

ABF NEWS

To assist with the cost of managing Covid19, the ABF recognises that clubs are losing money Australia-Wide and Redcliffe is no exception. They have responded by reducing the Capitation Fees to help clubs and their members for 2021 from \$16.10 to \$10.00, this means that clubs will only be charged \$10.00 for the ABF Levy.

Other Clubs are further addressing the situation by raising their table fees to cover these increased costs. Northern Suburbs will soon increase their table fees to \$8.00 and Toowong's table fees are \$7.00 for members and \$9.00 for visitors (reduced rates apply when a book of 10 coupons is purchased).

Redcliffe is supporting members by absorbing these losses including sanitising and cleaning costs and the club is moving towards cash-free payments.

The ABF have recently published their bulletin, which is available at: <https://www.ABF.com.au/abf-newsletter-february-2021/>

QBA NEWS

QBA are continuing to host a Saturday afternoon session of online bridge. If you wish to participate please contact Kim Ellaway via email, manager@qldbridge.com.au with your BBO username.

QBA have recently published their bulletin, which may be read on: <https://www.qldbridge.com.au/>

There are a number of useful hands with bidding and play published that players would find useful and tips for players by Director Jan Peach and Teacher Joan Butts.

BRIDGE LESSONS—EVERY SATURDAY MORNING—9am START



2A Irene Street, REDCLIFFE QLD 4020

www.redcliffe.bridgeaustralia.org

BRIDGE BUZZ—February 2021

FROM THE PRESIDENT—*Fay Jeppesen*

Another bumpy Covid month for our Victorian friends, which reinforces the on going requirement to maintain social distancing, hand sanitisation, and staying home if un-well. Our existing Covid processes were reviewed at our recent management committee meeting, as we are aware that some clubs have ceased to complete temperature checking upon entry. It was decided that there would be no change to our existing entry procedures.

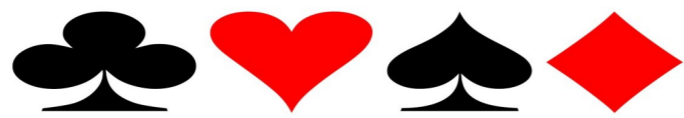
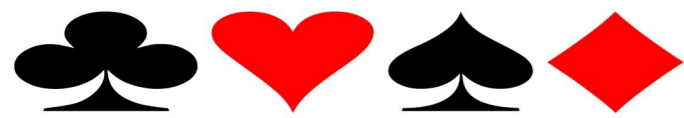
The club received advice from the Queensland Bridge Association (QBA) regarding a meeting held with the Queensland Sports Federation (QSF). The key necessary requirements are for accurate contact tracing records to be maintained for a minimum of 6 weeks by the club. Our club policy is for members who are playing, details are recorded through the Bridgemate entry of players for each session, with a spreadsheet of all members with their contact details maintained. Committee members or other non playing members undertaking additional tasks, e.g. dealing and our contractors sign in on a contact tracing register upon entry. Players undertaking our learner program on Saturday are required to sign in each time they attend lessons. Please ensure if you change email address, home address or contact phone number that the Secretary is advised accordingly. Some clubs have introduced a QR Code check in for members as used in restaurants. If you would like to assist with the roster for Covid entry, please contact Ron Elmes who would welcome some additional volunteers to help.

An additional requirement by the QSF is to ensure that clubs only include measurements of the playing room, in determining the maximum numbers of players for 1 per 2 sq. metre rule. Our club complies in this regard and our plan is detailed in the club Covid policy document.

QSF also advised that discussion is ongoing on whether clubs can stop unvaccinated people into the club rooms. QSF believe clubs will make these important decisions when vaccinations have been given to over 70% of the population, and will provide further ongoing information in this regard.

Our new session was introduced on Friday 5 February for Novice players and also for more experienced players providing mentoring. This session was well received with 8 ½ tables, which grew to 11 tables on 12 February. The committee has approved 4 club-funded mentor sessions for each rookie with less than 30 Masterpoints. Additionally the committee has approved that a player with any number of Masterpoints can play with a rookie with less than 30 Masterpoints. There is no change to the novice players who have less than 100 Masterpoints to partner in this session. Thank you to Ross for his ongoing support to establish this session. We welcome back some players for the first time since March 2020 and hope you enjoy your experience back at the club bridge table.

On Saturday 6 February, 33 enthusiastic bridge learners attended Sue Kennard's first teaching session for 2021. It was very encouraging to see that this grew to 36 on 13 February, with some of the players who commenced classes in 2020 returning. Sue was ably assisted by Ross, Gordon, Max, Sue Lind, Wayne and I in providing advice to new players during card play. We welcome you to our Club and hope you enjoy this new adult learning experience and make new friendships.



WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

We welcome Phillip McMahon, John Henderson, Don Scown and Judith Scown who are new members to our club. We hope you enjoy your bridge playing and enjoy the friendship at our club.

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE—*Position Descriptions*

The Management Committee have endorsed the Position Descriptions for various positions outlined in the Club By Laws 2.1 (c) of which are now located in the document folder in the playing room, as well as in Documents on the Club Website.

There is a 4-6 week delay in receiving the PayWave machine to allow a non cash alternative to pay entry. Further details will be provided to members when this is received and as previously advised the on-costs **will not** be passed on to members for this service at this stage.

CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP TEAMS

This **all-day** event commences at 9.30 am on Thursday 11 March, with players to be seated by 9.15 am. Nominations and playing conditions, as detailed in By Law 9.3 and 9.4, are on the club noticeboard and close at 5pm on Thursday 4 March, you can also nominate your team on the **EVENTS** tab on our club website. A light sandwich lunch (individually wrapped) will be provided. Prize money of \$100 for winning team and \$60 for runner up team. Alan Gibson will be the Director and Sandra Routley the Recorder for this event.

PRESIDENT'S DAY

Thursday 22 April 2021. The Committee have decided that there will be no fund raising held or charitable donations made on this day. It will be in the format of two playing sections - Open and Novice. Further details to be provided.

TUESDAY NIGHT SESSIONS

DO YOU WANT TUESDAY NIGHT SESSIONS REINSTATED?

There have been some approaches from members for the Club to reinstate this session. Should there be sufficient interest received, this will be considered by the Committee. If you would like to regularly play on a Tuesday evening commencing at 7pm, please forward your interest via email to the Secretary by 1 March.

PIANOLA—*Partner Finder*

We have noticed that some of our long standing members have not been playing bridge and it is possible that they may be unable to find a partner or they do not want to use Pianola to find one!

Another reason maybe that some of our regular playing members have unsubscribed to Pianola (so that they do not get a lot of emails) as they have permanent playing partners for the days of the week that they want to play.

If you are in this category and you want to play occasionally, then you need to phone **Peter Murray, our Partner Liaison Officer on 3889 3039**, and let him know what days of the week you are available to play - he will put you in his little black book. Without this information, it makes it very hard for Peter to match players up for a bridge session. Please do not think that the club does not want to see you, your friends are always asking about you!

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR MEMBERS

Congratulation to Errol Miller, who in December reached a milestone of achieving 2000 Masterpoints. Unfortunately there is no official recognition by the ABF for such achievements. Errol is already a Grand Master and is working diligently to reach the next level as Silver Grand Master, requiring 491 Masterpoints to include 314 Gold/Red points.

For 2021 the ABF initiated a new award process for players reaching 1000 Masterpoints who now become a member of the 1000 Masterpoints Club. To become a Grand Master, a player must attain 1000 Masterpoints of which 700 must be red/gold, with a minimum of 300 gold.

On Thursday, 11 February it was my very great pleasure to welcome the President of Northern Suburbs Club, Mr Andy Slater to present this 1000 Club Certificate to Gordon Gemmell. Gordon has 1681.44 Masterpoints, and requires 100 Gold/Red points to achieve Grand Master status.

On Monday, 15 February, I was very pleased to present this 1000 Club Certificate to Annette Hyland. Annette has 1017.74 Masterpoints, and requires 100 Gold/Red points to also achieve Grand Master status.



Congratulations to both Gordon and Annette and we wish them well as they progress towards their next milestone. Thank you also for your ongoing commitment to the club in player development - your efforts are greatly appreciated by all. We also congratulate John Scrivens who recently received his 1000 Club Certificate at Northern Suburbs.

On 31 January, Midge Spice and Lynda Bennion finished 3rd in the Novice section at the Toowong Imp Pairs. Congratulations ladies and well done, particularly when playing in an open competition field.

FUTURE EVENTS

Details are on QBA Website - with limited placements available.

- TOOWONG Novice Matchpoint Pairs 7 March
- SUNSHINE COAST Graded Teams 21 March
- SURFERS PARADISE Novice and Restricted Matchpoint Pairs 27 March
- BBC Graded Matchpoint Pairs and Teams 4/5 April