

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



**NEWSLETTER**

**MAY 2021**

**FIRST  
STATE  
SENIORS  
CHAMPIONSHIP**

**Venue:** Scenic Lounge, CCLC

**Dates:** June 15th to 18th

**Director:** Ronnie Ng

**Pairs** - Tue 2.30, Wed 9.30 & 1.30

**Teams** - Thu 9.30 & 1.30, Fri 9.30

**Cost:** \$70 pp Pairs, \$70 pp Teams

**Sponsor:** CC Leagues Club

**Correction:**

Payment will be on the day (not through the new myABF system as previously advertised).

**Opportunity:**

Play in a State event without travelling away from the Central Coast. Your entry will help build the table numbers up to the maximum of 30 and ensure its success.

**COMMITTEE CAPERS**

**From Meeting 3/5/21**

1. A new Club trophy, the Pauline Evans Memorial Trophy, will be presented for the first time at Presentation Day, 2022. The event will be run in August this year & is a *perpetual* trophy for novice players. This will be a Red point event this year.

2. State Senior Championships is a new State event. We are hosting the inaugural event from 15<sup>th</sup> - 18<sup>th</sup> June. It is not too late to enter on the NSWBA website. Brochures are available in our present playing space.

3. Red point events. To obtain the fairest results in red point events, full Howell movements will be run in future unless we have enough entries to run a Mitchell in which case the pairs will be seeded. Also, scores will not be displayed on the Bridge-mates for these events in order to prevent discussion & provide for a smooth movement.

4. Use of bidding boxes will remain, at this stage, for normal events & the Director will continue to sanitise tables etc before play. We encourage the frequent use of hand sanitiser etc.

5. Those players who qualified for the Country Teams Regional Final be aware that there may be a change in the date for this event. We will keep you informed.

6. No members responded regarding an interest in playing on a Thursday, so this session will not resume for the time being.

## RECENT RESULTS

|                     |                              |                 |                  |
|---------------------|------------------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| <b>EASTER PAIRS</b> | <b>(R)</b>                   | <b>6 tables</b> | <b>Mon Apr 5</b> |
| 1st                 | Anne Grayden & Julie Sadler  |                 | 67.56%           |
| 2nd                 | Gwen White & Dorothy Berzins |                 | 59.63%           |
| 3rd                 | Barbara Grant, Louis Koolen  |                 | 56.52%           |

|                       |                               |                   |                   |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| <b>PRESIDENTS CUP</b> | <b>(R)</b>                    | <b>6.5 tables</b> | <b>Wed Apr 14</b> |
| 1st                   | Barbara Grant, Louis Koolen   |                   | 67.08%            |
| 2nd                   | Chris Hasemore & Matt Raj Mal |                   | 59.26%            |
| 3rd                   | Di Coats & Dorothy Berzins    |                   | 56.67%            |

|                        |                                   |                 |                   |
|------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| <b>ANZAC DAY PAIRS</b> | <b>(R)</b>                        | <b>9 tables</b> | <b>Mon Apr 26</b> |
| 1st                    | Henrietta Hohnen & Chris Williams |                 | 66.90%            |
| 2nd                    | Martin Johnson & David Snow       |                 | 59.03%            |
| 3rd                    | Anne Grayden & Julie Sadler       |                 | 58.56%            |

## CONGRESSES **Best Local Players**

### **TASMANIAN GOLD SWISS PAIRS** **April 9 - 11**

3 local pairs enjoyed this ABF event – but do ask them about the cold!

#### **Welcome Matchpoint Pairs**

*Open:* 21 tables

Jan Clarke & Di Coats (12th NS), Sally & Garry Clarke (6th EW)

*Restricted:* 11 tables Alan Bustany & Pauline Caust (6th EW)

*Novice:* 8 tables

**Tasmanian Gold Swiss Pairs** 11 matches

*Open:* 62 pairs Sally & Garry Clarke (7th); Jan Clarke & Di Coats (30<sup>th</sup>)

*Restricted:* 28 pairs Alan Bustany & Pauline Caust (5th)

*Novice:* 16 pairs

There were also 2 sessions for Rookies, 8 tables and 6 tables.

## **UPCOMING COMPETITIONS**

### **STATE EVENTS**

#### **Face-to-Face**

June 15 to 18 State Seniors Championship – CCLCBC

We are hosting this new event with 3 sessions of pairs and 3 sessions of teams. You are eligible if born before January 1, 1960 – who wasn't ?!

#### **On-line**

July 23 & 24 State Veteran Pairs – note that this is no longer F-to-F

### **ABF EVENTS**

There are links on the first NSWBA screen, or go to [www.abf.com.au](http://www.abf.com.au).

**The Coffs Coast Gold Congress for August 2021 will be cancelled and transformed to online events, details to follow.**

Territory Gold Bridge Festival in Alice Springs: **8-12 September 2021**

### **TABLE NUMBERS at CCLCBC**

Slowly and steadily attendance continues to improve. The April average per session was 4.9 compared to 3.9 in March.

Again, please encourage and support your friends to return to face-to-face play. Marie Purkiss is one who re-started a couple of weeks ago after a 13-month break – she received a resounding ovation!

Also, it is not too late to refer a potential new player to Eunice, or for anyone to attend one or more of the Improvers sessions with Wendy.

**BEGINNERS CLASSES:** Friday mornings at 9.15am, commencing May 7.

Eunice de Vries (4328 2979 or 0415 937 941)

**IMPROVERS COURSE:** Friday mornings at 9.15am, commencing May 7.

Wendy Mitchell (4340 4870 or 0423 388 529)

## **BIDDING BOXES**

- 61 members have bought at least one bidding box for personal use and 3 others members have their own. This leaves 5 sets for general use and 3 sets reserved for Lessons.

If you require a bidding box at a session, either because you don't own one or because you have forgotten yours, it is important that you inform the Director. The Director will issue one from the appropriate sets – please do not help yourself.

- The use of bidding boxes has taken many people out of their comfort zone. However, if you venture to play beyond the Central Coast area, you will come across their use in other clubs. As Paul Lavings points out, the world uses them except (mostly) for Australia and New Zealand.
- One of the reasons that we were able to establish lessons during the Covid-19 lockdown, and eventually return to bridge, was that the Leagues Club management accepted that the use of bidding boxes eliminated the touching of bidding pads/pens by multiple people.
- Bidding boxes are better monetary value for clubs than bidding pads. Although they are plastic, they virtually last forever. So after the initial outlay there is no more cost and wastage of paper which ultimately helps the environment.

## **Extracts from - ABF MASTERPOINT NEWSLETTER - April**

### **ANNUAL CANCELLATIONS**

There were 5,793 members flagged for cancellation just before the update was run, almost eight hundred more than the 5,016 last year. This number represented 16.29% of our total members, leaving us now with 29,778 members. So it would appear that COVID-19 is still having a real impact on our membership numbers, not to mention our lives!

Details of Home Club Membership and Cancellations as at March 31, 2021 are reported for every club in Australia. Locally-see next page:

**Totals for 2021 by State:** ACT=904; NSW=11071; VIC=4533; QLD=6456; SA=2074, WA=3782; TAS=845; NT=113

| Club ID       | Name                  | 2021         |               | 2020         |
|---------------|-----------------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|
|               |                       | Home Members | Cancellations | Home Members |
| 2022          | Brisbane Water        | 137          | 31            | 156          |
| 2025          | Central Coast         | 160          | 35            | 216          |
| 2035          | Community, Bateau Bay | 64           | 13            | 51           |
| 2036          | CC Leagues            | 97           | 15            | 104          |
| <b>Totals</b> |                       | <b>458</b>   | <b>94</b>     | <b>527</b>   |

*(Editor's Note: Some cancellations are due to a transfer of membership to another club. However, total membership of the 4 clubs above was 527 in 2020, so there has been an actual drop of 69 registered ABF members.)*

#### **MAILOUT**

All Home Club Registration Cards valid until 31/03/22, and any Promotion Certificates, were sent to clubs.

*(Please ask Wendy Mitchell or a Director to give you your card)*

#### **HISTORY OF RECENT & COMING EVENTS**

##### **AUTUMN PAIRS**

**Monday Eve, May 3**

This was introduced in 1988 and first won by Adele Mills with Zelda Overhall (see below). Adele has also won with Peter Berzins and Nancy Joss. Peter has won 4 times – with Adele, Zelda, John White and Dorothy Berzins. Colin Mitchell has also won it 4 times – twice with Wendy Mitchell and twice with David Bowerman.

Except for 2020, the event has run continuously. The 2019 winners were Di Coats and Lorraine Lindsay. Di had won twice before – with Peter Coats and Nancye Joss.

Congratulations to 2021 winners: Dorothy Berzins & Gwen White.  
Full details next month.

Who was Zelda Overhall? Zelda was instrumental in forming the Central Coast Bridge Club but was perhaps best known as a bridge teacher. She later became the first Patron of Central Coast Leagues Club Bridge Club and a trophy, called the Patron's cup was introduced in 1991.

The event is now named after Zelda herself and has red points allocated, but the overall winner on the day does not usually win the trophy. Why? Because:

***The trophy is won by the best Bronze Regional (or below) pair***

If your ranking qualifies you to compete, then you need to play with another eligible player. Friday may not be your regular day, or if it is you may not be able to play with your regular partner – he/she will understand this annual exception.

A list of players of suitable rank can be found (from Friday) at the club – displayed on the column near the Director's table.

Because of Zelda's huge influence as a teacher on Central Coast bridge players, the trophy is for lower ranked players. While it can only be won by financial members, there are 66 of these of eligible ranking. Players of higher rankings can play on the day and earn points, but not the trophy.

There is also a Special Prize for the best Silver Local (or below) pair for which 52 of the above are eligible. So, no excuses .....

**DON'T BE SHY – FIND A PARTNER AND HAVE A TRY**

## **HESITATIONS**

In November 2019 this Newsletter included an article by our Chief Director about the implications of hesitations. By member request an abridged version is repeated here:

He who hesitates is **not** lost ... but their partner *may* be restricted.

It is completely fine to take as long as you like (within reason) before making a call at Bridge. But if you hesitate, and especially if you Pass following a hesitation, you create unauthorised information and, by Law 16B(1a), your partner "**may not choose a call or play that is demon-**

**strably suggested over another... if the other call or play is a logical alternative".**

A logical alternative is one that 25% or more of players might choose, defined in the Laws as "an action that a significant proportion of the class of players in question, using the methods of the partnership, would seriously consider, and some might select". It is usually a Pass but it might be another call.

So you can go right ahead and bid whatever you were going to bid even if your partner unmistakably hesitated, — *provided* that extraneous unauthorised information doesn't suggest your bid over a logical alternative.

Since you don't want to even potentially restrict your partner's options, you should:

- 1) think about potential calls before the action reaches you;
- 2) try to maintain a constant tempo for all your calls;
- 3) avoid additional gestures or mannerisms; and
- 4) if you take extra time, try to make a bid rather than passing.

If you think your opposition has communicated some unauthorised information you may:

- 1) announce at your turn to call that you reserve the right to summon the Director later — your opponents should summon the Director immediately if there is any dispute; and
- 2) summon the Director when play ends if you believe an opponent may have taken advantage of the unauthorised information.

The Director may assign an adjusted score if they consider that:

- a) a logical alternative was available; and
- b) the call made was suggested by the unauthorised information.

The Director is your friend in all matters at the Bridge table. Whilst you may hesitate over your bids, you should not hesitate to summon the Director at any time to resolve any question you may have. Calling the Director is a fine thing - it is not an attack on you or your integrity and you should not take personal offence!

*Alan Bustany* Chief Director

## PLAYERS' RESPONSIBILITIES

Lately players have not been carrying out all their responsibilities consistently, but some of you may not know them, or have forgotten!

The following information is normally included in our Annual Program but since we don't have a printed version this year, here is a reminder.

The North-South pair is responsible for:

- ▶ placing the boards on the table in numeric order
- ▶ scoring each board using the Bridgmate
- ▶ ensuring that the score is checked by East-West

The East-West pair is responsible for:

- ▶ confirming that the score has been entered correctly
- ▶ moving the boards to the next table

Sometimes the Director will take responsibility for moving the boards, but otherwise one of the East-West pair must do it. Boards always move to the next **lower** number table or a *bye* table if there is one. Please remember and try to do this correctly to make the session smoother and easier for all players.

*Colin Mitchell*

## SLAM AT A RECENT SOCIAL GAME

|          |           |  |
|----------|-----------|--|
|          | ♠ 64      |  |
| Dealer N | ♥ KJT64   |  |
| Vul Both | ♦ ----    |  |
|          | ♣ AKQT53  |  |
| ♠ KQJT32 | ♠ A95     |  |
| ♥ Q      | ♥ A92     |  |
| ♦ K962   | ♦ AQJ8543 |  |
| ♣ 42     | ♣ ----    |  |
| ♠ 87     |           |  |
| ♥ 8753   |           |  |
| ♦ T7     |           |  |
| ♣ J9876  |           |  |

North opened 2C, Game Force and East overcalled 2D. South passed and West, knowing that D's can be raised later, bid 2S (showing at least 5).

Now came 3C by North, 3D by East, Pass by South. West showed the ♦ fit with 4D and North bid 4H to show the big ♣/♥ 2-suiter.

Next came 4S from East who has bid strongly over a Game Force



opening, so to cut NS out from more bidding, and knowing there is a fit in ♦s and ♠s, West now took a deep breath and bid 6D.

As you can see, trumps can be drawn in 2 rounds and the losing ♥s either ruffed or discarded on the top ♠s. 13 tricks. (Also 13 tricks in Ss)

In a ♣ contract NS can make 10 tricks, but only 9 in a ♥ contract if EW find the ♣ ruff.

North can count 9 Playing Tricks, but with a 2-suited hand and only 13 HCPs opening 1C and then bidding (and if necessary repeating) ♥s is usually recommended.

In this case the bidding may be something like

1C X P 2S (jump to show 8+ HCPs)

4H ??

If East bids 4S, West will not know about the double fit.

If East bids 5D, West cannot use 4NT to ask for Aces.

It is actually harder now to visualise the EW slam.

## **ABF AGM and Board Meeting (April 17, 18, 19 2021)**

### **SOME EXTRACTS**

#### *Retirements*

John Brockwell has resigned as Chair of the National Directors Accreditation Committee. In one capacity or another, he has served the ABF continuously since 1971. John was elected to the Committee of Honour in 1986 as recognition of his outstanding service to bridge. Council thanks John for his many years of dedicated service to the ABF.

In 2018 Mark Guthrie agreed to take on the role of ABF National Technology Officer. Mark has decided to leave this role at the end of March 2021. Council thanks Mark for his professionalism and his vision to build a platform to support states, clubs and members into the future.

After eight years of service to the Ethics Committee, Julia Hoffman has decided to hand over the reins as she feels the committee will be well served by several new, and younger, members. The Committee and the ABF appreciate her wisdom, experience and service over many years. Julia is also stepping down as ABF Public Officer as this position is redundant now the ABF is a Company Limited By Guarantee.

### *Technology*

As of 15th April My ABF has 1,285 users with more users coming online as use of the system expands. Four Congresses have been completed and 16 are listed or in draft. The next major release, expected later this year, is to extend ‘Bridge Credits’ so that players can use them to pay for club sessions. The My ABF team welcome feedback and suggestions for system improvements. These suggestions may be made via the My ABF forum.

### *Capitation and Masterpoint Fees*

Council agreed to a recommendation from the Treasurer that there will be no annual increase in Masterpoint and Capitation fees. Capitation fee for 2022 will return to the pre-Covid level of \$16.10 and the Masterpoint levies will remain unchanged with no CPI increase applied for 2022.

### *Growing our Business*

Largely due to Covid the number of ABF registered players declined by 8% from March 2020 to March 2021. Council urges clubs to take advantage of the many services the ABF has to offer. Our Head of Marketing and National Teaching Coordinator are available to run face-to face or Zoom sessions and there is funding available for grants and subsidies.

### *Youth*

A Youth Development Plan for 2021-2025 was discussed. Council was enthusiastic about the options put forward to reinvigorate the youth scene with an agreed goal of achieving 1000 youth members by 2025.

### *2020-2022 ABF Board:*

Allison Stralow (President), Kim Frazer (Secretary), Ian Thomson, (Treasurer), Adel Abdelhamid, Rob Ward, Jane Rasmussen (Executive Secretary), Geoff Chettle (Legal Counsel), Michael Bryan (Deputy Legal Counsel)

26 April 2021

### **HAPPY BIRTHDAY for May:**

Margaret Campbell, Garry Clarke, Doreen Collis, Chris Hasemore, Frank Pellarini, Marie Purkiss, Paul Unger.

## COMING EVENTS CALENDAR

### MAY

Zelda Overhall Cup (R) Friday 21

### JUNE

**NO BRIDGE** (*preparation for Seniors*) Monday Eve 14  
State Seniors Championship (R) Tuesday-Friday 15-18  
(NO SIDE GAMES)  
Club Pairs Session 1/3 (C) Wednesday 23  
Club Pairs Session 2/3 (C) Wednesday 30

### JULY

Club Pairs Session 3/3 (C) Wednesday 7  
Winter Pairs (R) Monday Eve 12  
**GNOT 1, 2** (G) **Saturday (all day) 10**  
**GNOT 3** (*depending on the number of teams*) **Sunday 11**  
Club Restricted Teams (C) Friday 23 & 30

### AUGUST

Anniversary Pairs (R) Saturday 7  
(preceded by AGM)  
**Pauline Evans Memorial Trophy** (R) Monday Eve 9  
(*Novices < 100 Masterpoints*)  
Foundation Cup (R) Wednesday 18

**ALL SESSIONS, INCLUDING NORMAL DUPLICATE GAMES, REQUIRE PRE-ENTRY ON THE WEBSITE**

#### **Regular Duplicate Sessions**

Monday, Tuesday, Friday 12.30 pm  
Wednesday 1.30 pm  
Monday Evening 7.15 pm

## **NEW MEMBERS**

Welcome to new member Peter Wheatley (0415 719 642) and returning members Mae Erling (0412 857 858) and Christine Ashe (0425 267 253).

Applications are also being processed from Marcelle Goslin (0402 700 442) and Wendy Sheehan (4360 2548, 0448 602 547).

Please make these players feel at home.

## **STOP PRESS** **New restrictions for Greater Sydney**

The Central Coast Leagues Club has advised that in line with the Premier's announcement the following will apply to bridge sessions and lessons from 5pm Thursday, 6 May until 12.01am Monday 10 May.

- **Masks to be worn in the venue**
- **Drinking while standing will not be allowed.**

## **SMILE AWHILE**

(Even if the smile cannot be seen behind the mask!)

At a tournament, a player had done a lot of bidding with rather poor hand. At the end of the auction, the partner became the declarer and the poor hand was to be exposed as the dummy. As the player put down the dummy, she said: 'Partner, this is an *Attyfaad*'

'*Attyfaad*?' queried her partner.

'Yes. **A Tribute To Your Fine Ability As Declarer.**

(From: *The Bridge Player Who Laughed*, Ron Klinger, 1984)

*Colin Mitchell*  
*Editor*