

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



NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2019

R E P O R T O N
C O N G R E S S
S U C C E S S

The Bridge Club held its Inaugural Weekend Congress on September 21 & 22. It coincided with the Metropolitan Grand National Open Teams Finals, which impacted our number of entries. Nevertheless, the numbers were more than respectable. The Leagues Club catered for a most enjoyable lunch, and drinks and nibbles at the end of play each day. Our Congress Director was Alan Bustany, a member of our Club.

On Saturday, 28 pairs competed in the Open Division and 29 pairs competed in the Restricted Division. The winners of the Open Pairs Final were our own Dasha Brandt and David Bowerman, and the Restricted Pairs Final were Kim and Doug Dalling of Sydney, who were part of our Bridge Cruise earlier this year. The remarkable thing was that the Dallings were

Novice players. Quite a number of people staying overnight tried the Star Buffet on Saturday night and really enjoyed the food.

One negative aspect of the day was the continuous complaint by both Open and Restricted players that they expected Swiss and if they had known it was Matchpoint, they would not have come. They stated that they would get more red masterpoints in a Swiss movement.

On Sunday, the Open attracted 18 teams and the Restricted 14 teams. There were 28 Grand Masters and at the other end, 33 Novices.

(continued on Page 2)

BRIGHT & BUBBLY BRIDGE

**Melbourne Cup Day Tuesday Nov 5
Parkview Room, 9.30am**

Come along, have some fun and wear your brightest colours!

Sweepstakes and Prizes to be won.
Cost of Bridge and Lunch TBA - watch the noticeboard.

The Open Teams was won by Sydney team Yumin Li, William Zhang, Julian Abel and Peter Jeffery. The Restricted was won by Shannon Queree, David Duke, Kathy Duke and Sandy Boyd, who won all their matches. The top three teams in this Division were all Novice players!

Overall people had a very enjoyable weekend and the success of this Congress can be attributed to the many club members who volunteered their services.

Louis Koolen *Congress Convener*

Please see Pages 3 & 4 for full results and Pages 5 to 8 for photographs

A BIG THANK YOU to all the wonderful Club members who brought along a lovely morning tea on both Saturday and Sunday for our Congress. Special thanks to the non-playing members Kerryl McGrath, Wendy Byrne, Margo Burnet and Rosanne & Tony Ransley for volunteering to prepare sandwich plates for the lunches.

Lovely to see everyone assisting the clean-up, especially our hard-working Committee. Good Club with great team effort. !! Well Done !!

Ruth Griffin

RECENT RESULTS

INTER-CLUB TEAMS (2)	15 teams	Thu Sep 5		
	Wins	Draws	Losses	VPs
1st Sylvia Foster, Jaan Oitmaa, Lorraine Lindsay, Chris Hannan	4	0	2	84.37
2nd Henrietta Hohnen, Anne Grayden, Austin Driscoll, Roy Cotton	5	0	1	80.71
3rd Hope Tomlinson, Barry Foster, John Duncan, Martin Johnson	4	2	0	80.32

Brisbane Water BC was well represented and successful with first and third placings. As well as our players from our own club there were players from Central Coast BC but none this year from the Community Bridge Club Bateau Bay.

SPRING PAIRS	(R)	6.5 tables	Mon Eve Sep 9
1st	Dianne March & Carl Sparre		64.17%
2nd	Lorraine Lindsay & Di Coats		62.92%
3rd	Eunice de Vries & Wendy Mitchell		58.75%

SWITCHING SINGLES (8) (E) 6.5 tables Mon Eve Sep 16

1st	Jann Small & Carl Sparre		62.08%
2nd	Terry Dyer & Ruth Griffin		55.42%
3rd	Leon Babinski & Eunice de Vries		55.00%

**CCLCBC INAUGURAL WEEKEND CONGRESS (Red B4)
Open Pairs 2 sessions 28 pairs Sat Sep 21****Qualifying:** 14 table Mitchell, 9 rounds x 3 boards**Final:** 7 table Howell, 13 rounds x 2 boards

1st	Dasha Brandt & David Bowerman	\$300	65.71%
2nd	Garry & Sally Clarke	\$200	59.29%
3rd	Helen Milward & Di Coats	\$100	54.17%

Plate: 7 table Howell, 13 rounds x 2 boards

1st	Colin Mitchell & Peter Berzins	\$200	61.22%
2nd	Cathy & Phillip Hocking	\$100	60.26%
3rd	Marie Purkiss & Toni Dixon	\$80	59.62%

Restricted/Novice Pairs 2 sessions 29 pairs Sat Sep 21**Qualifying:** 14½ table Mitchell, 9 rounds x 3 boards**Final:** 7 table Howell, 13 rounds x 2 boards

1st	Kim & Douglas Dalling	\$150	64.42%
2nd	Mary Poynton & Tony White	\$100	58.01%
3rd	Lyn Lynch & Len Pascoe	\$80	57.37%

Plate: 7½ table Howell, 6 rounds x 4 boards

1st	Maeve Doyle & Stuart Schon	\$100	71.18%
2nd	Susan Pascoe & Josephine Most	\$80	61.01%

Best Novice Pair (unplaced) – Paul Lavings Book Vouchers

Judy Gudaitis & Colin Speller

Open Teams 18 teams, 6 matches x 9 boards Sun Sep 22

		Wins	Draws	Losses	VPs
1st	Yumin Li, William Zhang, Julian Abel, Peter Jeffery	4	2	0	90.12
	\$600				
2nd	Edmond Lee, Crispy Rhodes, Nico Ranson, John McMahon	4	2	0	87.23
	\$400				
3rd	Sharon & Greg Mayo, Chris Dibley, Michael Seldon	4	2	0	84.82
	\$200				

Restricted/Novice Teams 14 teams, 6 matches x 9 boards **Sun Sep 22**

		Wins	Draws	Losses	VPs
1st	Shannon Queree, Sandy Boyd Kathy & David Duke	6	0	0	92.87
	\$300				
2nd	Kathy Ivits, Alma van der Walt, Ron Meaney, Claire Wild	4	1	1	77.99
	\$200				
3rd	Peter & Alison Mackey Kim & Douglas Dalling	4	0	2	72.35
	\$100				
Best Novice Team (unplaced)	\$100				
	Stephen Calcroft, Peter Cloughessy, Judy Gudaitis, Colin Speller				

CONGRESSES & FINALS **Best Local Players**

PORT MACQUARIE/HASTINGS CONGRESS **Sep 7 & 8**
Ian McKinnon & Virginia Dressler, Noel & Shirley Crockett – 2nd out of 22 teams

HUNTERS HILLS TEAMS **Sep 8**
Marie Purkiss, Di Nichols, Elizabeth Lawrence, Alfie Nation – 16th out of 30 teams.

GREAT LAKES CONGRESS **Sep 14**
Swiss Pairs 42 pairs
7th Sally & Garry Clarke, 9th Elizabeth Lawrence & Henrietta Hohnen,
15th Virginia Dressler & Ian McKinnon, 19th Lorraine Lindsay & Chris Hannan

Teams 25 teams **Sep15**
13th Hope Tomlinson, Barry Foster, Judy Wulff, Martin Johnson
15th Sylvia Foster, Jaan Oitmaa, Lorraine Lindsay, Chris Hannan

TUESDAY RESTRICTED DUPLICATE - less than 100 MPs

Expressions of interest are still being called for. So far there are not enough for the minimum 3 tables to make this proposed session viable. Contact Wendy Mitchell (0423 388 529 or wmi20245@bigpond.com) if you can support this initiative by playing (fairly) regularly on a Tuesday morning.

CONGRESS PAIRS

Saturday
September 21

Open Final
&
Open Plate



Open Pairs First
Dasha and David



Open Pairs Second
Sally and Garry



Open Plate First
Peter & Colin



**Dramatic recovery
from a strategic
last in the
← qualifying!**

Open Pairs Third
Helen and Di



Open Plate Third
Marie & Toni



**Top half of the Open
Final were all Central
Coast players!**

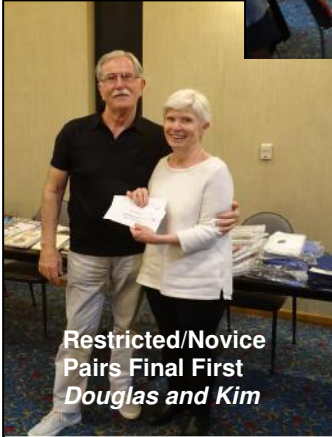


Open Plate
Second
Cathy & Phillip

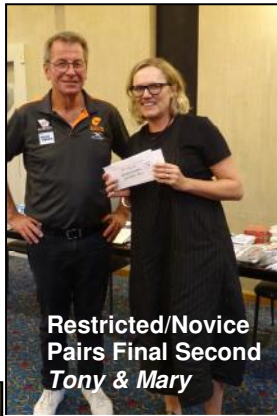
CONGRESS PAIRS

Saturday
September 21

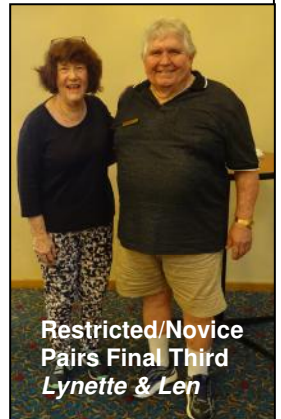
Restricted/
Novice Final



Restricted/Novice
Pairs Final First
Douglas and Kim



Restricted/Novice
Pairs Final Second
Tony & Mary



Restricted/Novice
Pairs Final Third
Lynette & Len



Restricted/Novice
Pairs Best Unplaced
Judy & Colin

Unfortunately, photos of the Plate place-getters are not available.

CONGRESS TEAMS Sunday September 22



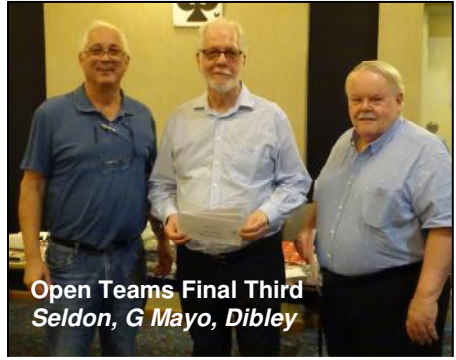
Congress Director
Alan Bustany



Open Teams Final First
Li, Zhang, Abel, Jeffery



Open Teams Final Second
McMahon, Lee, Rhodes, Ranson



Open Teams Final Third
Seldon, G Mayo, Dibley



**Open Teams
 Final Second**



Restricted/Novice Teams Final First
Queree, D Duke, K Duke, Boyd



Restricted/Novice Teams Final Second
Wild, Ivits, Meaney, van der Walt



**Restricted/
 Novice
 Teams Final**

*D Dalling, K Dalling,
 P Mackey, A Mackey*



**Congress
 Convenor,
 Louis Koolen,**
 can just be seen
 seated at the
 Director's table



Best unplaced Novice Team
*Calcroft, Speller, Gudaitis,
Cloughessy*

... continued

CONGRESS TEAMS



**Placegetters were all
Novice Teams, finishing
ahead of the Restricted
players!**

SOCIAL SUNDAY - *Sunday September 8*

22 players arrived to a room decorated with black and red balloons. Tables played each board at the same time, followed by discussion of the hand, led by Wendy M but with input from all! It was probably a bit ambitious to play four boards either side of the break (where there was considerable socialising), so next time we will try a total of six boards.

It was great to see some new faces, as well as some we had not seen for a while. We look forward to these people coming again and hope some more of you will join us pm ***Sunday October 13!***

For planning purposes please advise Pamela de Lacy (0415 288 873) if you are attending. Remember to bring \$1 and a 'plate'.

JIM HANCOX

11/11/18 - 9/7/19

Six people represented Jim's bridge friends at the family's memorial service on Sunday Sep 13. Paul Unger read a poem he had written about Jim and then spoke about their long bridge partnership. Wendy Mitchell presented the family with a timeline of Jim's achievements from Beginner to Regional Master and the following recollections which she read:

In 2010 I was editing the Newsletter for the CCLC Bridge Club. At the time I was publishing profiles of various members and I chose to interview Jim for the October edition. In March that year he had started Beginners Lessons with teacher Lorraine (Harkness)

Lindsay after seeing Bridge players in action adjacent to the Indoor Bowls area. These were followed by Improvers lessons, then, while the rest of the pupils were still practising under supervision, Jim wasted no time – he decided to go straight to the main game. His first was with Liz Kerr in which he won some masterpoints and on his third game he came first with Joan Lehane. (After such a flying start I must tell you that from then on, if Jim did not do as well as he wished, he would tell me I needed to find him better partners!)

My interview with Jim revealed that he was President of the Indoor Bowls Association and had just enrolled in a guitar course so that he could accompany his own singing at functions. He decided to play bridge because it is a thinking game and he saw the brain as a muscle to be exercised.

Bridge players tend to be rather competitive and like to measure their performance. One rating system, called CARDS, showed that Jim made monthly improvement, almost without exception. However, the main measure is the Australian Bridge Federation ranking system. After only one year Jim achieved Graduate Master, followed by Club Master in September of the same year. He then moved through the ranks of Local, *Local and then **Local for which he was named the best club performer in 2016. Finally Jim achieved Regional Master ranking in January 2017.

Jim's main partner during his bridge career was Paul Unger. This partnership was very successful, although it could be fiery at times. Together they won the Christmas Pairs trophy in 2015. The same year Jim and Dawn McCorquodale were first in *Dashing December*. This was an event where one plays with the same partner on the same day each week and the best scores, say 3 out of 5, are chosen.

Jim participated in other similar events because there are additional masterpoints to be earned for a placing. He gained these in Jumping January with Paul in 2015 and 2016, and in September Tuesdays 2015 with Brian Warburton.

He also gained placings in some trophy events:

Teams of 3 – 2nd in 2012 with team mates Jan Wheeler and Matt Raj Mal
and 3rd in 2015 with team mates Tem Lancaster and Paul Unger
Henry Kendall Pairs – 3rd with George Boettiger in 2017

I have some particular fond memories of:

Jim the gentleman who would insist on moving a table or carrying a chair for those 25 years his junior

His reason for not being available to play in a Teams of 3 Championship because he was (at 94 years old) working for his son at the time

Jim's production of his own Bridge Guide – a set of notes that he asked me to evaluate. These were quite extensive, but he was frustrated that I couldn't finish reading them between bridge hands and needed to take them home!

I am the teacher now for the Bridge Club and I always encourage new players with Jim's inspiring example of learning at the age of 90 and going on to become a successful player. He will be missed by members of our club but remembered with great admiration.

Wendy Mitchell

THE CLUB PSYCH REGISTER

The Club maintains a register of occasions on which individuals have made a psychic call. Why? Because Law 40C(1) says that "repeated deviations [from a bidding system] lead to implicit understandings which then form part of the partnership's methods and must be disclosed" — so we need to know if deviations are being repeated!

So what is a "psych" or a "psychic call"? The Laws define it as "**a deliberate and gross misstatement of honour strength and/or suit length**". The rule of thumb is a King outside the agreed limit of points and/or two cards outside the agreed limit of suit length, but weird distributions might affect this assessment.

A typical psych — one that I have done myself — is opening the bidding in 3rd seat with almost zero points (because it interferes with the 2C opening almost certainly coming from 4th seat). Another is responding to partners opening 1H that has been doubled with 1S (showing 4+ spades) with only one or two spades and four hearts (and not many points) — the idea is to stop the opposition finding their spade fit with a plan to escape to 3H if you get doubled. Or control bidding an Ace you don't have to prevent a lead in that suit. But it is really *any* bid that tells significant untruths about your holding.

It is important to note that psychic calls are perfectly legal — provided that "**partner has no more reason than opponents to be aware of the deviation**". It *is* an infraction for partner to take any action to "catch" a potential psych, such as modifying their responses to 3rd seat openings in case partner has zero points — such actions would be part of your agreements and must be disclosed.

So what do you do if you, partner, or your opponents make a psychic call? At the end of the hand call the Director. It is best if the psychic caller reports themselves. Second best is if their partner reports the misdirection. But it is especially important for the opponents to report such actions so that they can be recorded in our Psych Register. As I said above, the call is perfectly legal, no one should take offence at being reported (indeed it could be a badge of honour!), but we do need to capture any such incident.

Finally it is **not** a psychic call if a weird distribution causes you to assess a hand as stronger than its high card points indicate. For example a recent GNOT hand with only 7 points but a 7411 distribution was opened 1S, probably at least four points fewer than the card indicates, but not a psych even though opening a hand with fewer than eight points at the one-level *would* be considered a "highly unusual method" for system classification purposes.

Now you know! We look forward to filling in our Psych Register with your reports on your opponents. Maybe, even, you could try out these new-fangled ways of confusing your partner yourself — just make sure that if you do, you report yourself, and you don't make a habit of it!

Alan Bustany

Chief Director

MONDAY DUPLICATE - INTERESTING HANDS - COME JOIN US

After the 'comfort break' players are presented a hand from the previous week that had some challenging features, with all having the chance to contribute to a discussion. On Monday Sep 26 two grand slams from the Congress Pairs Qualifying were considered as they had generated much interest.

On Board 10 Dasha & David were the only pair to bid 7NT in the Open. This was also bid and made by Judy Gudaitis and Colin Speller in the Restricted/Novice section.

Board 4 saw another Grand Slam of 7S. Dasha & David were one of 3 pairs to bid it in the Open while Jean & Ron Moran bid it in the other section. Here it is:

<u>North</u>	<u>South</u>	West is the Dealer and passes. North opens
♠ AJ2	♠ KQ9743	1NT, East passes, now what should South bid
♥ T3	♥ AKQ95	with its 10-playing trick hand?
♦ AKJ4	♦ Q9	
♣ KJ92	♣ - - -	You might consider transferring to spades by

bidding 2H, and then jumping to 7H. The problem is that if partner has ♣A instead of the ♦A, then only 12 tricks are available. Similarly, if you simply ask for Aces, partner will show you 2, but you will not know which 2.

One way of handling voids when asking for Aces is to use **Exclusion Blackwood**. After setting trumps, a *jump shift* shows a void and asks for Aces (or Controls) not including that suit. So -

1NT	2H (transfer)	
2S	4C (Ace ask on D, H, S)	Answering in steps -
4S (=2)	7S is still a gamble as you need to know about ♦K.	

The next suit, which is not trumps, asks for Kings. So, 5C asks and the response of 5S shows 2. Now 7S is assured.

Lorraine Lindsay suggests this bidding sequence:

1NT	3S (setting spades, slam interest, inviting control bids)
4D = ♦A but <u>not ♣A</u>	4H = ♥A
4S to play	4NT asking for Key Cards on spades
5H = 2 (must be ♠A and ♦A as you have ♥A & ♠K), so now 7S can be bid.	

NEW ABF RANKINGS – AUGUST

Congratulations to:

<i>Silver Life</i>	Pam Joseph	<i>Graduate</i>	Margo Burnet
<i>Club</i>	Terry Dyer		Jennifer Anderson
	Wendy Byrne		

COMING EVENTS

OCTOBER

Henry Kendall Pairs	R	Tuesday	1
UHMP 5		Tuesday	8
UHMP 6		Thursday	10
Club Swiss Pairs	C/P	Fridays	11 & 18
<i>Social Sunday</i>	<i>2pm</i>	<i>Sunday</i>	<i>13</i>
Monthly Shield (9)	E	Monday	14
Graded Pairs	C/P	Mondays	21 & 28
Switching Singles (9)	E	Monday Eve	21
State Open Pairs	R/P	Wednesdays	23 & 30

NOVEMBER

Gosford Pairs	R	Saturday	2
Monthly Shield (10)	E	Monday	4
<i>Melbourne Cup</i>	<i>9.30 am start</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>5</i>
Remembrance Day Prs	R	Monday	11
Switching Singles (10)	E	Monday Eve	18
Club Teams 1, 2, 3	C/P	Wednesdays	13, 20, 27

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for October:

Maureen Bell, Trish Byrnes, Richard Carter, Pauline Caust, Mary Corrigan, Roy Cotton, Pauline Evans, Anne Grayden, Suzanne Harrison, John King, Susan McCall, Peter Mackey, Ursula Middleton, Rosanne Ransley, Carl Sparre and Ken Townsend.

NEW MEMBERS

Please welcome new member Mary Corrigan (0409 326 121) and returning member Janice Abberton (0475 842 786) and add their numbers to your Program book.

RED POINT (B4C) SESSIONS ALLOCATED FOR 2020

	Central Coast Bridge Club	Brisbane Water Bridge Club	CC Leagues Club Bridge Club	Community Bridge Club
2019	26	18	17	10
2020	23	19	17	9

Colin Mitchell, Editor