIDGE

Recently Alan Bustany emailed RealBridge players to explain that it is intended to use these sessions as a trial for charging from an individual's MyABF account rather than sending invoices once a month from the club.

Pending approval from the Management Committee when it meets next week, this trial is now 'ready to go'. All September sessions will be 'back-charged' and then October sessions will be charged as they occur. If you have not yet set up credit in your MyABF account please do, so that we do not need to have separate invoicing as well!

DIRECTORS MEETING – Monday September 30

Concerns were raised regarding players pulling out bidding cards from the box and putting them back or just touching cards. The following regulation from BNSW applies:

" 6.1.6 Players should refrain from touching any bidding cards until they have determined their call. A call is considered to have been made when the bidding card is removed from the bidding box with apparent intent."

Julie Sadler, Tournament Organiser

(So it's simple: Decide on your bid **before** you touch **any** bidding card.)

MANY HANDS MAKE LIGHT WORK

Sincere thanks to all the Friday players who helped to clear our bridge area on Friday September 27. On Monday morning a few stalwarts arrived to re-assemble the space, only to find that Ruth had enlisted her family and the work was almost completed! More thanks. . .

JUSTICE OF THE PEACE

Leonie Lovell is available every Wednesday (when she is not overseas!) if you have documents that need witnessing.

NEW ABF RANKINGS – September Congratulations to:

<i>Bronze Life</i>	Steph Mathews	<i>Graduate</i>	Stuart Gibson
<i>Local</i>	Trish Howard		Gina Tap
			Geoff Wilcher

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for October

John Aldersley, Bill Alexander, Gary Barwick, Ivan Cottom, Nola Daly, Gladys Donovan, Eva Hartzell, Charles Gilmore, Trish Howard, Leonie Lovell, Adele Mills, Pamela Price, Judith Sherson, Jann Small, Pauline Wallace, Gwen White, Helen White.

from Page 8 & 9 . . LEADS - ANSWERS

1. ♣ 2 The opponents have had a strong auction, and dummy's spades are a threat to provide discards. You must get busy, and clubs is the best hope for tricks.
2. ♣ 2 Dummy will usually be short in hearts, and you have possible heart tricks to protect. Even if the ♣Q would have been a trick, you'll break even by stopping some ruffs.
3. ♠ 8 The opponents have no extra high-card strength, and South's hearts won't come in. Play it passive. An aggressive diamond lead could give declarer his eighth trick.
4. ♦ 6 Your hand is too strong for a singleton lead. Anyway, with four trumps and prospects of a successful forcing defense, it's far from clear that you want to ruff.
5. ♠ J East's double asks for an unusual lead. He should be void in spades. Lead the jack as a suit-preference signal to request a diamond return.

BRIDGE HOLIDAY

March 4 to 7, 2025

**Mercure Hotel, Hunter Valley Gardens,
Broke Road, Pokolbin**

Choose some or all of morning bridge, afternoon workshops and evening bridge. In between explore the Hunter Region - wineries, specialty foods, gardens, golf . . .

Collect a brochure at the club or contact Louis Koolen:

lkoolen@bigpond.net.au OR 0419 281 725

NEW MEMBER

Please welcome Jane Stephens (0429 317 726) and add her number to your program book.

COMING EVENTS

OCTOBER

RealBridge

Tuesdays (E)	12.30pm	Oct 1, 8, 15, 22, 29
Best 2 of 5 for outright awards		

Face-to-Face

Monday	12.30pm	Oct 7, 14 , 21, 28
Monday Evenings	7.15pm	Oct 7, 14, 21, 28
Wednesdays	1.30pm	Oct 2, 9, 16, 23, 30
Thursday Evenings	7.00pm	Oct 3, 10, 17, 24, 31
Fridays	12.30pm	Oct 4, 11, 18, 25

Special Events

Monthly Shield (9)	E	Wednesday 2
Henry Kendall Pairs	R	Friday 4
Club Graded Pairs (1, 2)	C/P	Monday 7, 14

NOVEMBER

Special Events

Melbourne Cup 9.30 am Face-to-Face	Tuesday 5
Remembrance Day Pairs	Monday 11

Club Pairs 1 & 2	C/P 12.30pm	Thursday 14 & 21
Gosford Pairs	R (RealBridge)	Tuesday 19

Wendy Mitchell

Editor

THURSDAY EVENINGS

PRE-ENTRY NOT REQUIRED

Be seated no later than 6.50pm