

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



NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2020

C **HARITY**
DAY - May 12

Charity Day is fast approaching- Tuesday May 12. This year we will be donating monies raised to Coast Shelter & Pandora. Please start preparing plants for sale and collecting pre loved items for the Trash & Treasure.

We are always looking for Vouchers & Gift Certificates for our raffles & Silent Auction. Any good ideas for money raising please contact Ruth Griffin 0407 854 060.

**ADDITIONAL CLEANING
OF BRIDGE ROOM**

Saturday, Tuesday & Thursday players: please prepare by putting up bins etc off the floor.

E **ASTER**
RAFFLE

Tickets will be available from Presentation day for the chance to win an Easter Hamper.

\$2 each or 3 for \$5

Proceeds to Charity Day funds.

BEGINNERS COURSE, 2020

Please take a leaflet from the club to advertise on a local noticeboard and tell your friends -

Thursday mornings, 9.30 – 11.30, beginning *April 16*.

8 weeks for \$80 includes Text book, notes and hand records.

Contact Eunice de Vries on **4328 2979 or 0415 937 941 or lessons@cclcbridgeclub.asn.au**

RECENT RESULTS

VALENTINE'S DAY PAIRS	8 tables	Fri Feb 14
1st Eunice de Vries & Wendy Mitchell		61.31%
2nd Anne Grayden & Trish Dennis		59.82%
3rd Carol Judd & Julie Sadler		59.23%

STATE MIXED PAIRS Q1 & 2 (R)	8 tables	Sat Feb 15
1st Christine Hadaway & Martin Johnson		60.90%
2nd Rosalind Dey & Stewart Duxbury		55.02%
3rd Philip & Cathy Hocking		54.92%

Congratulations to Christine and Martin as the new Club Mixed Pairs Champions.

SWITCHING SINGLES (1) (E)	5 tables	Mon Eve Feb 17
Don't forget that you have plenty of opportunity to compete in this event – the best 4 (out of a possible 10) with different partners will be chosen.		
1st Anne Grayden & Julie Sadler		60.65%
2nd Richard Carter & Lorraine Lindsay		60.19%
3rd Colin Mitchell & David Bowerman		59.72%

MONTHLY SHIELD (2) (E)	7 tables	Wed Mar 4
1st Louis Koolen & Barbara Grant		57.69%
2nd Peter Hall & Lyn Lynch		55.45%
3rd Bob Morris & Gwen White		54.49%

CONGRESSES & FINALS **Best Local Players**

GOLD COAST **Feb 21 - 29**
Central Coast bridge players, including at least 36 from our club, flocked to the 59th Gold Coast Congress for the chance to earn Gold points! Both pairs and teams events had multiple divisions to give players of all masterpoint ranks and opportunity: Rookie (<10), Under 50, Novice (<100), Restricted (<300), Intermediate (<750), Open, as well as prizes for Seniors, Mixed, Womens and Mens in the Teams Championship. On top of that, 11 walk-in events issued red points.

The administration of this Congress is remarkable, with scorers, directors

(including Ronnie Ng), caddies, helpers for the inexperienced players, workshops, volunteers, social activities and more . . . By the end of play 9007 tables had participated (cf 8845 in 2019, 8710 in 2018).

Just a selection of results:

Friday Novice Pairs: Beryl Lowry & John Aldersley - 2nd out of 68,

Weekend Matchpoint Swiss Pairs:

Cathy & Phillip Hocking - 7th out of 64, 0-500

Sylvia Foster & Jaan Oitmaa - 30th out of 150, Open


Monday Butler: Sally & Garry Clarke, 2nd EW

Teams Championship, 12x14 board matches, 236 teams:

Pauline Caust & Alan Bustany (with Tasmanian pr), 43rd/102, Restricted

Open: Sally & Garry Clarke, et al,(6-1-5), 65th; Greg & Sharon Mayo, et al, 5-0-7, 92nd; Barbara Grant, Louis Koolen, Anne Grayden, Julie Sadler (6-0-6), 160th.

Special mention to Jann Small and Suzanne Harrison for their first foray to an ABF Congress earning themselves 1.41 gold points.

Some of us were not so successful at the bridge table but had fun with the *Feathers to Fauna* theme 



SOCIAL SUNDAY 1.30 pm Sunday March 22

Last month 3 tables practised the benefits of *Negative Doubles*. Join us this month for an afternoon of relaxed bridge, social chit-chat, eating, drinking and a little learning - *have a second look at your hand!*

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!

NEW ABF RANKINGS - FEBRUARY

Congratulations to:

Regional Ruth Griffin

BIDDING: PART 2 - EXPLAINING & END OF AUCTION

Explaining

A full explanation of a call includes any conventional or partnership agreement, whether explicit or based on partnership experience. It includes any inferences from bids not made as well as any differences due to vulnerability or seat.

Naming a convention (eg Michaels or McKenney) is **not** an acceptable explanation, nor is the use of terms like "natural", "strong", or "weak" without appropriate qualification of suit length or point range. Say what your agreement means in the current circumstances.

If there is no agreement say "undiscussed" — do **not** attempt to offer a possible explanation. Experienced partners should however give a coherent view of the likely meaning of an undiscussed call. **Never** say "I take it to mean ..." or "I'm treating it as ..." as such responses provide unauthorised information to partner.

If you cannot recall the agreement call the director.

If you are not satisfied with an explanation, you may ask follow-up questions (but beware of giving partner unauthorised information), or you may call the director.

End of Auction

At the end of the auction the declaring side should draw attention to any unusual undisclosed features by placing a small plus sign beside the relevant bids. This may include unalerted conventional bids over 3NT or unusual cue bids.

The best declarers make a habit of informing the defence about what they know from the bidding prior to the opening lead — *without* being asked. The declaring side, but **not** the defending side, must inform the opponents of any mistaken explanations or missed alerts during the auction. If a mistaken explanation might be material, call the director immediately. The auction period does not end until the opening lead is faced and, in some circumstances, the director can unwind the defenders' final pass.

The defending side must **not** inform the opponents of any mistaken explanations or missed alerts until the end of play on the board. If declaring side feel they have been disadvantaged they should call the director.

Happy Bidding, Alerting, and Explaining. And remember, if in doubt, Call the Director!

Alan Bustany - Chief Director

TEST YOUR DECLARER PLAY

Monday February 17, Hand 11

Board 11 Dir: S Vul: Nil	<p>♠ 964 ♥ Q8 ♦ T943 ♣ K863</p>	
<p>♠ AKQ53 ♥ K976 ♦ K62 ♣ 7</p>		<p>♠ JT872 ♥ JT43 ♦ AQ ♣ AJ</p>
<p>5 1 1 5 3 7</p>	<p>♠ ♥ A52 ♦ J875 ♣ QT9542</p>	<p>N: 2 ♣ 1 ♦ S: 2 ♣ 1 ♦ E: 5 ♥ 6 ♠ 3NT W: 5 ♥ 6 ♠ 3NT</p>

South passed and when my partner (West) opened 1S (passed by North) I know we have a Game at least. What to bid?

- ▶ 4S immediately would show a good fit but weak.
- ▶ 2NT - a Jacoby raise, showing a 4+ fit and 13+ points - would be ideal, but we had not agreed to play this convention.
- ▶ 2H would be forcing but would promise 5xcards.

So I needed to manufacture

a forcing bid. I decided to bid **2D**.

Next my partner made a jump shift to 3H. Knowing now that there was a double fit, I was excited enough to look for slam with 4NT, Keycard on hearts. Receiving the answer 5H (2 controls without the HQ) should have dampened my enthusiasm, but feeling a bit 'gung ho' I now placed the contract at 6S.

The lead of the ♦3 gave nothing away and my partner proceeded to make 11 tricks, down 1. Disappointed, I thought that the play of the heart suit had been wrong. Looking later at the makeable contracts, 12 tricks are possible, but how?

On the gift of a ♥ lead against 4S that one declarer received, there is no problem, but on other leads, ♠4, ♦3 or ♦10, the contract is makeable.

Thanks to Dorothy Berzins for providing the solution:

Win the lead with ♦A, cash the ♦Q, then cash ♣A and ruff ♣J with a high ♠. Discard the ♥3 on the ♦K. This has stripped your hand and dummy's of both ♣s and ♦s. Draw the trumps, being careful to finish in dummy. Lead a *small* ♥ toward the ♥K.

If South goes up with the ♥A, win any return and cash ♥K. ♥Q drops and your remaining ♥s are established.

If South plays *low*, play the ♥K which holds, and then a small ♥. When North wins, he/she has no more ♥'s or ♠s, so on a ♣ or ♦ return, slough the last ♥ from dummy and ruff in hand. Trump a ♥ in dummy and with one trump remaining, claim. If South overtakes North's ♥Q, then your ♥s are established – 12 tricks also.

Wendy Mitchell

SPECIAL THANKS

During the record absence of seven of the club's Directors at the Gold Coast Congress, guest Directors Gary Barwick and Pam Gowthorp conducted two sessions each. Regular Director Ros Dey conducted four sessions - an awesome effort.

Furthermore, all results were successfully transferred from Bridgemates to Compscore, for which the Tournament Organiser, Julie, and the Chief Director, Alan, are very grateful, not to mention the MP Secretary.

On behalf of all members thank you all sincerely for keeping the club operating successfully during this time.

VALE: David Ford 22/5/1947 - 16/2/2020

Our thoughts are with his wife Sue after David's sudden passing from a brave battle with acute myeloid leukaemia.

In the 'early days' David was a regular partner of Dorothy Berzins (then MacLean) at the Central Coast Bridge Club. Then in June 1987 David was one of the thirty founding members of Central Coast Leagues Club Bridge Club. (Now only 5 remain – Dorothy and Peter, Adele Mills, Colin Mitchell and Graham Steel.)

David taught Mathematics for many years at Pennant Hills High School with Kevin Farrell – another bridge player now a member of Tomaree Bridge Club. David and long-time bridge partner Mark Levitt used their own idiosyncratic bidding system, thought by some members to be designed specifically to annoy their opponents.

Sue and David met at Brisbane Water Bridge Club and would have celebrated their 31st wedding anniversary on March 4. (Sue and David were known for their wedding photography - eg the Berzins and Mitchell celebrations).

Together David and Sue won a number of club trophies at our club: Anniversary Pairs (1994), Winter Pairs (1995), President's Cup (1997), Summer Pairs (1998), Easter Pairs (1998), October Pairs (1999), Spring Pairs (2000), Australia Day Pairs (2003).

David achieved the rank of Life Master. He had not played bridge for some time, but made a brief appearance to play with me at our first Social Sunday in September last year. *Colin Mitchell*

COMING EVENTS

MARCH

Presentation Day Pairs	R 9.30am	Friday 13
Switching Singles (2)	E	Monday Eve 16
<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

APRIL

Monthly Shield (3)	E	Wednesday 1
Teams of 3	(C/P) 9.30am	Friday 3
Easter Pairs	R	Tuesday 14
Switching Singles (3)	E	Monday Eve 20
Anzac Day Pairs	R	Saturday 25
<i>Social Sunday</i>	<i>1.30pm</i>	<i>Sunday 26</i>

Colin Mitchell, Editor



The coronavirus has added a new dimension to this year's upcoming cold and flu season. To help create as healthy an environment as possible, the Federal Dept of Health has published a fact sheet which includes good hygiene practices to aid the prevention of the spread of viruses.

The bridge playing population is more at risk of serious health problems than the general population so I am writing to you to reinforce what should be everyone's usual practice to help prevent the transmission of viruses such as the common cold and influenza to your fellow bridge players. These are things that we should have been practising for years.

- Your hands will touch the cards which other bridge players will touch after you. So, wash your hands frequently and thoroughly. This is the most effective way to protect yourself from any illness, including the coronavirus. Use soap and scrub for at least 20 seconds (sing the Happy Birthday Song to time your scrubbing), especially after going to the toilet, before eating and after blowing your nose, coughing or sneezing. The club asks you to wash your hands prior to and after every session that you attend.
- Use the paper towel that you used to dry your hands after washing them to open the door when leaving the toilets rather than with your nice clean hands. You can throw away the paper towel into a garbage bin in the club.
- The club has provided bottles of an alcohol-based hand sanitiser. Please use them, we have more in the storeroom and further units on order.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth with your hands.
- Maintain social distance – particularly with those who appear to be sick – by avoiding shaking hands, hugging or kissing when greeting friends.
- Cough or sneeze into the crook of your elbow rather than into your hand if you cannot reach for a tissue in time. This is what schoolchildren have been taught even before the latest threat. Always dispose of the tissue into the rubbish after use.
- Stay home when you are sick and seek medical attention as required*. Sniffles and coughs are not welcome at the bridge table. Your partner will understand your absence. Our Tournament Directors are adept at pairing partnerless players, they do it every session.
- If the recent travels of either you or your close contacts indicates a chance of infection* then we ask you not to attend the club for the fortnight after returning to Australia.

With your vigilance, we can minimise the effect of the winter ills on our fellow bridge players.

John Scudder Chairman, NSW Bridge Association trading as the Sydney Bridge Centre.