



*Newsletter July 2023*



*Dear Friends*

**You have just hosted a massive SUCCESS.....**

Success

Success



what people think  
it looks like

what it really  
looks like

...and we have a Club full of helpers to thank for it.

Our Novice and Restricted Pairs and Teams Congress over 8th and 9th of July produced an overwhelmingly rewarding event that attracted a total of 140 players, about two thirds of whom were from Sydney and Regional Clubs.

The Congress was Directed by Ronnie Ng who managed 84 players at 21 tables in the Pairs on Saturday and 56 players at 14 tables in the Teams on Sunday.

And special thanks go to Marilyn Scott, our Convenor, who has convened for us since this time last year. We are truly fortunate to have her skilled and experienced services and although she was deep in a cave somewhere for this Convention, it ran smoothly and successfully with the inimitable takeover talent of John Redfearn.

The Novice Pairs on Saturday yielded three successful pairs from our Club who ended in the Top Ten.

### CONGRATULATIONS!

Dorothy Rosewell and Jenny Walmsley (6th); Robyn Price and Peter Greening (8th); Lynette Pavlova Queen Bigland and Margaret Burfield (10th).

### CONGRATULATIONS!

The Top Ten in the Restricted Pairs on Saturday featured Colin Kleinig and Peter Muller (6th) and Vic Pietraszkiewicz and Berenice Air (10th).

We enjoyed more success in the Top Tens on Sunday for the Restricted and Novice Teams.

### CONGRATULATIONS!

To our President's Team (David Purkiss, Annette Houtman, Tony Sappideen and Sandy Whalley) 2nd in Restricted;



..and to Team (Graham Williamson, Lucy d'Ambrosio, Colin Kleinig and Berenice Air) 6th in Restricted

....and to Team (Louise Lewis, Vic Pietraszkiewicz, Gloria Smith and Jenny MacPherson) achieving 1st in Novice Teams and 4th in Restricted.



Dorothy Rosewell & Jenny Walmsley 2nd table back on left.



Third place-getters received a prize of wine.





Winners of Restricted Pairs: 1st: Ron Szancer & Sarah Edelman; 2nd: Nerida Gillies & Sandy Carter; 3rd: Margaret Hagar & Audrey Belt.



Winners of Novice Pairs: 1st: Paul and Frank Pellarini; 2nd: John Aldersley & Marcelle Goslin; June & John Waudby.

## *Speaking of socialising and sensational sustenance*

Jill Wildey did a a superb job (direct quote from our president) organising the catering and kitchen staff. Jill made a roster which included the exact minute at which heating of various constituent delicacies should commence and conclude.

The grazing table was groaning with delicious dips, baked goodies and nibbles and the general feedback on food was overwhelmingly positive - our lunch (a bring your own at many clubs) included roast chicken, pumpkin and potatoes and was accompanied by green peas and salads, plus a variety of desserts, chief among which were four magnificent pavlovas created by the hallowed hands of Lynette Bigland.

Scullery staff were too many to mention, suffice to say that the kitchen ran itself smoothly and without incident by a team who knew exactly what to do and when to do it.



*Lyn Stinton, Margaret Prince, Lee Mitchell.*

*Jan Buchanan-Medina, Margaret Prince, Margaret Berger, Arturo Medina*



*Above: Jill Wildey (UberChef) Margaret Prince, Paula Threlfo, Thea McCallum, Margaret Berger.*

## *Looking Forward..*

The Congress has been the perfect opportunity to share our plans for the building upgrade and the picture of our new facade created a lot of positive discussion between players from other Clubs. We are extremely fortunate in owning our own premises - thanks to our members from the 1980's - which means that instead of paying increasing rent we are able to increase the value of that investment with the help of funding support from the ABF. Thus we can keep up with the times by developing an exciting contemporary appearance at street level which will further attract the younger players we need to keep the Club growing healthily. These improvements will include other internal developments which may also make it possible to hire the premises to similar organisations for regular meetings or special events.

## *...And Getting There* *(We're already on the way)*

Weekly table numbers are increasing at a steadily gratifying rate.

April 2022 to December 2022 - 9 months - we averaged 45.

January 2023 to June 2023 - 6 months - we averaged 53.

That's an **increase of 18%** over the previous 9 month period.

The CCBC Marketing sub-committee has the objective of improving average weekly table numbers closer to 60 within 24 months. With your help we'll get there.

So that you can measure our success we'll be reporting each month on progress.

## *What else has been happening?*

Club Restricted Teams, 1st and 8th June

### *Congratulations*

First:

Terry Newnham & Barbara Harrison & Vic Pietraszkiewicz & Edward Czarnocki\*

Second:

Lee Mitchell & Gloria Smith & Gillian Aldridge & Jill Wildey **Trophy winners**

Third:

Barry Laidlaw & Graham Williamson & Mary McFadden & John McFadden

**\* The first place-getters could not be awarded the Trophy because the team included Edward who is not a full CCBC member. Only home club members of CCBC are eligible to win Club Championship events.**

June Pairs, 15th June

*Congratulations*

First:

Matt Raj Mal & Brian Richardson

Second:

Norm Berger & Marilyn Scott

Third:

Berenice Air & Colin Kleinig

Club Restricted Pairs, 22nd and 29th June

*Congratulations*

First:

Berenice Air & Sandy Whalley

Second:

David Purkiss & Annette Houtman

Club Open Teams, 28th June

*Congratulations*

First:

John Redfearn & Norm Berger & Angela & Kevin Dougall

Second:

Matt Raj Mal & Brian Richardson & Robert Johnson & Tony Sappideen

Third:

Mary McFadden & Lucy d'Ambrosio & Graham Williamson & Julie Leigh

July Pairs (R) 12th July

*Congratulations*

First:

Brian Richardson & Matt Raj Mal

Second:

Maureen & Kevin Carson

Third:

Angela Dougall & David Purkiss

*What's Special about tomorrow??*

*Look out the antlers, slap on the happy cap,  
dance till you're delirious.*

*It's time to tap the toes to the best boy band on the Coast at Christmas in July!*





Thursday this week!

*And there's more.....*

CLUB SWISS PAIRS, 2ND AUGUST

This is a full day Trophy Event, Open to all, \$25 with lunch, nibbles, coffee, tea and chocolate included. It starts at 9.30 (please be seated by 9.20) enter via notice board or call the Club, entries close 1st August.

AUGUST PAIRS, 17TH AUGUST, STARTS AT 9.30

This is a Red Point event, Open to all, \$8 with biscuits, coffee, tea and chocolate. Enter via notice board or call the Club, entries close 16th August, please be seated by 9.20.

TORONTO BRIDGE CLUB: 20TH AUGUST

Full Day Teams TROPHY Event for Open, Restricted and Novice Foursomes

It starts at 9.30, please arrive in time to be seated by 9.20. \$35, bring your own lunch, enter online NSWBA.

### AUSTRALIAWIDE OPEN PAIRS, 30TH AUGUST, STARTS AT 1PM

This is a SPECIAL PAIRS EVENT, open to all, \$8 with biscuits, tea, coffee and chocolate. Enter via notice board or online, entries close day before. Please be seated by 12.50.

*And now it's time for a game*

### PROBLEM

QJ10                      You are South and you end up in 3NT. Your LHO (West) leads the  
Q8                              3 of spades. You play the 10 from dummy and East plays the ace.  
KQJ94                      **How do you make your contract?**  
43

K76  
A984  
-----  
A108765

### 3 BIDDING EXERCISES

LHO opens 1D. Partner bids 2S.  
RHO passes. Over to you.

a) 2	b) K1062	c) AK
A32	9	AKQJ
AK6	K65	65
Q87653	109532	109873

**(ANSWERS ARE IN A SMALLER SIZE SO THAT YOU DON'T ACCIDENTALLY SEE THEM BEFORE YOU'VE WORKED IT OUT.)**

PROBLEM:

Play the king of spades at trick one. You need two entries to dummy.

BIDDING:

- a) pass - you are in a misfit
- b) 4S - continue the pre-empt. Opponents look to have a good heart fit.
- c) 4S

**Message from John:** By now everyone knows that our Novice and Restricted congress was very successful. The atmosphere was great and the food served up was fantastic. My thanks to the ladies in the kitchen who worked over the two days. You were great.

In November our club is hosting the State Championships for Novice and Restricted Teams. I am sure that we all want that event to be a great success. I would like lots of teams from our club to participate.

You do not have to be a "Champion" team, just a team of 4 (or 6) players. So, please think about it.

By choosing to play a team of six, players have a chance to rest a day or half a day.

## *What are Masterpoints?*

**News for Newbies:** Masterpoints are points awarded by your national bridge organisation to individuals for success in competitive bridge tournaments run by the ABF.

In Australia we have three types of MP as follow:

Green points are awarded for most club events

Red points are awarded for special Club & State events

Gold points are awarded at major congresses etc

At a normal CCBC session with 10 tables, the top 5 NS & EW pairs will be awarded points.

The top pairs get about 0.3 MP on a sliding scale which ends with the pair in 5th place who are awarded about 0.03 points each.

Periodically these results are sent to the NSW Bridge Association who collate and record each Clubmember's points.

Then, depending on the total number of Masterpoints, there are different Levels that players can achieve.

As an example once you have 2 green points you are at the Graduate Level.

The National Level indicates that you have 100 green points and 75 red points. That is a total of 175 of which 75 must be of red value.

At the Diamond Grand level, you have acquired 15,000 green, 13000 red and 5000 gold.

Players who achieve a high placing in a club game, sectional tournament, regional tournament, etc. are awarded masterpoints according to their placing and the number of pairs, individuals or teams who played in the event.

Some events have an upper masterpoint limit, meaning that only players with a masterpoint holding under the limit may participate. This allows less experienced

players more of a chance to place high since they will not be playing against players who are significantly more experienced.

Additionally, some events are stratified. This means that players with various masterpoint holdings play together, but in the final standings, players receive masterpoints based on their position within their stratum. For example, if you are first in stratum C, second in B and fourth in A, and the upper masterpoint limits are 300 for C, 500 for B and 1000 for A, that means that among players with fewer than 300 masterpoints, you did the best. Among players with 500 points or fewer, you did second-best, and among players with fewer than 1000, you did fourth best. With those divisions, a player with 700 points would be able to place in stratum A, but not in B or C.

Masterpoints are partly a measure of skill, but the system is regarded by many players as a measure of experience and longevity rather than skill. Experience is often related to skill, but not necessarily. Over the course of a lifetime, a player can earn many points, just with average play. For example, the same number of masterpoints, and hence the same rank, may have been achieved by Player A over 2 years and by Player B over 20 years.

*Did you know.....?????*

.... that the part of your CCBC membership that goes to the ABF can also give you access to special discounts on

Travel Insurance

Home Insurance

Contents Insurance

Motor Vehicle Insurance

You can check on these benefits at [abf.com.au](http://abf.com.au)

Your membership also has other benefits - check on your masterpoints, get the monthly abf newsletter, watch Bridge TV and discover other ways to improve your game. A good read of the Federation's newsletter is well worth while and you'll find plenty to follow up.

*Did you know.....?????*

..... that there's a formal and a wrong way to question the opposition about a bid. If a bid doesn't seem natural, the correct question to ask the opponent's partner when it is your turn to bid is "What is your understanding of that bid?" Not "what does that bid mean?" A bid may have many meanings and the correct wording of your question relates to the opposition partnership's agreed understanding. It is in line with the Principle of Full Disclosure which is the standard that ethical bridge players (and we should all be ethical players) adhere to.

Therefore, whenever you and your partner are using special agreements in play, you must alert the opposition that this is not a natural bid, giving them the chance to ask what is your understanding of that bid.

Further, in relation to the Principle of Full Disclosure, you should not ask a question the answer to which will make no difference to your next play, no matter what answer you get. This MAY be a way to pass unauthorised information to your partner.

If the auction has not been clear, it is probably better to wait for it to finish and then ask for an explanation of the WHOLE AUCTION, not just a specific bid. You may do this:

IF

you are on lead

OR

after your partner has selected a lead and put it face down on the table.

All rules in Bridge are based on honesty and fairness which is inherent in the Principle of Full Disclosure.

*Did you know.....?????*

...that there's also a proper way to attract the attention of the Director when you need help at the table? It's easy to remember - Director **please!**

Next Newsletter: Can you transfer your Masterpoints from one country to another? And, are all same-name Masterpoints worth the same?

It's a couple of months since we had a Newsletter, that's why this one is full of Past, Present and Coming features and, happily, a lot of local winners. Look forward to our next publication around mid-August and if you have anything "bridge" that you'd like to know more about -

write to

Editor, Newsletter at [ccbridgeclub@gmail.com](mailto:ccbridgeclub@gmail.com).

Until then

*Your Editor*