

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



NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2020

B **RIDGE
HOLIDAY**

March 17 - 20

It is not too late to still be part of this exciting initiative.

Your package at Hunter Valley's *Estate Tuscany*, Pokolbin, includes:

- breakfast and dinner
- bridge morning and evening
- three (optional) workshops conducted by Ian Lisle.

Pick up a flyer from the club or for full details and how to enter please see our website, *Forthcoming Events*.

Talk to Louis Koolen if you have any queries: 0419 281 725

2020 CCLCBC MEMBERSHIP

Total financial members are 170 (101 Home, 69 Associate). Visitor table fees now apply to those not rejoined.

B **USHFIRE
RELIEF PAIRS**

Players earned a total of 11.9 red masterpoints, at no cost to the club, courtesy of the ABF. More importantly, a cheque for \$1550 was forwarded to the NSW Rural Fire Service.

In round figures, this comprised: Table fees and donations (690); Jams (50); Raffle (510); Donations in envelopes (300).

Raffle winners were: June Ball & Elaine McGorm, (hampers); June Thompson & Marie Purkiss (wine).

Thank you to Director Louis who donated his services, and to all our generous members.

**PRESENTATION DAY
Friday March 13 - 9.30am**

Watch the Noticeboard for details

RECENT RESULTS

BUSH FIRE RELIEF PAIRS (R) 15 tables Wed Jan 22

| | | |
|-------|----------------------------------|--------|
| 1st | Di Coats & Dorothy Berzins | 62.47% |
| 2nd = | Henrietta Hohnen & Jacqui Wilson | 59.17% |
| 2nd = | Hope Tomlinson & Barry Foster | 59.17% |

AUSTRALIA DAY PAIRS (R) 7 tables Mon Eve Jan 27

| | | |
|-----|---------------------------------|--------|
| 1st | Di Coats & Dorothy Berzins | 65.06% |
| 2nd | Anne Grayden & Julie Sadler | 59.94% |
| 3rd | Richard Carter & Chris Hasemore | 58.65% |

JUMPING JANUARY (E) Best 2 of 5 Fridays

This was the first time the event has been held on a Friday (previously Thursdays, Saturdays and Monday Evenings).

19 pairs played at least twice with the same partner. A further 17 pair combinations played once only in the month.

Nine pairs, the top half of the field rounded down, earned outright awards as shown below. Some results were very close!

| | | Best 2 Total | Outright MPs |
|-----|------------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| 1st | Alfie Nation & Gwen White | 128.35 | 0.57 |
| 2nd | Di Coats & Jan Clarke | 125.75 | 0.40 |
| 3rd | Eunice de Vries & Wendy Mitchell | 125.20 | 0.29 |
| 4th | Henrietta Hohnen & Jacqui Wilson | 120.72 | 0.19 |
| 5th | Margo Brennan & Dorothy Berzins | 113.52 | 0.14 |
| 6th | Ellen Williams & Agnes Marsh | 112.99 | 0.11 |
| 7th | Louis Koolen & Barbara Grant | 112.61 | 0.10 |
| 8th | Marie Purkiss & Elizabeth Lawrence | 112.36 | 0.08 |
| 9th | Stewart Duxbury & Philip Dey | 103.22 | 0.06 |

SUMMER PAIRS (R) 7.5 tables Mon Feb 3

| | | |
|-----|-------------------------------|--------|
| 1st | Adele Mills & Dorothy Berzins | 65.28% |
| 2nd | Angela & Kevin Dougall | 58.02% |
| 3rd | Bob Morris & Gwen White | 55.56% |

| | | | |
|---------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| MONTHLY SHIELD (1) | (E) | 8 tables | Wed Feb 5 |
| 1st | Louis Koolen & Barbara Grant | | 59.52% |
| 2nd | Jan Clarke & Alan Bustany | | 56.85% |
| 3rd | Di Coats & Dorothy Berzins | | 55.65% |

| | | | |
|-----------------------------|---|-----------------|------------------|
| INTER-CLUB TEAMS (1) | (R) | 18 teams | Thu Feb 6 |
| 7 x 8-board matches | | Wins | Draws |
| | | | VPs |
| 1st | Stewart Duxbury, Philip Dey, Gwen White, Ros Dey | 5 | 0 |
| | | | 101.03 |
| 2nd | Chris Hannan, Lorraine Lindsay, Jaan Oitmaa, Sylvia Foster | 5 | 0 |
| | | | 96.81 |
| 3rd | Hope Tomlinson, Barry Foster, Karen Ody, Martin Johnson | 5 | 0 |
| | | | 91.68 |

See Page 4/5 for Report

CONGRESSES & FINALS **Best Local Players**

SUMMER FESTIVAL OF BRIDGE – Canberra **Jan 8 to 19**
Further to the results reported last month -

South-West Pacific Open Teams Championship **110**

- 15th Sharon & Greg Mayo (with Michael Simes & Paul McGrath)
(1st placed Country Team)
- 20th Sally & Garry Clarke, (with Anita Curtis, Kim Neal, Linda King,
David Hudson)
- 42nd Jan Clarke, Di Coats, Helen Milward, Chris Williams
(2nd placed Women's Team)

NEW ABF RANKINGS - JANUARY

Congratulations to:

| | | | |
|----------------|---------------|--------------|-------------------|
| <i>State</i> | Philip Dey | <i>Local</i> | Margaret Campbell |
| **Local | David Howells | | Joan Cottom |
| | | | Jann Small |

BRIDGE EDUCATION - 2020

The full proposed program was included in last month's Newsletter. Some is reproduced here:

Beginners Course, 2020

Teacher: Eunice de Vries

This will be offered on *Thursday* mornings, 9.30 – 11.30, beginning *April 16*. Full details are on the website. Tell your friends to contact Eunice on **4328 2979 or 0415 937 941 or lessons@cclcbridgeclub.asn.au**

Improvers Course, Part 2

Apologies that this course has been delayed due to a full March calendar. Lessons will now commence in April:

| | |
|----------|---|
| April 17 | Signals, Shifts by Responder, the Bath Coup |
| April 24 | Convention: Jacoby Transfers |
| May 1 | Opener's Rebids |
| May 8 | Review and Practice of the above |

For those who have completed the first half of the course the cost is \$35 (using the same text). Anyone else is welcome to attend some or all of the sessions, at \$10 per session (or \$3 for repeat pupils).

9.15 am (Homework Review) 9.30am – 11.30+ Lesson/Play

Saturday morning Workshops (9.30 – 11.30)

The next two, at \$10, will be:

| | |
|----------|--|
| March 14 | Jacoby 2NT convention (and pronunciation!) |
| April 18 | Transfers to Minors |

Monday morning Workshops (9.30 – 11.30) The first of these will be:

| | |
|---------|---|
| June 29 | Convention: lebensohl (and why not 'L') |
|---------|---|

Workshop and Improvers enquiries to Wendy Mitchell: 0423 388 529 or 4340 4879 or *lessons@ccclcbridgeclub.asn.au*

SPRING INTER-CLUB TEAMS REPORT

Players from the four registered clubs on the Central Coast competed as well as socialised in this bi-annual event. Unfortunately the Parkview Room was not available due to renovations, but fortunately the weather was not too hot, so our club rooms just coped with this number of teams.

Director, Alan Bustany, made a point of asking for calls instead of players (illegally) making their own rulings at the table. He certainly was kept busy with these and he did a great job of managing both the club room and the foyer. Thanks Alan.

Ruth Griffin, assisted by Julieanne Perceval, did her usual wonderful work in coordinating the food and presenting it all in time for morning tea, lunch (sandwiches and fruit), afternoon tea and then after bridge drinks and nibbles. Thank you Ruth!

Thanks too to all those who prepared/brought food: Anne Grayden, Alison Mackey, Barbara Grant, Julieanne, Ruth, Wendy M, Toni Dixon.

BIDDING: PART 1 - ALERTING & REVIEWING

It is an essential principle of the game of bridge that players may not have secret agreements with their partners, either in bidding or in card play. All agreements must be *fully* available and *fully* disclosed to the opponents.

So begin the ABF Alerting Regulations that require systemically identical system cards, disclosure of as much as you can rather than as little as you must, and the possibility of adjusted scores or even procedural penalties.

Alerting: You must alert any call that conveys a meaning other than a simple agreement to play in the denomination named, or high-card strength or length (3+ cards) in that denomination. Alerts are made by *both* audibly saying "alert" *and* circling the call on the bidding pad — explanations of alerted calls are **not** given until a request is made by the opponents.

So, you alert **everything** except natural bids, but there are four types of exceptions:

1. The Stayman 2C response to a 1NT opening (although it *is* alerted in a contested auction);
2. Cue bids of the opponent's suit;
3. Calls above 3NT (although conventional openings are still alerted); and
4. Doubles or Redoubles.

In addition, in uncontested auctions you must alert: weak jump responses; inverted minors; forcing 1NT response; new suit rebids with fewer than 3 in a minor or 4 in a major; and trial bids.

In contested auctions you should alert any non-forcing change of suit (except by a passed hand).

You should also alert a NT overcall which may not have a stopper in RHO's natural suit bid. Just to confuse matters you should not alert 1NT in the pass-out seat even if it does not promise a stopper.

Note that '2 over 1' bids that are forcing to game are **not** alerted.

Reviewing: A player may ask about the auction when it is their turn to act and not otherwise. They may ask about a specific call by asking "What do you understand by your partner's call?" *only if* it is in the immediate preceding round of bidding. Otherwise questions should be directed at the whole auction by asking "Can I have a review of the auction?"

It is best **not** to ask questions about alerted calls unless you need the information to make your call. And you should **never** ask pointed questions. Any *extraneous* information from asking questions is unauthorised to partner and may limit their options in subsequent bidding or play.

Alan Bustany - Chief Director

(Next month: Part 2 - Explaining & End of Auction)

2019 CONGRESS PLAYER OF THE YEAR

This award is for the most masterpoints earned at NSWBA-sponsored Congresses in 2019 (not just the overall Total).

Division

| | | |
|-------------------------|----------------|-------------------------|
| Open | David Weston | Sydney Bridge Centre |
| Intermediate (<750 MPs) | Warren Dobes | North Shore Bridge Club |
| Restricted (<300 MPS) | Fiona Lavery | North Shore Bridge Club |
| Novice (<100 MPs) | Claire Stammel | St George Budapest BC |

CCLCBC member and Director Ronnie Ng won the Novice category in 2012, the inaugural year of the event, and then he won the Restricted category in 2013. So there can be fame as well as MP fortune to be won by playing in congresses!

THIS MONTH IS JUST A LITTLE BIT BUSY . . .

Good luck to all those players competing in the Gold Coast Congress.

Included in these are most of our Directors! So . . .

In their absence arrangements have been made for most sessions (February 21 to 29) to have a qualified director in charge. However, a few may be need to be run by a senior player, using travellers instead of Bridgemates. Your cooperation and understanding will be appreciated.

FACTS, FANTASIES AND 'FILOSOPHY' OF PLAYING CARDS

The Chinese invented playing cards before AD 1000.

- ♣ Did you know that the Traditional (French) Deck (Pack) of Playing Cards is a strikingly coherent form of a Calendar? There are:
52 weeks in the year and there are 52 Playing Cards in a pack
13 weeks in each Season and there are 13 cards in each suit.
4 Seasons in a Year and 4 Suits in the pack
12 Months in a Year and there are 12 Court Cards. (Those with faces)
- ♦ The Red Cards represent Day, while Black Cards represent the Night.
- ♥ If you let Jacks = 11, Queens = 12, and the Kings = 13, then add up all the sums of $1 + 2 + 3 + \dots$ to $13 = 91$.
Multiply this by 4, for the 4 Suits, therefore $91 \times 4 = 364$, Add 1 that is the Joker and you will arrive at the number 365 being the Days in a Year!
- ♠ Of interest is the sum of the letters in all the names of the cards, ie: add up the letters in "Ace, two, three, four, five, six, seven, eight, nine, ten, Jack, Queen, King" = 52!
- ♠ The Spades indicate ploughing or working.
- ♥ The Hearts indicates Love thy crops.
- ♣ The Clubs indicates flourishing and growth.
- ♦ The Diamonds indicate reaping the wealth.
- ♠ In some card games 2 Jokers are used, indicating the Leap year.

Is there is a deeper Philosophy than just merely Playing Cards?
The Mathematical perfection is mind blowing.

(Thanks to Pauline Caust for the above)

SOCIAL SUNDAY**1.30 pm****Sunday February 16**

Please join us for an afternoon of relaxed bridge, social chit-chat, eating, drinking and a little learning -
 how to be POSITIVE with a NEGATIVE double.

Tell a friend or bring a friend, but no partner is required. Just bring \$1 or a plate, and advise Pamela de Lacy (**0415 288 873**) that you are coming!

COMING EVENTS**FEBRUARY**

| | | |
|-------------------------|---------------|------------------|
| Valentine Day Pairs | Green | Friday 14 |
| State Mixed Pairs Q 1&2 | R/P all day | Saturday 15 |
| <i>Social Sunday</i> | <i>1.30pm</i> | <i>Sunday 16</i> |
| Switching Singles (1) | E | Monday Eve 17 |

MARCH

| | | |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------|
| Monthly Shield (2) | E | Wednesday 4 |
| Presentation Day Pairs | R 9.30am | Friday 13 |
| Switching Singles (2) | E | Monday Eve 23 |
| <i>Hunter Holiday</i> | <i>Tuesday 17 to Friday 20</i> | |
| <i>Social Sunday</i> | <i>1.30pm</i> | <i>Sunday 22</i> |
| Country Teams Q 1&2 | R/P all day | Saturday 28 |
| Country Teams Q 3 | | Sunday 29 |

NEW MEMBERS

Please welcome new members: Tony Sappideen (0448 064 799); Christine Ashe (0425 267 253) and returning member: Tracey Dillon (0416 074 688) and add their numbers to your Program book.

SMILE AWHILE

Regardless of what sadistic impulses we may harbour, winning bridge means helping partner to avoid mistakes. (Frank Stewart)

Colin Mitchell, Editor