

Welcome to the
Central Coast
Leagues Club
Bridge Club



NEWSLETTER

MAY 2025

C**HARITY WEEK**

As announced last month, there is no 'Charity Day' bridge session on Thursday May 15, day-time.

Instead we are holding 'Charity Week' starting Monday, May 12.

All table monies from the sessions in the week beginning May 12 will be added to our charity fund for Allawah House. Directors will be invited to donate their fees. Any member who wishes to make additional donations may do so in that week – by CASH ONLY.

G**ARAGE SALE**
Saturday May 17

At Ruth and Joe Griffin's house, 107 Scenic Highway, Terrigal.

If you have items to sell and/or can help before or on the day, talk to Ruth: 0407 854 060

Flyers are available if you can help to advertise. Proceeds to Allawah House.

S**TATE SENIORS**
May 27 - 30

What a great chance to earn red points at State level without travelling away from home!

Our club has hosted this event since its inauguration in 2021. Now we need more local entries to make it the best ever!

Almost all our members meet the age criterion, so please take up this opportunity. Talk to Louis or Marg if you need a partner for pairs &/or teams.

RECENT RESULTS

MONTHLY SHIELD (3)		E	12 tables	Wed Apr 2
1st	Di Coats & Dorothy Berzins			63.84%
2nd	Anne Grayden & Julie Sadler			63.00%
3rd	Marilyn Scott & Mei-Hua Crawford			61.43%
EASTER PAIRS		R	9.5 tables	Wed Apr 16
1st	Chris Williams & Pauline Caust			63.57%
2nd	Di Coats & Dorothy Berzins			63.54%
3rd	Anne Grayden & Alan Bustany			60.87%

Note the extremely close result with only 0.13 Match points (0.03%) separating first and second! One trick somewhere?

CONGRESS AND TOURNAMENT REPORT

APRIL 2025

Steph Mathews

NSBC@Lindfield - Pauline Evans Swiss Pairs (6 April)

Helen Milward and Gary Barwick finished 11th out of 28 pairs competing.

Newcastle Novice/Restricted Teams (6 April)

Twenty-two teams competed at Newcastle. Jane Stephens, Colin Kleinig, Lucy D'Ambrosio and Maree Fitzgerald finished 1st with 5 wins and 1 loss. Louise Lewis, Vic Pietraszkiewicz, Frik Gautschi, and Trish Howard finished 5th; Kevin Hughes, George Connell, Peter Hume and Elaine Hume finished 8th.

Central West Festival of Bridge (10-13 April)

Open Pairs (68 pairs competing)

Gary Barwick and Helen Milward 8th
Anne Grayden and Julie Sadler 17th
Di Coats and Jan Clarke 25th
Dasha Brandt and David Bowerman 54th
Chris Hannan and Chris Hasemore 64th

Intermediate Pairs (32 competing)

Alan Bustany and Pauline Caust 25th

Restricted Pairs (32 competing)

Elaine Hume and Peter Hume 5th

Jane Stephens and Colin Kleinig 22nd

Kevin Hughes and Tracey Dillon 25th

Open Teams (40 teams competing)

Alan Bustany, Pauline Caust, Julie Sadler and Anne Grayden 17th

Gary Barwick, Helen Milward, Mark and Julie Guthrie 26th

Di Coats, Jan Clarke, Terry Bodycote and Paul Weaver 28th

Wendy Mitchell, Margaret Regan, Chris Hannan & Chris Hasemore 34th

Dasha Brandt, David Bowerman, Kwi Tan and Robin Ho 38th

Restricted Teams (16 teams competing)

Jane Stephens, Colin Kleinig, Jody Summerhill and Lucy D'Ambrosio 5th

Kevin Hughes, Tracey Dillon, Peter Hume & Elaine Hume 15th

Novice Teams (12 teams competing)

Gabi King, Helen Fisher, Kat King and Julieanne Perceval 12th

BRIDGE EDUCATION

Wendy Mitchell

Workshops – Intermediate + Saturdays, 9.30am

5 players joined the ranks of Jacoby 2NT users on April 26.

This Saturday, May 10, looks at the use of Reverse Count and McKenney Discards in defence.

I have been approached to repeat my workshops on **Multi-2 Openings**. These will be conducted on Saturday mornings also:

May 24 Tarting up your Twos: Multi-2D

May 31 Tarting up your Twos: 2-suited openings, 2H/2S/2NT

If I can obtain permission I will conduct these at the club. Otherwise I will hold the sessions at my home. If you are interested, Write your name on the list at the club or contact me:

0423 388 529 or wmi20245@bigpond.com

BOOKINGS ARE ESSENTIAL



























National Ellen Williams
Local Cheryl Davison

Graduate Gabi King

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for May

Jenny Bennett, Garry Clarke, Bernie Davidson, Catherine Gordon, Chris Hasemore, Pip Havyatt, Gary Heyting, Marcela Hrnecir, Frank Pellarini, Marilyn Scott, Oscar Tap.

LAST MONTH'S PROBLEM

Board 7 Dlr: S Vul: All	 K2  J9  AKJ64  AK43	
 74  Q85  T98  QT865	 	 JT653  KT74  2  972
19 4 4 13	 AQ98  A632  Q753  J	N: 2  7  4  4  5NT S: 2  7  4  4  5NT E: W:

How can South make all 13 tricks in Diamonds, given the D10 lead?

Only one answer was received, from Ros Dey. Congratulations!
 (Now 13 tricks looks easy!)

In her words . . .

I can see 11 tricks (3xS, 1xH, 5xD and 2xC) and need to find two more.

If West has at least 3 clubs, we can play 2 top clubs then ruff one low then return to hand and ruff another with DQ. Importantly, we need to preserve communication, and not incur an unnecessary ruff.

Take the diamond lead in dummy, and play CA, CK (discarding a heart) and club ruff. If East ruffs 3rd round, then over ruff.

A diamond back to dummy reveals 3/1 split. Play the last club and ruff with DQ. You can now play a small spade to SK, draw the last trump and discard a heart on the third spade.

DOUBLING FOR TAKEOUT

Wendy Mitchell

The standard ‘takeout’ double applies after an opponent opens with a suit bid. For example -

1H, then X (by you) asks partner to bid, ie ‘take out’ the contract from 1H to something else.

However, when your Partner has opened and the next hand makes an overcall of a suit, then X by you is also for takeout, eg:

1xsuit (partner) - suit overcall - X (you) asks partner to bid again.

This double by responder has the unusual name of a ***negative double***.

On Monday Evening there was some lively discussion at the bridge table, with some varying opinions about negative doubles in particular situations.

Top teachers and writers (Ron Klinger, Larry Cohen, Barbara Seagram etc) agree on the following general principles.

1. The doubler promises the other Major or Majors
2. At the 1-level only 6+ points are required; more points are needed at higher levels.

In summary:

Opener	Over-caller	Res-ponder	Comment
1 x minor	minor	X	BOTH Majors, 4+ / 4+
1 x minor	Major	X	OTHER Major, 4+
1 x Major	minor	X	OTHER Major, 4+, < 3x support for partner
1 x Major	Major	X	Both minors, 4+ / 4+

If responder bids a suit at the 2-level (instead of doubling), this guarantees a 5xsuit and 10+ points.

There are 2 special cases at the 1-level.

Case 1

Opener	Over-caller	Res-ponder	Comment
1C	1D	1H	4+ suit, 6+ points, denies the other major
		1S	

Case 2

Opener	Over-caller	Res-ponder	Comment
1C	1H	X	Exactly 4 x spades, 6+ points
		1S	5+ spades, 6+ points


On Page 7 is an example of Case 1 from Friday May 2:

East opens 1C. If South passes, West bids 1H, East raises to 2H (mini 12-15), and now with 13 Total Points, West can bid the 4H game. Five pairs out of 8 did this, making 10 tricks.

However, what if South overcalls 1D?

If West had 4/4 in both Majors, a *negative double* would apply. However, with only 1xMajor, the correct bid is 1H.

Note that this promises 4+ hearts and 6+ points. Bidding can then proceed as before.

Board 21 Dir: N Vul: N-S	♠ 9864 ♥ 96 ♦ 54 ♣ KQJT3	
♠ AJ3 ♥ AT74 ♦ QJ98 ♣ 96		♠ K72 ♥ KQJ3 ♦ T6 ♣ A842
6 12 13 9	♠ QT5 ♥ 852 ♦ AK732 ♣ 75	N: S: E: 1 ♣ 3 ♦ 4 ♥ 2 ♠ 4NT W: 1 ♣ 3 ♦ 4 ♥ 2 ♠ 4NT

Many players find it hard to bid 1H over 1D, as we expect that an overcall of an overcall promises a 5x suit. The above situation is the exception to this rule!

If West doubles with the above hand, East is assured that this shows BOTH Majors. If East happens to have 4xspades and a stronger hand they would bid 3S or even 4S. Then West may not have the bidding space to correct to No Trumps.

If West bids 2NT immediately, showing a D stopper and 10-12 HCPs, the 4-4 heart fit will be missed.

Barbara Seagram believes that the Negative Double is the third most important convention after Blackwood and Stayman! Two situations where you should not use a negative double:

1. Always show support if partner opens a Major
2. With 10+ HCPS, shift to a 5+ suit if you can

There is plenty more to learn about how opener and responder continue the bidding and what to do if there is interference.

Standard negative doubles are played at the 1 and 2-levels, but can be played at higher levels, by partnership agreement.

Try your understanding of the basics with the following questions.

Choose the correct bid, and give a brief explanation for your choice.

A FREE GAME will be given to every player, ranked **LOCAL MASTER OR BELOW**, who answers correctly.

	Open	Over -call	Your hand	Bid	
1	1D	1S	♠ 42 ♥ AQT8 ♦ 32 ♣ QT876	X	2C
2	1D	1S	♠ 42 ♥ AQT87 ♦ KQ76 ♣ 32	X	2H
3	1D	1S	♠ QT82 ♥ KQ2 ♦ 32 ♣ Q987	X	1NT
4	1C	2H	♠ A765 ♥ A2 ♦ A76 ♣ A654	X	3NT
5	1C	2H	♠ KJ876 ♥ AK ♦ Q7653 ♣ 2	2S	3NT
6	1C	1D	♠ AT87 ♥ KQ2 ♦ 86 ♣ J765	X	1S
7	1C	1D	♠ AT87 ♥ KQ32 ♦ 86 ♣ J76	X	1H
8	1C	1H	♠ KJ876 ♥ AQ43 ♦ 876 ♣ 2	X	1S
9	1D	1H	♠ K654 ♥ 2 ♦ AQ872 ♣ AJ2	X	1S
10	1C	1S	♠ A2 ♥ KQ87 ♦ K2 ♣ QJT87	X	2C
11	1C	1S	♠ KJ3 ♥ JT7 ♦ QT87 ♣ Q76	1NT	2D
12	1H	2C	♠ AT87 ♥ K2 ♦ KQJ3 ♣ 542	X	2D
13	1H	2C	♠ QJ87 ♥ 2 ♦ KQT652 ♣ 32	X	2D
14	1D	2H	♠ AJ32 ♥ A2 ♦ AJ76 ♣ A32	X	3NT
15	1D	2H	♠ A2 ♥ KJ987 ♦ 32 ♣ T876	X	Pass

Email your answers to Wendy: wmi20245@bigpond.com or hand her a written copy, no later than May 31.

Answers and Winners will be reported in the next Newsletter.

Z ELDA OVERHALL CUP

Red Masterpoints

Mon, May 19

Who was Zelda Overhall?

Zelda was instrumental in forming the Central Coast Bridge Club and was appointed Patron of Central Coast Leagues Club Bridge Club when it was formed in 1987.

Why do we have a trophy named after her?

This was initially to honour Zelda as our Patron.

Why is this trophy for less-experienced players?

Zelda had a huge influence as a teacher on the Central Coast, introducing large numbers to the game of bridge.

Who can win this trophy?

The best Bronze Regional (or below) pair, as at March 31. There is also a Special Prize for the best Silver Local (or below) pair.

Can higher ranked players participate in the event?

Yes, they can. They can earn red points also, but not win the trophy.

What happens if I am eligible but my regular partner is ranked higher than Bronze Regional?

Just for this day you need to find another eligible player to be your partner. Refer to the list displayed on the pillar near the Director's table.

Are there any other restrictions?

Only that each player is a financial member of CCLCBC.

DON'T BE SHY – FIND A PARTNER & HAVE A TRY

EASTER EGG RAFFLE

A big thank you to all the support we received with ticket sales. The amount raised was \$602.10. Allawah House will be very grateful.

Drawn on Wednesday April 16, the winners were Gary Barwick, Marg Regan and Greg Eustace.

Thanks again.

Ruth Griffin

GOOD LUCK TO:

- Our representatives in the State Mixed Pairs Final May 17-18
- Several of our members who are travelling to Sydney to compete in the Les Longhurst Teams of 3 on Sunday, June 1.

NEW MEMBERS

Please welcome David Ruppin (0410 616 653) and add his details to your program book.

COMING EVENTS

MAY

Monday	1 pm	May 5, 12, 19 , 26
Monday Evening	7 pm	May 12, 19, 26
Wednesday	1 pm	May 14, 21
Thursday Evening	7 pm	May 1, 8, 15, 22
Friday	1 pm	May 2, 9, 16, 23

Special Events

Zelda Overhall Cup	R	Mon 19
Charity Week	all sessions	Mon 12 to Fri 16
Thursday Evenings	E (best 2 of 4)	Thu 1 to 22
State Seniors Congress	R	
	<i>Pairs</i> 12.30pm	Tue 27 & Wed 28 all day
	<i>Teams</i> 10am	Thu 29 all day & Fri 30 am

NO DAY OR NIGHT SESSIONS DURING THE CONGRESS

JUNE

Monthly Shield (5)	E	Wednesday 4
President's Cup	R	Wednesday 11
Winter Pairs	R	Monday 16
GNOT Q 1, 2	G/P	Thursday 19
High-Low Teams	P	Friday 27

(Sponsored by David Snow)

Wendy Mitchell

Editor

NB: The Editor's position will be vacant from July 31. Anyone interested?