

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



NEWSLETTER

JULY 2020

ANNUAL GENERAL
MEETING

**10am, Saturday, August 1, 2020
PARKVIEW ROOM**

- Please advise Anne Grayden of any apologies. It would also help to advise her if attending, as it is important to achieve a quorum.
- There were no Motions received at the closing date of July 9
- Nominations have been received for all positions:
President - Louis Koolen
Vice Pres - Colin Mitchell
Secretary - Anne Grayden
Treasurer - Peter Mackey
Committee - Ruth Griffin, Julie Sadler, Henrietta Hohnen, Toni Dixon, Leon Babinski
- Further nominations can be received until the start of the AGM.

BRIDGE IS STILL
SUSPENDED

Your Committee met on Saturday July 11. As requested by the Central Coast Leagues Club a Covid-19 Safety plan has been prepared.

The plans of all internal clubs need to be submitted to the Leagues Club and none have been approved yet.

The sanitising regulations can be met, but to play our game of bridge and meet the distancing requirements is very difficult.

Together with the relatively small size of our playing area and its lack of ventilation, it is highly unlikely that we will return to face-to-face games any time soon.

So, please continue your on-line and social bridge games at home.

PLAYING BRIDGE ON-LINE

Our Central Coast BBO club has now held sessions each Monday, Wednesday and Friday for 7 weeks, including 6 Red point sessions. Thanks to our directors - Ronnie Ng, Alan Bustany and Gary Barwick.

Table numbers have been 6 to 8 in recent weeks. Unfortunately the attempt to conduct Tuesday Novice sessions was not well supported.

Many local bridge fanatics have joined *Stepbridge* and enjoy its on-line format. A few are playing in the ABF's Sunday National Online Pairs BBO game for Red points. This has Open, Restricted and (from this Sunday) Novice sections.

MASTERPOINTS AND PROMOTION

At the time of writing, the Masterpoint website is 'down' and the problems have not been resolved, so we are unable to report on promotions and you are unable to check your points!

BRIDGE EDUCATION

Some players have taken advantage of Bridge Lessons that are being offered via Zoom etc.

Unfortunately, your teachers Wendy Mitchell and Eunice de Vries do not have the technology or know-how to do this. They had put a proposal to the Committee to offer Beginners Lessons and Workshops in the Club rooms, but this is not possible without Leagues Club approval of any Bridge Club activities.

The possibility of conducting classes in the Leagues Club building has been raised, but these cannot be authorised either at this time. If you have any questions about the lessons Eunice and Wendy are happy to assist you if possible:

Eunice: eunyv@bigpond.com OR 0415 937 941

Wendy: wmi20245@bigpond.com OR 0423 388 529

CONGRESS PLAYER OF THE YEAR - 2019

First place in the Open was David Weston. Local players have also starred in the Top 20 in the various divisions as follows:

Open: Greg & Sharon Mayo, Virginia Dressler, Ian KcKinnon

Intermediate: Barry Foster, Martin Johnson

Restricted: Alan Bustany, Jurate Laisve

Novice: Colin Speller, Jodie Gudaitis, Stephen Calcroft, Pauline Caust

**** ***Congratulations to all*** ****

UNDERSTANDING MATCHPOINTS

Most virtual club events on BBO are in the format of matchpoint pairs. This format requires different skills to most Congress events which are usually scored as IMPs.

In the NSWBA's **eCongress Newsletter** at nswba.com.au. Ramesh Kumar has some tips on bidding, play and defence in relation to matchpoint scoring with some example hands.

Brad Coles, Editor of the ABF Newsletter and convenor of the Australia-Wide Pairs events has written a very useful explanation in the June edition, No.203. You can find the full article by going to abf.com.au, choosing 'ABF Newsletter' and 'click here for the latest edition'.

Here is a summary of the main points.

- **Getting a Top Board** If you play 26 boards and get 13 tops and 13 bottoms, that only averages to 50%. For a winning score, you'll need significantly more tops than bottoms (or even better, just get a whole lot of good solid scores)
- **Boards not Played** When you don't play a board, it is recorded as Not Played or Average. The Laws require a score to be entered . . that will usually be 50% to both sides. This will have a slight effect on your score, about a 0.4% drop if you were on 60% before the board and about a 0.4% rise if you were on 40% before the board.
- **Total Boards Played** It makes little difference whether you play 21 or 27, say. If you score 60% on each board, you score 60% overall. But, the more boards you play, the harder it will be to maintain an extreme score such as 75%.
- **Passed in Boards** Passing, in any position, is a matter of judgement. The accuracy of your decision will determine your score. The score-sheet will judge your score (zero) against all the plus and minus scores from other tables.

Reading the full article is recommended.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY - JULY

Margo Brennan, Kathleen Bromley, Theo Chadwick, June Clarkson, Toni Dixon, Terry Dyer, Barry Foster, Joe Griffin, Ann Gunner, Christine Hadaway, Jim Havyatt, Cathy Hocking, Louis Koolen, Moira Love, Alison Mackey, John Mitchell, Bob Morris, Alfie Nation, Allan Roser, Pam Townsend, Richard Webb.

NSW STATE VETERANS ONLINE PAIRS: July 24 - 26

It is not too late to play in this event, provided you and your partner will have turned 70 before December 31, 2020. Usually there is a big waiting list for the Bowral venue, but a positive outcome of Covid-19 is that you can compete via BBO this year with no limit to numbers. At least 4 local pairs have already entered. **Closing date is July 22.** Full details can be found under 'Coming Up' on the NSWBA website.

MULTI-TALENTED

Cricket is one of the world's great games. It requires a long time to get a result; eleven players per team with nine members of the batting side sitting out on the sidelines. Conditions ideally suited to play bridge!

Australians may have recently read an obituary of Sir Everton Weekes - one of the Three W's who set the cricket world alight in the 1940s and 50s. His cricketing exploits were recorded in the press around the world - very few if any of these obituaries recorded that he was a bridge player of some distinction.

Thanks to the Barbados Bridge League for these details:

Sir Everton began playing Bridge in 1957 as relaxation while on tour with the West Indies Cricket Team. He formed a regular four with Jerry Alexander, Clyde Walcott and Denis Atkinson. Duplicate inevitably followed.

He went to the World Bridge Olympiad of 1976 in New Orleans, USA playing in the pairs and teams. He represented Barbados in the annual tournaments with Trinidad and Tobago as well as all of the Regionals staged by Central American and Caribbean Bridge Federations from 1974 until 1990 except when he was unable to attend because of cricketing assignments.

Sir Everton DeCourcy Weekes, KCMG, GCM, OBE was appointed patron of the Barbados Bridge League on his 95th birthday, 26/2/20. He died on 1/7/20.

Colin Mitchell, Editor