



CENTRAL COAST BRIDGE CLUB



Congratulations

Congratulations to Annette Houtman (left) and Glenn Campbell (not in the photo) who are the Mixed Pairs Champion for 2020. Second were Garry and Sally Clarke (far right) and in third position Marianna Xerri and Ray Bermeister (2nd & 3rd from left.)

Repairs & Maintenance

In the last newsletter we informed you that we would be installing solar panels in January. Those plans hit a speed hump when we were informed that the shipment containing the Fronius Inverter necessary for the project had not arrived. We were offered the option of either purchasing another brand (at an increased cost of course!) or to wait for the arrival of the original model. We have opted for the latter and have been told that that it will arrive mid February to March. Fingers crossed!

CCBC CONGRESS.

Sat. 4th and Sun. 5th April.

Pairs on Saturday - Teams on Sunday.

Enter online now to avoid disappointment.

We will need reserve players willing to be on call if players fail to turn up. If you are needed we will pay your entry fee. Please see the convenor Pam Townsend if you are interested.

Prize Protocols

A new structure for awarding prizes has been developed for our single session trophy events. This new structure allows for the number of prizes to reflect the number of tables participating in the event in a fair manner. The field (all pairs participating) will be graded into categories A, B, C and so on, and the grading will be based on the average masterpoints of the pairs. Each grade must have a minimum of three full tables. Players competing in the lower grades will be eligible to win the prizes in the higher grades. For example; if you are graded into category C and win the overall event you will be awarded the category A prize. Our non-trophy two winner single session red point events will no longer receive prizes and also prizes will be cash and not vouchers

Thursday Afternoon Sessions

The dynamic of the Thursday afternoon session has changed and increasingly more experienced players are attending the sessions. Commencing on March 5th, the Thursday afternoon session will run as two distinct sections - an Open Section and a Protected Section. The Protected Section is for those with less experience and/or confidence and will consist of "no-frills" bridge. Which pairs participate in each section will be at the discretion of the director. The director will also have discretion as to the allowable systems used in the Protected Section. It is hoped that more members of all abilities will be encouraged to come along and play on Thursday afternoon.

Bushfire Fund Raiser.

The Committee has been approached by a number of groups to participate in fund raisers for those affected by the bushfires. Our concern has been with ensuring that any money raised goes to the right place. The ABF has stepped in by offering a red point event to any club who wishes to participate and they will distribute proceeds of the session to those in need. We will hold it on Thursday morning 5th March but the table money from the afternoon session will also be contributed. In addition to table monies going to the cause there will be an opportunity¹ for members to make additional contributions.

A Dummies Guide to being a Dummy

One definition of the word "dummy" is a person who is incapable of speaking or who is habitually silent. There it is in a nutshell! You must always select the card that your partner has indicated. No raised eyebrows at their choice and no hovering your hand over the card that you feel ought to be played! You must give no indication of your approval or disapproval, either verbally or through body language! It is quite an art to remain inscrutable whilst watching your partner committing bridge suicide in their choice of play!

Upcoming Events

Black Swan Pairs runs over two Thursday afternoons, 12th and 19th March. Anybody with under 10 Masterpoints is eligible to enter. This is a great opportunity to dip your toes in the water of competition bridge!

Hi-Lo Pairs In this event on Tuesday 10th March, one of approximately 20 very experienced bridge players will play with someone who has less than 200 Masterpoints. We have organised for some very good players who are prepared to give up their time to pair up with a less experienced player and compete for the Helen Eaton Trophy. So much can be learnt from playing with a good bridge player that it is an event you cannot afford to miss. Since places are limited, a sign up list will be put on the notice board and it will be organised on a first come, first served basis.

Invitation Day. We have invited members of the Community Bridge Club to join us for bridge on Tuesday 17th March. Since this is also St. Patrick's day we are expecting lots of Irish jokes and plenty of green!

Eris Brown - Librarian

Eris was born in Newcastle and taught for the Newcastle/Maitland diocese for 35 years. After many years of teaching English and then Computing



Studies she decided that the library offered the perfect blend of those two interests. She spent the last 7 years of her teaching career as a Teacher/Librarian. In 1998, Eris and her partner Jenny, decided to move to Bateau Bay and ease into a retirement lifestyle. For the past ten years she has been a keen golfer, playing two or three times a week. Bridge and golf go together like a "horse and carriage" and she became interested in the game of bridge, taking lessons with John in 2014. Amazed to find that there so much more to bridge than 6 lessons could cover she

jumped at the chance in 2018 to join another keen golfer/bridge player - Eunice de Vries for lessons with other golfing girls. (Eunice was a member here before moving and has taught many of us). After 6 months of weekly, 3 hour lessons complete with homework and revision sheets (right up the alley of a retired teacher!) she felt confident enough to not only return to the Bridge Club but to join Bridge afternoons on a month long cruise in early 2019. It was the perfect way to fill in those days at sea and meet like minded passengers. She has now found that the passion she once held for golf is being transferred to Bridge. Not only is she enjoying being a member of the Bridge Club, she is delighted to be revisiting her librarian skills and sharing the passion bridge club members have for reading.

Library News

A big thank you to all those who have donated books, DVD's and magazines to our library. Our beautiful new shelves are filling up quickly and so many people are making use of the facility. The library wouldn't function without the help of those members happy to shelve the books being returned on a daily basis. Thanks so much to Gillian Aldridge, Mary McFadden, Pam Jones, Irene Campbell and any other members helping to keep the library in order. Sue Davies had an excellent suggestion that readers who wish to recommend a particular book write a short review on a post it note which could be attached to the inside cover of the book. Some stars and lime green post it notes will be left near the returns box on the back shelf. If you recommend a book just place a star on the top of the spine of the book.

Kerrie Ransom has kindly offered to resume the task of overseeing the Bridge Books Library. These books are shelved in two large locked glass cabinets on the side wall. Should you wish to borrow a book just ask Kerrie, the Director or one of the Committee members to unlock the cabinet. Beginners books are located on the top shelf with an orange sticker on the spine. Because these books are valuable you are requested to fill out the card located in the back of the book and place it in the plastic container in the cabinet. Please return the book to the wooden box beside the cabinet. Some Bridge books are on the general library shelf so feel free to take