

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



**NEWSLETTER**

**JUNE 2021**

**H** **HELP**  
**MAKE**  
**H** **HISTORY**

Enter the State Seniors Championships and your name will be on the list for this inaugural event. There is room for plenty more tables and the only condition is that you were born before 1960!

**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



State Seniors Championships • 15-18 June • Central Coast

**VALE**

**Joan Lehane** -see Pages 7 & 8

**Leyla Moncelet**

We regret to announce that Leyla passed away on June 3 after suffering a heart attack on May 31.

**IN THIS ISSUE**

You will find loads of information for all players, both experienced and inexperienced -

1. Laws and Regulations - Terminology, examples of breaking laws + how to use bidding boxes (pp 3-7)
2. Dummy's Job and Declarer's Instructions (pp 8 & 9)
3. When to Call the Director (p.10)

**COMMITTEE CAPERS**

**From Meeting 31/5/21**

We have purchased new tables for use at the State Seniors Championships. They will be moved to the storeroom once it is cleared.

(contd overpage)

The State Seniors Championships will benefit from the cancellation of the Victor Champion Cup in Melbourne. Already we have received additional entries.

The Committee has agreed to sponsor spot prizes at the upcoming NSWBA Teams of 3 on June 6 for entry to the State Seniors Championship which we are hosting. One prize will be free entry to the Pairs for one person (where the partner pays) and one will be free entry to the Teams for one pair (where the other half of the team pays).

Two teams have been nominated to play in the Outer Metropolitan Teams on Sunday August 22 . The choice was based on the frequency of attendance from 1<sup>st</sup> January to 28<sup>th</sup> May. The first eight highest were Barbara Grant, Louis Koolen, Julie Sadler, Anne Grayden, Wendy Mitchell, Agnes Marsh, Phantom & Ruth Griffin. These are the two teams, but we have allowed Wendy to play with Eunice de Vries, who was ranked a couple lower. Both teams have accepted.

We are planning another Bridge Holiday for 2022. We are looking at Mudgee in November, with the holiday preceding their Congress. The Mudgee Resort has been recommended and Mudgee Bridge Club can organize winery tours. I have snared Ian Lisle to run the Bridge sessions and he will present a Defenders Workshop. We are investigating a bus hire to get us there. Please contact us now if you are interested and have any other suggestions.

As the table numbers are improving, the Tournament Committee recommended that we return to pre-Covid payments for directors. This was approved and effective from the session of 1<sup>st</sup> June evening. Directors will no longer play in Club Special Events or Championships. There will be no standbys but, if you are lacking a partner, contact Julie Sadler and she will try her utmost to find one for you. *Louis Koolen, President*

## RECENT RESULTS

<b>AUTUMN PAIRS</b>	<b>(R)</b>	<b>6.5 tables</b>	<b>Mon Eve May 3</b>
1st	Gwen White & Dorothy Berzins		67.92%
2nd	Wendy Mitchell & Eunice de Vries		65.42%
3rd	Barbara Grant, Louis Koolen		62.92%

**ZELDA OVERHALL CUP (R) 10 tables Fri May 21**

1st	Di Coats & Jan Clarke	67.13%
2nd	Chris Williams & Ian Lincoln	66.64%
3rd	Martin Johnson & Hope Tomlinson	57.15%

Winning the Cup (best Bronze Regional or below pair) were Beryl Lowry and John Aldersley (6<sup>th</sup> overall, 55.35%). Special Prize winners (best Silver Local or below pair) were Pamela de Lacy & Yvonne Zammit (12<sup>th</sup> overall, 49.28%).

CONGRATULATIONS!

**CONGRESSES Best Local Players****COFFS HARBOUR ONLINE SWISS PAIRS May 15**

Congratulations to Stephen Calcroft & Roy Cotton who came first (out of 20) in the Restricted section.

**STATE MIXED PAIRS FINAL May 29 & 30**

Nine pairs from the Central Coast competed in the Qualifying sessions at NSWBA, Sydney. CCLCBC was represented by Martin Johnson & Christine Hadaway and Jaan Oitmaa and Sylvia Foster. Best results in the qualifying were:

NS: Sally & Garry Clarke 13<sup>th</sup> out of 27 and

EW: Alan Bustany & Jan Clarke 16<sup>th</sup> out of 26

Seven Central Coast pairs qualified for the Country Final, making up half the field of 14. Congratulations to Sally & Garry (2<sup>nd</sup>) and Matt Raj Mal & Felicity Fane (3<sup>rd</sup>). The winners were Karen & Andrew Creet from Batemans Bay (South Coast Region).

The other 2 pairs had free entry to the Autumn Swiss Pairs on the second day – a very strong field of 32 pairs.

**LAWS and REGULATIONS**

Lately there has been some confusion over various aspects of playing bridge at the club. We have some newer players who are understandably unaware that they are not following correct procedures as well as a number of much more experienced players who have forgotten (blame Covid-19) or perhaps never knew!

The first **laws of duplicate bridge** were published in 1928, the latest in 2017. Responsibility for these now rests with the **WBF** – World Bridge Federation. The latter comprises 8 **NBO**'s – National Bridge Organisations. One of these is the South Pacific Bridge Federation to which Australia belongs.

Our national body is the **ABF** – Australian Bridge Federation - which comprises 8 Associations with 338 clubs. The **NSWBA** – New South Wales Bridge Association is divided into 5 Zones with 15 Regions and our club is one of the total 155 in NSW.

Wherever you play, in NSW, in Australia or overseas, your game is governed by the same Laws of Bridge. However, each **tournament** - your regular club duplicate, a club championship, a State event or a National event – is governed by **tournament regulations** which specify how the competition will be conducted under the Laws.

Tournaments	Example	Comment
ABF	Grand National Open Teams	<i>ABF Tournament Regulations</i> Feb 2021 – 44 pages
NSW	State Mixed Pairs	<i>NSW Tournament Regulations</i> 2015, 21 pages plus Supplementary Regs for this specific event
CCLCBC	Green & Red point events; Club Championships	<i>Club Tournament Regulations</i> See our website

NSWBA regulations are generally similar to ABF regulations but can and do differ. Similarly, NSWBA tournament regulations apply to all club events, but a club regulation overrides the equivalent State regulation if there is a conflict. For example, we have a regulation re substitution in Club Championships which differs from the NSWBA regulation. Also, for a specific event, Club Supplementary Tournament Regulations override the normal Club Regulations.

## **Some Common Inadvertent Breaking of the Laws**

### **1. Touching the card of others**

- a) You are in charge of the Bridgemate and go to enter the lead. You did not see it or forgot what it was - so you reach over and turn up the led card . .

- b) The set of boards have been played. While waiting for the move you are discussing a hand and wonder about an opponent's cards, so take their hand(s) out of the board . . .

Law 7, B, 3 states . . . *No player shall touch any cards other than his own (but declarer may play dummy's cards . . .) during or after play except by permission of an opponent or the Director.* In addition, Law 7, C refers to returning the cards to the board. *'Thereafter no hand shall be removed from the board unless a member of each side, or the Director, is present.'*

## **2. Aids to memory**

Law 40 (Partnership Understandings) includes B 2. (d) *Unless the Regulating Authority provides otherwise a player is not entitled to any aids to his memory, calculation or technique during the auction period and play.*

Actions observed recently that may be construed as aids to memory –

- a) recording the contract and lead (an aid in itself) and then referring to it during play
- b) positioning a bidding box card such that it indicates the final contract
- c) dummy placing the cards in a specific order (other than trumps on declarer's left) which has been agreed by the partnership and helps declarer remember the led suit etc.

Regarding the final contract - 41, C in part states '*. . . declarer or either defender, at his own turn to play, is entitled to be informed as to what the contract is and whether, but not by whom, it was doubled or redoubled.'*

## **3. Conduct and Etiquette**

Law 74 covers a range of actions. A couple to note –

- a) *As a matter of courtesy a player should refrain from: (B3) detaching a card before it is his turn to play*
- b) *(C5) looking intently at any other player during the auction and play . . .*

## **4. Helping the Opposition**

Each pair has designated duties at the table and is responsible for these being carried out incorrectly. Refer to Page 8 of last month's Newsletter re scoring and board placement and movement. If you take over another

player's duty you may cause offence, so ask first! For example –

- a) placing the next board to be played on the table
- b) replacing a hand in the board for someone who is scoring or who has left the table
- c) moving the boards to another table.

## 5. Helping the Director to conduct a smooth tournament

Law 79 A1. states *'The number of tricks won shall be agreed upon before all four hands have been returned to the board.'* After this it is important to return the hands to the board promptly. Some players are in the habit of leaving their hand on the table while they record the result in their personal scorer and/or in the Bridgmate. This delays the start of the next board and at the end of the round, particularly if you are running late, it prevents the full set of boards from being moved to the next table.

## Regulations for the Use of Bidding Boxes

Procedures are quite detailed (NSW Tournament Regulations, January 2015) and should be followed unless a Club Tournament Regulation supplants them (underlining is mine).

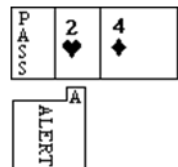
6.1.4 All players make their first call by placing the appropriate bidding card on the table immediately in front of them, slightly to their left. Each player's bidding cards should be orientated so that the large print is upside-down from that player's perspective. (*NB irrelevant to our symmetrical cards*)

6.1.5 Each player's subsequent calls should be placed on top of the previous ones so that the bidding cards partly overlap and every call in the sequence is visible.

6.1.6 Players should refrain from touching any bidding cards until they have determined their call. A call is considered to have been made when the bidding card is removed from the bidding box with apparent intent (but Law 25 may apply).

6.1.7 To alert, a player should say "alert" and place one of the "ALERT" cards next to partner's alertable call, with the "A" tab directly below the alerted call.

See the diagram where partner's 2H bid has been alerted.



6.1.8 At the end of the auction, the opening leader places his lead face down on the table. At this point, with the auction still on the table, the leader's partner and Declarer may request an explanation of the opponents' auction.

6.1.9 After all explanations have been completed, the opening lead is faced and all players return their bidding cards to their respective bidding boxes.

## Summing Up

While you may think some of the examples are petty, they prevent unauthorised information and unfair advantage. Remember that the Laws and Regulations define correct procedure so that the game is equitable and enjoyable for all with the result dependant on skill and some luck, but no secret understandings. Use the Laws to the benefit of all – see “**Dummy's Job and Declarer's Instructions**”, pp 8-9 and “**When to Call the Director**”, page 10.

*Wendy Mitchell*

**VALE**    **JOAN LEHANE**                      **8/9/1933 - 24/5/2021**

Joan joined CCLCBC in 1997 and last earned masterpoints in December 2016 for playing with John earlier in August in the State Open Pairs qualifying event. Joan achieved the rank of Silver Life Master. Her wins at our club were all with her husband John:

Club Championships: Graded Pairs A (2010) & Club Mixed Pairs (2013)  
Trophy Events: New Years Cup (2006 & 7) & Foundation Cup (2011)  
Special Events: Easter Pairs (2012)

A copy of the above, some photos from the archives and Joan's complete masterpoint record were presented to the family at her funeral on Friday June 4 at Mackay Family Funerals, Ourimbah. Representing our club were Colin Mitchell (Patron & Vice President) and Pamela de Lacy who spoke about her personal connections and friendship with Joan.

Born in Guyana, Joan met John in Jamaica when he was working overseas. They married and had 2 girls and a boy and also adopted a boy and a girl.



Joan's bridge career started with lessons from John Newman and later Derrick Browne. After he read Joan's notes and other books John started playing competitive bridge with Joan at John Newman's Club in Neutral Bay and later at Trumps Bridge Centre when it was under Richard Brightling's management.

Joan and John rented a house in Ettalong for about 18 months before moving permanently to the Central Coast in 1997. During that time they played at Brisbane Water BC when the sessions were held at the Surf Life Saving Club.

When John became actively involved with CCLCBC, Joan was always there to help. John often directed in a room some considerable distance from the club office – many will remember Joan loading the bridge trolley with cloths, stools, boards, bidding pads etc and helping to steer it up and down in the lift.

For 20 years Joan and John usually played at least twice a week. On the occasions they were not at bridge, they were wandering around the out-back sharing the driving of their specially equipped campervan.

## **DUMMY'S JOB AND DECLARER'S INSTRUCTIONS**

Dummy's Job is to FOLLOW INSTRUCTIONS.

They *might* attempt to **prevent** an infraction or inquire whether Declarer has no cards in the suit led - otherwise they may not take *any* initiative. They should not even play a singleton of the suit led (which is especially a breach of etiquette on the opening lead) until instructed by declarer. If Declarer calls for a card Dummy should remain cool, calm, collected, and follow instructions - it is an infraction to say the lead is with Declarer. If they commit this infraction they lose some rights and either defender may accept the lead out of turn. Even if a Defender were to play out of turn and instruct their Partner to play high, Dummy must remain silent - they cannot **initiate** a call to the Director about any infraction (including re-voles) *until* the end of the hand.

Since Dummy must simply do as they are told, Declarer's Job is to GIVE CLEAR INSTRUCTIONS. It is **not** sufficient to wave in the general direction of a suit to let Dummy choose a card to play. Declarer should



name a card to play by suit and rank, but there are some shortcuts permitted by Law 46:

- 1) "small", "low", or words to that effect is the lowest card of the suit led;
- 2) "top", "high", or words to that effect is the highest card of the suit led;
- 3) "win" or words to that effect is the lowest card known to win the trick;
- 4) "spade" or any suit without a rank is the lowest card of that suit;
- 5) "the six" or any rank without a suit is a continuation of the suit  
Dummy won the previous trick;
- 6) a suit-rank combination that does not exist is ignored;
- 7) otherwise Declarer must play a card of the rank designated if they legally can; and
- 8) "anything" or words to that effect allows either Defender to choose which card is played.

Declarer *can* designate a card from Dummy by touching the card. This may be an appropriate procedure if Dummy is hard-of-hearing!

If Dummy fails to follow instructions and plays the wrong card, the error must be corrected if noticed before each side has played to the next trick. After that point the wrongly played card stands, together with any consequences (including revokes).

*Alan Bustany* (Chief Director)

### **TABLE NUMBERS UPDATE**

A little more progress, but a bit like the tortoise - the May average per session was 5.4 compared to 4.9 in April.

**IMPROVERS COURSE:** Friday mornings at 9.15am

Remember you can attend specific sessions. Coming up are:

Friday June 11 Stayman Convention; Finesses

*Friday June 18 No session because of the State Seniors Championship*

Friday June 25 Pre-empts & Defence; Second Hand Play;  
August Convention

After a Review and Practice of Conventions on July 2, there will be 6 weeks of supervised practice – all welcome!

Wendy Mitchell (4340 4870 or 0423 388 529)

## WHEN TO CALL THE DIRECTOR

On a number of occasions recently I have overheard discussion at a table other than my own which goes something like “You shouldn’t have done that”, “should we call the Director”, “no we don’t need to”, “I know what to do”, etc.

Law 9.B.1 **After Attention is Drawn to an Irregularity** includes

(a) *‘The Director should be summoned at once when attention is drawn to an irregularity.’*

(b) *Any player, including dummy, may summon the Director after attention has been drawn to an irregularity.*

The Laws of Duplicate Bridge were last updated in 2017. The Introduction states: *‘The purpose of the Laws remains unchanged. They are designed to define correct procedure and to provide an adequate remedy for when something goes wrong. They are designed not to punish irregularities but rather to rectify situations where non-offenders may otherwise be damaged. Players should be ready to accept gracefully any rectification, penalty or ruling.’*

All players benefit from the correct application of the laws. Our Directors are paid to implement them and it is particularly important for our newer players to see how this is done.

Have you been part of a similar conversation recently and NOT called the Director? If so next time don’t be frightened - please change the “no we don’t need to” to “yes we must” followed by “Director please”.

*Colin Mitchell*

## EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

### 1. 2022 Bridge Holiday

As mentioned on Page 2, we need your feedback. Contact Louis Koolen on 4389 7203 or 0419 281 725.

### 2. Workshops on Card Play

There is, without doubt, potential for players to improve their declarer skills. Louis Koolen has a course of four workshops that he can present, probably on Saturdays and/or Sundays. Each of the sessions comprises 55 minutes learning and 55 minutes practice with a 10 minute coffee break.

It is designed not only for the newer player wishing to learn declarer play, but also the more experienced player wishing to refresh and expand their declarer skills. Details:

**SESSION 1 - NT Contracts**

- Principles of declarer play
- Counting the hand - Winners, trick development
- Planning the play of the hand - Timing, communication and entries
- Playing basic card combinations

**SESSION 2 - Trump contracts**

- Counting the hand - Losers, trick development
- Planning the play of the hand - Timing, communication and entries

**SESSION 3 - Common Techniques**

- Avoidance play
- Safety Play
- Loser on loser

**SESSION 4 - Advanced Techniques**

- Basics of end play
- Basics of squeeze play
- Q & A on all sessions

If you are interested in attending one or more workshops on this important aspect of play, please contact Louis (4389 7203, 0419 281 725) or Wendy (0432 388 529) ASAP.

**A FEW FINANCIAL FACTS AND FIGURES**

1. **Annual Affiliation Fees:** \$1090 was paid to NSWBA for 109 Home Club member as at October 31, 2020
2. **Capitation Fees:** \$966 was paid to ABF for 97 Home Club members as at March 31, 2021
3. **New Tables:** 10 purchased for \$737
4. **Bridge Base Online sessions:** Income = \$5877.16 less Expenses (Directors - \$5275, Masterpoints - 436.55, Distribution to other clubs - \$126) = \$42.61 nett
5. **Club Funds:** Bank Balance at April 30 = \$14,486.20 +  
Cash on hand = \$256.30

## NEW MEMBERS

Welcome to new members: Marielle Foster (0412 693 101) and Margot Kirkham (0411 098 342) and to returning members: Janice Roughley (4321 0352), and Bernie Davidson (0400 987 714).

Please make these players feel at home.

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY for June:

Sue Brumby, Tony Burke, Wendy Byrne, Penny Dilworth, Chris Hannan, Henrietta Hohnen, Di March, Helen Milward, Colin Mitchell, June Noble, Jan Oitmaa, June Thompson, Alma Van Der Walt, Brian Warburton, Marilyn Whigham, Ellen Williams.

## UPCOMING COMPETITIONS

1. Illawarra Bridge Association Chris Diment Memorial Congress - Saturday June 12 (30 table limit reached - further entries waitlisted)
2. Wollstonecraft Bridge Club Teams - Sunday June 13
3. The Victor Champion Cup, Melbourne (cancelled because of Covid-19 lockdown has been rescheduled to the dates of August 26 – 29.

## SMILE AWHILE

Ask who lost their system card on Friday . . .

A search of the side tables and an anguished announcement to the room failed to produce it.

Obviously a system 15 years in the making was so valuable that someone wanted it for themselves?

But no, it was in the player's pocket all the time. . . .

I hate computer dealt hands



"How's that for a splinter bid!"

## COMING EVENTS CALENDAR

### JUNE

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

### JULY

(Club Pairs Session 3 (C)	only if required	Wednesday 7)
Winter Pairs (R)		Monday Eve 12
<b>GNOT 1, 2</b> (G)		<b>Saturday (all day) 10</b>
<b>GNOT 3</b> (depending on the number of teams)		<b>Sunday 11</b>
Club Restricted Teams (C)		Friday 23 & 30
<i>(Each player &lt; 300 Masterpoints as at June 30)</i>		

### AUGUST

Anniversary Pairs (R)		Saturday 7
<i>(preceded by AGM)</i>		
<b>Pauline Evans Memorial Trophy</b> (R)		Monday Eve 9
<i>(Novices &lt; 100 Masterpoints as at June 30)</i>		
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

*Colin Mitchell*  
**Editor**