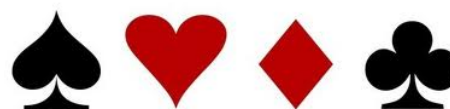


Brisbane Bridge Centre Newsletter



September 2024

Vol. 12 No 9

President's Report

Annual General Meeting 2024 – President's Report

Good Morning and welcome to the 2024 AGM. Thanks to you all for attending.

It has been a quiet year, or so it seems to me. We are still fighting a battle to get back to something like the pre-covid numbers and some of our sessions remain quite poorly attended. John Kelly will give us a clearer idea of how the club numbers are going during his Treasurer's Report. However the Club remains healthy and popular.

Sadly this past year has seen the passing of three of our members – Lloyd Yates, Diana Nokartis and Kathleen Nagrodski. We will miss them and our condolences go out to their families. If I could just say a few words about Kathleen, a great character and good fun. I will remember her opening 3 Clubs and with opposition bidding and complete silence from her partner, she bid 4 Clubs, 5 Clubs and then 6 Clubs, which was doubled. Going 5 down doubled and vulnerable, with a great beaming smile said ... bitch! She had another word beginning with b for any male member who provoked her displeasure. She was a chaotic bridge player but a wonderful character.

Our committee has worked hard this year as usual and I am very lucky as President to have

such a wonderful group of people working with me.

John is a brilliant treasurer and Lynne an excellent secretary.

Peter Burke does amazing work liaising with council, organizing grant applications and sorting out building works to keep our premises safe and sound.

Judith Bennett and Tony Williams conducted the beginners' lessons this year and John conducted improver lessons.

All of these jobs take up a lot of our volunteers' time and effort.

Richard Wallis is our QBA delegate and a great repository of all thing bridge.

Janette Hyatt continues as a loyal committee member.

Tom Corney is our Club admin officer and a guru on all things computer oriented. He also works with Peter on our grant and building applications.

Thanks to all of you.

Tony Williams is retiring from the committee and I thank him for his valuable input.

Whilst in a thank you mode I have to mention our marvelous directors, Neil Hansen, Richard Wallis, John Kelly, Nanette Hinsch and Peter Evans – thank you all, the club could not function without you.

Another unappreciated group to thank are the board dealers. Many thanks to Leith Cameron,

who has dealt 90% of our boards this year, in sickness and in health. She has recently been joined by Rod Wilson.

Our Congresses this year have been extremely successful with numbers right up, and I thank all the members who contributed time and food. Our Congresses are always popular and complimented, I think due to the copious amounts of excellent food and the laid-back relaxed atmosphere. They are helped by the efficient convening and caddying by Tom: many thanks Tom.

A couple of special mentions here:

Hazel Lahey is a regular helper at our congresses, and at Easter this year Pat Tan and Clive Carter made prodigious contributions in the kitchen, Clive being there for the entire two days. Pat and Clive are also responsible for the present immaculate state of the library.

Arne and I continue to have the joyful job of putting the barriers up on football Saturdays at 6am. As an activity it is an acquired taste, but Arne then has the pleasure of arriving early and manning the barricades. In this he is inevitably helped by John Lahey – thank you guys.

Arne continues to edit the club newsletter and the content is usually his alone. He would be very happy to have any contribution or even suggestions as to type of content.

A quick mention of Peter Grinlaubs, who brilliantly took over the Treasurer's duties during John Kelly's recent holiday. Thank you. The committee looks forward to your pro-active attitude as you join us.

Archie Smith has been brilliant again this year in rescuing us from plumbing disasters, and he has given us much free help and advice with non-urgent plumbing issues.

This year has seen the improvement to the back stairs, upstairs side door, and cage area door, which all makes for a safer and more pleasant environment. Thanks to Peter Burke for pushing these issues with the council. I think they are beginning to tremble at the mention of his name...

In conclusion I thank you all for supporting this club and the committee. We will continue to work hard and I ask you all to do all you can to make sure this club goes from strength to strength.

(A most important footnote - our resident plovers seem to have been successful in raising both chicks this season).

Thank you.

Elaine Jonsberg

Tom's Administrator's Corner

Monday AM Spring Pairs - Red Points (7 October, 9:30am)

Please arrive by 9:15am for a 9:30pm start. No prior entry is required; everyone plays in the red point session. The cost will be \$7 or a coupon for members and \$9 for visitors.

BBC Under 500 & Novice Pairs Congress (Sunday, 27 October, 9:30am)

The BBC Novice & Restricted Pairs Congress is coming up on Sunday 27 October. The cost is \$60 per pair (\$30 per player). Congress start time is 9:30am and will go to approximately 4:30pm. I encourage all BBC members with

under 500 masterpoints and especially those with under 100 for the novice section to enter and play in this congress.

Members entering the congress must have fewer than 500 or 100 masterpoints respectively *as of 31 July this year*. If you are on the edge of either of these cut-offs you can check your masterpoints on the ABF website or ask myself at the office to check for you. The entry form is available at the club or online on the BBC and QBA websites. Please enter online on MyABF, email the club at bbcentries@gmail.com or fill out a paper entry at the club. Entries close after Tuesday 22 October after the session.

Kitchen Volunteers

We will need some assistance in the kitchen on the day of the congress. If you are available to help out, please let us know.

Volunteer shifts to be filled:

8:30am - 11:30am

11:30am - 2:30pm

2:30pm - 5:30pm

Food Donations

Please bring along any food donations such as cakes, slices, fruit, snacks etc. for the day, these are very much appreciated. Thank you.

Spare Players

I will also be looking for spare players for the Under 500 & Novice Pairs Congress, please let me know if you are interested in playing but cannot find a partner or would be happy to be called upon on Sunday 27 to help out.

Beginner Bridge Lessons (Saturdays 9:00am – 12:00pm, October 5 to November 2)

Please spread the word if you know anyone who may be interested in learning Bridge. They can register by calling or emailing the club (bbridgecentre@gmail.com). Flyers are available at the club, you are welcome to take as many as you need and post on your local noticeboards. The cost is only \$40 which includes 5 total lessons and a textbook to take home.

Friendly Reminders

Please remember to clean your table after play. Crumbs left on tables will attract ants, rats and roaches. Cups and glasses go to the kitchen and into the appropriate dishwasher.

Leaving your table neat and tidy makes it inviting to the players sitting at that table at the next session.

New Members

The Committee welcomes our new member Matthew Atterbury and wishes them a long and happy association with BBC.

Masterpoint Promotions

Congratulations to the following members who have received a masterpoint promotion.

- Les Egan – Life
- Jenny McGowan – Life

Tomas Corney

Change to BBC Home Membership Fees

Unfortunately, as those of you who attended the recent AGM heard, due to very sharp recent rises in the cost of the ABF and QBA levies, the Committee has decided that BBC needs to raise its home membership fees from \$60 to \$75 for 2025, just to keep up. See table below. Away membership fees will not change, since these members pay their ABF and QBA levies at another club.

Year	ABF Levy	QBA Levy	BBC Home M'ship	Net BBC
2018	15.00	15.00	58.00	28.00
2019	15.80	15.80	59.60	28.00
2020	16.10	16.10	60.00	27.80
2021	16.10	16.10	60.00	27.80
2022	16.10	16.10	60.00	27.80
2023	16.40	16.40	60.00	27.20
2024	20.00	20.00	60.00	20.00
2025	23.30	23.30	75.00	28.40
2026	26.60	?		
2027	29.90	?		

So, for 2025, full year membership fees will be as follows:

Regular Home Membership - \$75,
 Concession Home Membership - \$63,
 Regular Away Membership - \$28,
 Concession Away Membership - \$16.

John Kelly, Treasurer

Bridge Hand

Dlr: South
 Vul: N-S

♠ A Q 9 3	
♥ K 6 4 2	
♦ Q 7 2	
♣ Q 4	
♠ 8 5	♠ 6
♥ Q 8 7	♥ 10 9 5 3
♦ K 9 4	♦ J 10 8 5
♣ 10 9 8 6 3	♣ K 7 5 2
♠ K J 10 7 4 2	
♥ A J	
♦ A 6 3	
♣ A J	

South opened the bidding with 1S and NS eventually arrived, not surprisingly, in the promising contract of 6S, on the lead of ♣10. Seeing 11 tricks available South took no time at all to butcher the contract. Taking the first trick with the ♣A he drew trumps and finessed with the ♥J. West won with the Queen and led a club. Declarer futilely messed around for a few tricks but eventually had to give up the setting trick to the ♦K.

When North raised his eyes to heaven South said "get off my back, I had 11 tricks and I needed one of two finesses for the 12th". "Agreed" said North "but you took the finesses in the wrong order". If declarer leads diamonds first and his Queen loses to the King, there is still

the chance in hearts. If you try an early heart finesse and it loses you must always lose a diamond. The correct play is draw trumps and lead small diamond towards the Queen.

Moral: If you have two chances to make your contract, first try the one that will not leave you without recourse, if it fails.

Arne

Heard at the Bridge Table

Take care of your bridge partner; Make them feel important and smart. If you can do that, you will have a happy and wonderful partnership ... Just like 1 out of 100 partnerships.

I have often wanted to drown my troubles, but I can never get my partner to go swimming.

My partner and I have been partnering for 40 years ... out of spite.

If my partner's IQ gets any lower, I will have to water him.

When my Bridge partner goes to a mind-reader, he gets half price.

Losing a bridge partner can be hard. In my case, it was almost impossible

Bridge is something like photography, if you don't focus; all you have is the negative.

The Ten Commandments do not say anything about not playing bridge

Bridge players are OK; I just wouldn't want my sister to marry one.

Bridge is the Septic Tank of the intellectual.

"My wife says if I go to a bridge game one more time she's going to leave me. Gosh, I'm going to miss her."

Bidding is a rest period between arguments.

A measure of a person's mental stability is the degree to which they can play bridge as though it is just a game.

"Every night when I go to bed I think about my mistakes at the bridge table."

"Gee," his partner said, "how do you get any sleep?"

People are born to suffer. Even those that were initially free from suffering somehow end up playing bridge.

Asking a bridge player what he thinks about being criticized is like asking a lamppost how it feels about dogs

I wouldn't partner anyone who would have me as his partner.

Half the game is mental; unfortunately the other half is mental too.

I finally figured out that playing bridge almost everyday is the same thing, more or less, as having a personality disorder.

Of course a loving wife is better than winning a Bridge tournament. But I am not sure about 2 Bridge Tournaments.

When you are doing well, you are a good player. When they are doing well, they are lucky.

Wisdom for the Month

It's true hard work never killed anybody, but I figure why take the chance?

I read recipes the same way I read science fiction. I get to the end and I think, "Well, that's not going to happen".

By the time a man realizes that his father was right, he has a son who thinks he's wrong.

Knowledge is knowing that a tomato is a fruit: wisdom is not putting it in a fruit salad.

Some cause happiness wherever they go, others, whenever they go.

Those people who think they know everything are a great annoyance to those of us who do!

I would have less trouble managing my anger if other people would learn to manage their stupidity.

By replacing your morning coffee with green tea, you can lose up to 87% of what little joy you still have left in your life.

I haven't tried yoga, but I have tried bending over to pick up my keys, so I'm pretty sure I'd hate yoga.

Starting your day with an early morning run is a great way to make sure your day can't get any worse than it started.

Endgame

Please send all material for future newsletters to the **Editor, Arne Jonsberg**, via email at arneuser2@bigpond.com, or contact Arne by phone on 0404 085 712. Current and past newsletters available on BBC's web-site: www.bbc.bridgeaustralia.org