

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



NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2021

A **NNUAL**
GENERAL
MEETING

This was held online again this year from 6am September 13 to 12 mid-day September 20.

Your committee for 2021/2022 is:

President: Louis Koolen

V President: Julie Sadler

Secretary: Anne Grayden

Treasurer: Peter Mackey

Committee: Leon Babinski, Ruth Griffin, Julieanne Perceval, Margo Burnet.

Note: There is one vacancy.

Congratulations to all those re-elected to the Management Committee and to new member Margo.

As last year, the electronic format using *Simply Voting* was very successful.

Thanks this year to Alan Bustany for setting up and managing the process.

O **NLINE**
PAIRS
CONGRESS

Held on StepBridge this year instead of BBO, this also was again a great success, despite some pre-event panic-inducing problems.

See pages 2 - 4 for results and report and page 5 for AGM statistics.

F **ACE to FACE**
RETURN
TO PLAY

YES, we will be back, but not before **Wednesday October 13.**

There will be a limit of 20 players and masks must be worn.

Full details and conditions will be emailed to you by Secretary Anne.

VALE: Don Holmes

See Page 5

RECENT RESULTS

Following successful trial sessions on RealBridge, the first red point session was conducted on the last Tuesday of September - director for all these sessions was Ronnie Ng.

TUESDAY REALBRIDGE	(R)	8 tables	Sep 28
1st	Henrietta Hohnen & Elizabeth Lawrence		64.29 %
2nd	Chris Williams & Alan Bustany		56.59%
3rd	Barry & Sylvia Foster		56.04%

CCLCBC 2021 ONLINE SWISS PAIRS CONGRESS

STEPBRIDGE

Wed Oct 6

Congratulations to the winners!

Open	42 pairs	Wins/Draws/Losses	
1st	Tony Burke & Phil Gue	5-1-0	\$200
2nd	Tim Davis & Robert van der Hoek	4-1-1	\$100
3rd	Patricia Shaw & Jing Geng	5-0-1	\$40

Best unplaced Local pair:

4th	Di Coats & Jan Clarke	5-0-1	\$40
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Other locals in the top half were: Sylvia Foster & Lorraine Lindsay (16th) and Alfie Nation & Elizabeth Lawrence (17th).

Restricted **26 pairs**

1st	Steven Kemp & John Ewing	6-0-0	\$200
2nd	Jake Andrew & Jacky Gruszka	5-0-1	\$100
3rd	David Num & Dita Hung	3-0-3	\$40

Best unplaced Local pair:

4th	Alma van der Walt & Kathy Ivits	5-0-1	\$40
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Other locals in the top half were: Pauline Caust (with Tony Halse) (15th), Trish Byrnes & Jurate Laisve (16th), Steve Calcroft & Roy Cotton (17th).

Novice **12 pairs**

1st	Colin McGregor & Ludo Onstein	5-1-0	\$200
2nd	Alison & Peter Mackey	4-0-2	\$100
3rd	Elaine Jones & Beth Magick	4-0-2	\$40

Best unplaced Local pair:

7th	John Aldersley & Beryl Lowry	2-1-3	\$40
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CONGRESS CONFUSIONS - FUSIONS– CONCLUSIONS

Confusions: Entries started well and the \$20 per player payments started flowing to our club's bank account until the NSWBA website 'went down' and 'stayed down'. A stressful time followed for all concerned. Convenor Louis Koolen described it as a nightmare. Louis was fielding landline and mobile phone calls, voicemails, emails and text messages as players could not enter the event online. Then when they did, not all entries were displayed on the NSWBA site. (Grey hairs, Louis?)

Fusions: Last year's Pairs Congress was our first 'online'. With 16 tables of Open players and 6 tables of Restricted/Novice only one section could be run. This year's increased participation reflects the increased online experience of players, forced to use this format due to Covid-19 lockdowns. This time two sections were possible. Each - Open (21 tables) and Restricted/Novice (combined 19 tables) - played 6x9board matches.

As required by ABF/NSWBA there were two directors for our Online Swiss Butler Pairs: Sarah Anwar and Alan Bustany. Sarah is president of the online bridge club, StepBridge Australia, which provided the software (developed in the Netherlands) for running our online Congress.

Alan focussed on directing in the Open and Sarah focussed on the Restricted/Novice. The Directors were in continuous communication on Skype and had multiple logins to StepBridge to enable them to discuss directing decisions and resolve technical issues.

Alan reports that two directing decisions required some discussion:

1) A call by NS about an alleged hesitation by East followed by a bid by West. EW disputed the hesitation. This is where online logs make things easier than Face-to-Face: the log showed East had in fact taken over 65 seconds to bid – a clear break in tempo! Discussion was required to establish that (a) West had a logical alternative to their bid and (b) NS were in fact damaged. The ruling resulted in a swing of more than 10 IMPs.

2) A bid of 1S (self alerted as "weak") followed by a 6NT bid by their partner with the contract making! Opening bidder had probably intended to bid 2S, but instead misinformed the opponents about the systemic

meaning of 1S. Partner had 4-card spade support and yet bid 6NT directly. All rather confusing especially when the bidders did not respond to subsequent questions from the Director. Opponents were clearly damaged and adjusting the contract to a likely 4S produced another swing of more than 10 IMPs.

The lesson to be learned: calling the Director can make a big difference to your score.

Of course, we also had quite a few complaints from players about things like lack of (self) alerts. Players often expect their opponents to be "punished" for such offences. The intention of the 2017 Laws of Bridge, however, is to produce a fair result rather than to punish offenders. Directors will only adjust a score following an offence if the infraction caused damage to the non-offending side, so such complaints often produce "no adjustment necessary" to the dissatisfaction of the complainant.

(Thank you for the report, Alan)

Conclusions: Last year 41% of participants were from local clubs; this year the figure is only 28% - again, more players from all clubs competing in online events.

Give a thought to our Treasurer, Peter Mackey, who has had to track the congress payments. Some people overpaid, paid twice or withdrew and several did not make their deposit identifiable!

Winners have been asked to provide their bank details so their prize money can be transferred - so more work for Peter.

Congratulations to all, with special thanks to our Convenor and Directors.

REALBRIDGE SEPTEMBER

Four 'real' sessions were held in September. A group email invoiced the 40 players who took part. Thank you to 36 of these who paid promptly in less than 1 week!

The same method will be used in October, but hopefully the format of your email will be improved.

AGM 2021 STATISTICS

Turnout: 62 (40.5%) of 153 electors voted in this ballot. This compares favourably to 65 (37%) out of 178 eligible last year.

There were 3 apologies.

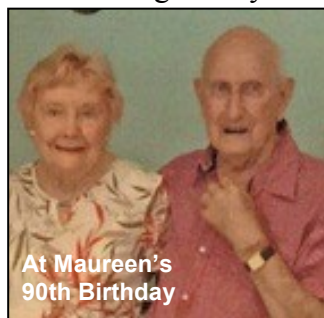
	Accept	Reject	Not Present	Abstain
CCLCBC AGM Minutes 2019	45	0	17	
Presidents Report	60	0		2
Treasurer's Report	58	0		4
Tournament Organiser's Report	59	0		3

VALE: **DON HOLMES**

Died 16/8/21 aged 94 years

Don was a long term member of our club, joining CCLCBC in 1995, a year after his wife Maureen. When Maureen died in 2019 they had been married 65 years.

Don generally played with Maureen, regularly enough that he always showed improvement as measured by the Cards Rating system (2013 to 2016). Members found always them to be pleasant and polite opponents.



Don played in a variety of special events including Teams of 3, Club Swiss Pairs and Club Teams. In 2008 Don and Maureen were first EW in the red point Charity Day Pairs.



Marion Ellis, Maureen, & Don Holmes, Ursula Middleton

At August 1, 2019 Don had 87.8 MPs and was ranked State Master. His last points were earned in March 2019. Our sincere sympathy goes to Don's family: 5 children and spouses, 11 grandchildren and 5 great grandchildren.

A gentle man and a gentleman.

ABF MASTERPOINT CENTRE

At the time of writing this website has been inaccessible for more than 2 weeks. Consequently, I could not upload our green or red point files on September 30. Late Thursday evening the site was partially operative but not for club log-ins. Hopefully it will be fully recovered soon - September points will be uploaded with those earned in October.

No information is available re new rankings for September

Wendy M

NEW MEMBERS

Please welcome new member Margaret Regan (0412 405 576) when you meet her on RealBridge!

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HAPPY BIRTHDAY - OCTOBER

John Aldersley, Bill Alexander, Gary Barwick, Ivan Cottom, Pamela de Lacy, Angela Dougall, Marielle Foster, Trish Howard, Patricia Kull, Leonie Lovell, Adele Mills, Pamela Price, Judith Sherson, Jann Small, Gwen White, Helen White.

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SNIPPETS FROM THE OCTOBER ABF NEWSLETTER

- In order to provide a safe environment for players and officials at ABF Gold Point events, 2022 COVID-19 Event Plans will include the requirement that all players and officials to be fully vaccinated. For those ineligible to be vaccinated for medical reasons, a medical certificate confirming such ineligibility along with confirmation of a negative COVID test conducted within three days of commencement of the event will be required. MyABF will work on a tick box for players entering an event to confirm they have a vaccination certificates, or a medical certificate and a negative test confirmation.
- At the 2021 AGM, the ABF Council endorsed a plan to reinvigorate youth bridge around the country. The ABF has set an ambitious goal of gaining 5000 youth players over the next five years. The first of these initiatives is establishing a regular national youth game at 3:30pm on Sunday afternoons on Real Bridge.
- Kids love their apps, and it is hard to drag them away from their screens. Tricky Bridge is a super cool and fun app that can help to get kids interested

in bridge. It's completely FREE too. With fun graphics it's appealing to a young audience. The app has three modules: Solo learning; practice with players and robots; duplicate competition. It can also suit the not-so-young.

COMING EVENTS - Online

OCTOBER

State Mixed Pairs Q2 (R), P	12.30 RB	Tue 5, 12
Thursday RealBridge	9.30am	Thu 14
Tuesday RealBridge	12.30pm	Tue 19
Thursday RealBridge	9.30am	Thu 21
Tuesday RealBridge (R)	12.30pm	Tue 26
Thursday RealBridge	9.30am	Thu 28

NOVEMBER

Tuesday RealBridge	12.30pm	Tue 2
Thursday RealBridge (R)	9.30am	Thu 4
Tuesday RealBridge (R)	12.30pm	Tue 9
Thursday RealBridge	9.30am	Thu 11
Tuesday RealBridge	12.30pm	Tue 16
Thursday RealBridge	9.30am	Thu 18
Tuesday RealBridge (R)	12.30pm	Tue 23

**PRE-ENTRY ON THE WEBSITE IS ESSENTIAL
FOR ALL FACE-TO-FACE SESSIONS
& SOME ONLINE DUPLICATE EVENTS**

OTHER EVENTS - see NSWBA website

- *NSWBA Online Teams of Three:* Wednesday October 27
If you are ranked below Grand Master you are eligible to play - just find 2 other players and Pre-enter.
- Lots of other events can be found on the website

SMILE AWHILE

I'll be glad when lockdown is over: stress-eating will soon cause the buttons on my shirt to start socially distancing from each other.

Wendy Mitchell Editor