

COMING EVENTS

Our 2020 program book is now available in the clubroom, the calendar has also been updated on our Club website. Please check the HOME tab on our website for any **'Breaking News'** items and **'Coming Events'** as it is the best way to get information out to members in a prompt manner. When you nominate for an event, your names will appear on the **'Events'** tab to confirm your entry into the competition.

Special events coming your way:

- Thursday 12 March (all day), **Club Championship Teams** - lunch provided
- Friday 10 April - NO PLAY (Easter)
- Thursday 23 April, **President's Trophy** - Charity fundraising for the Redcliffe Animal Shelter
- Monday 4 May, Labour Day and **Bridge for Brain** fundraising
- Friday 22 May (all day), **GNOT Club Heats** - Rounds 1 and 2, lunch provided
- Saturday 23 May, **GNOT Club Heats** - afternoon session, final Round 3
- Thursday 28 May, Australia Wide Novice Pairs

On a different note - Friday session attendances have been dropping off for a while now and in an attempt to boost player numbers the Management Committee has decided to try another session where **players do not have to have a partner**. This does not affect a player who has a regular partner - you will play as you always do.

This new arrangement will commence on Friday the 6th of March.

Players without partners should assemble at the clubrooms around 12noon where you can meet with other players who do not have a partner and partner-up for the day, should there be an odd-man-out - then **you will be guaranteed a game** as a number of players have volunteered to sit-out for the day. This already happens on a Tuesday Morning session and the system works well.

The reason why we want to introduce this system in another session is because the Committee is well aware that we have a lot of members who do not play very often because their partners no longer play bridge and some of these reasons are:

- The memory has faded and players feel that they are letting the side down
- There has been a divorce or a partnership falling-out
- Long serving members of the Club do not know the newer players joining the Club
- Players feel they are not good enough to help a newer player improve their game
- Their previous partners are unwell, or they have passed away or they left the Club

These are all valid reasons (*some brutal but true*), but the Committee wants you to be involved with your Club, we really believe that you could help the newer players with your experience, **they want to learn** and most of all have fun at a game of bridge. So please, support this new idea, come along and catch up with old friends and do not forget that you can also phone Peter Murray on **3889 3039** or **0413 169 925** to arrange a partner, he is only too willing to help! - his mobile phone works best!

You can also use the Partner Finder on Pianola ... it is a good tool and probably the best part about Pianola.



2A Irene Street, REDCLIFFE QLD 4020

www.redcliffe.bridgeaustralia.org

BRIDGE BUZZ—March 2020

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Welcome to the first year of the new decade. It certainly started out with a bang with raging bushfires in four States. It came very close to home for me as our daughter and her family were forced to leave their home at Coolumb twice. Fortunately, they escaped OK. Our Club showed itself to be made up of caring people who gave so much to our Australian Bridge Federation Bushfire Fund. The exact amount donated from our club was \$5,362.00. This was wonderful given that this was not one of our regular charity events.

Going on from my last report, the sub-committee tasked with drawing up the new constitution and club rules has come down with their final draft. That sub-committee and the Club Management Committee met and after much discussion finally came to an agreed position. The next step was to send those draft rules on to the ABF for acceptance, and I don't see any difficulty there. Following that acceptance, there will need to be a special meeting of members called in order to ratify that draft. Naturally it will be circulated to all members well beforehand, and with ample opportunity for members to gain clarification as needed. The last and final step will be to then get approval from the Department of Fair Trading. Again, I don't expect any problems with the process, and it is very important to the Management Committee to have those Rules etc. in place before the next AGM in June.

Our next programmed event is the President's Trophy charity event. For those new to the Club, this is one of our regular charities held each year. In the past we have made the beneficiary of the fund-raising day a local non-profit organisation. This year the Management Committee has decided that the **Peninsula Animal Aid** will be our special charity. They do a wonderful job providing shelter for all sort of animals, and are completely a non-profit organisation. Apparently, with so much of people's money going to the bushfire appeals, little has been going to this worthwhile organisation. For those who got Christmas gifts they don't want or need, the Club would gladly take them off your hands as prizes for the giant raffle which we usually hold.

The Gold Coast congress is almost upon us, and I know quite a few of our members will be attending and competing down there. While not going myself, I would like to wish those going all the luck and good cards. May the Gods of bridge smile upon you.

Ken Griggs
President

BRIDGE LESSONS

Bridge lessons commenced on Saturday the 15th of February, 22 players have enrolled for the course of which 19 are new players. Sue will have her work cut out over the coming weeks controlling this group!

If you can spare a couple of hours one Saturday morning (9am to 11am), Sue would appreciate your help by just sitting at a table helping the newbies, you may even learn something yourself.

You can also show off your skill in showing the class how to make tricks!



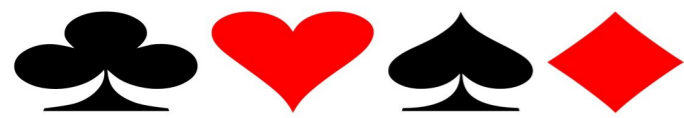
MEMBERSHIP FEES

Just a reminder that your membership fees are now due, would those members who have not paid please do so as soon as possible. Some members have told me that they did not receive their annual renewal notice - it was sent by email or posted to you on Tuesday the 21st of January at 1.17pm, please check your INBOX, DELETED or JUNK box to see if you received your notice - no email bounced when they were sent out!

If you would like another invoice, please let Wayne know or email the Club at redbridg@bigpond.net.au and he will send one to you. You can pay by Cash at the Clubrooms, post a Cheque to the Club or pay by Direct Deposit to the Redcliffe Bridge Club BSB 484-799, Account Number 024403550 and please include your surname, ABF or Club number in the reference field so that Wayne knows who has put the money in the bank.

HOME MEMBERS - \$42.00

AWAY MEMBERS - \$12.00



BIDDING BASICS FOR TEAMS

With the impending Club Championship Teams competition on Thursday March 12, first time or inexperienced team players need to know the basic difference between teams and pairs bidding. In pairs an extra overtrick can earn you a top score and similarly, restricting your opponents overtrick can give the same result, but in teams these tricks make little difference in IMP (International Master Points) scores.

The fundamental objectives in teams are:

- **Get your Contract.**
Make sure you get your contract first.
Play safe and don't try to *squeeze that extra trick if it risks the contract.*
This often means playing for the worst distribution and a minimum contract.
- **Defeat your Opponents Contract.**
Concentrate on taking the contract down first instead of taking risks hoping for extra tricks down as you may do in pairs.
- **Part-scores.**
Trump fits are usually safer than no-trumps when a trump fit exists and minor suit contracts through frowned upon in pairs are quite OK in teams, i.e. 1NT making 8 (120 points) and 2 Clubs making 8 (90 points) are both worth 3imps so it is better to play in the safer contract.
- **Non-Vulnerable Games.**
These should be bid when you consider the chance of success to be 50-50 or marginally less. You should be prepared to gamble only a little on these games but, if its borderline - bid game.
- **Vulnerable Games.**
Vulnerable games should always be bid if you sensibly consider you have a 40% chance of making the contract. If your partnership has 25 points according to the bidding then game should usually be bid.
- **Minor Suit Games.**
Solid minor suit games are to be preferred to risky no-trump contracts.
- **Little Slams.**
As the IMP Scale compresses at the top end - a safe game is better than a risky small slam, i.e. a non-vulnerable game contract making 12 tricks is worth 10imps against 14imps for the little slam. Bid slams only if you have a 50% or better chance of success.

The man who makes no mistakes does not usually make anything ... (Magee)

RANKING PROMOTIONS

Members of this Club should be very excited to hear that Gordon Gemmell came 9th in the TOP 100 Australian players during 2019. This is not a fluke, Gordon also came 12th overall the year before during 2018. Congratulations Gordon on being a very consistent player.

Fred Bittar	-	Club Master	Magdeline Wong	-	State Master
Dianne Williams	-	Club Master	Lynda Bennion	-	Local Master
Wayne Freeleagus	-	Local Master	Pat Scott-White	-	*Local Master
Voyko Markovic	-	*State Master	Jenny La Rooij	-	Graduate Master
Vesna Markovic	-	*State Master	Melissa Weber	-	Life Master
Deanna Cruickshank	-	*Local Master	Margaret MacDonald	-	*National Master

CHINESE NEW YEAR

27 players from our Club celebrated Chinese New Year at the Landmark Restaurant at Cherside Shopping Centre on the 29th of January. The social occasion was organised by Magdeline Wong and from all reports, everyone had a great time.



3WAY CHALLENGE—INTER-CLUB COMPETITION

On Sunday the 9th of February, 20 members from our Club competed in the annual 3Way Challenge between Caboolture, Moreton-Bribie and Redcliffe Bridge Clubs at Caboolture. The competition was directed by Geraldine Newbegin and we had a great day playing 25 boards in the morning and afternoon sessions, there was plenty of food and refreshments and next year we would like to see some new players take part in the competition so we can show-off our talented players and bridge skills.

The best 8 scores determined the winner of the competition, we were once again victorious in defending the trophy, our President (Ken Griggs) gratefully accepted the trophy from Peter Gruythuysen the President of Caboolture Bridge Club. Jennifer Bavage and Maree Filippini won the morning session with 61.43% which is a wonderful effort by both players and they were also our best pair overall.

