

FROM THE PRESIDENT – Fay

Fortunately, no lock downs in the last month, though necessary changes for room usage and mask wearing allowed us to continue with face-to-face bridge. Thank you to Wayne for keeping members informed on the various changes received from the Queensland Bridge Association (QBA), and to our club members for adhering to these QH rules. Just a reminder that masks must be worn upon entering/leaving the playing room and while walking around during a break. At present masks must be worn until Queensland reaches 80% vaccination rate, then I believe it will be relaxed. Sanitisation of hands and tables, boards, Bridgemate units are to continue. Again, we thank Kim Ellaway for her ongoing negotiations with the various government departments to advocate for and ensure that face-to-face bridge can occur in the current environment.

Our beginner program is well advanced now and players will move into supervised play very soon, and it is exciting to see their keenness to learn our wonderful game. Thanks again to Sue and our club players who support this program every Saturday and we welcome them to join the club and play in our sessions.

With the Covid uncertainty, the Brisbane Zone Interclub competition has been cancelled. Additionally, the Australia Wide Open Pairs competition has been postponed and is rescheduled for 25-31 January 2022 and the QBA have cancelled some events.

All members are asked to check the 2021 Program Book to identify if your contact telephone number is correct, as the 2022 Program Book will be printed in November. Mobile phone numbers will be printed in the book unless you advise the Secretary that you want your landline number to appear. Also, if you have a change to your Emergency Contact details, please email the Secretary with any changes.

Nominations are currently being received for entrants in the Gold Coast Bridge Congress to be held 18-26 February 2022. QBA have encouraged early nominations for this event, to gauge its viability. Australian Bridge Federation (ABF) have advised that documentary evidence of double vaccination for Covid is mandatory for entry to the event. It is a wonderful experience with graded competitions for all levels and provides an opportunity for players to earn some gold points. There are a range of levels from less than 10 points to over 1500 points. Further details and nominations are available on the ABF website at: <https://www.myabf.com.au/events/congress/view/46>

To nominate for this event, register on the MYABF site at <https://www.myabf.com.au> Partners and team members must also be registered on this site before a nomination can be accepted. If you are having difficulty in registering, please contact me for assistance.

Discussion was held at the recent committee meeting on whether the club should operate under the same requirements that the ABF have determined, with players providing proof of double vaccination for Covid to play in club events. It was decided to wait for further decisions by government that may be forthcoming and discuss further at the next Committee meeting.

It has been a very special month for our Novice players. Congratulations to Elly ten Hacken and Maya Widomski in winning the Club Novice pairs (for players less than 50 MPS), in second place was Mary McKernon and Harriet Jakins, and third Suzy Brownlow and Suzanne Swan. Well done to the 16 pairs who participated. It was wonderful to see so many graduates of our recent beginner program participate and achieve success and experience.



MELBOURNE CUP

There will be celebration for Melbourne Cup after the Tuesday session on 2 November. Prizes will be available for best dressed and there will be a range of quizzes. Our thanks to Ken for organising the day and to Thea for organising the Sweeps. BYO lunch, with some drinks supplied by club. Please ensure you do an on-line booking. Just a reminder that Covid regulations apply for mask wearing while away from the table.

There will be NO play on the Tuesday night session 2 November.

CHRISTMAS PARTY

The Christmas Party will be held on Wednesday 8 December at 12 noon at the Moreton Bay Boat Club. Costs are \$10 per member and \$35 for a non-member. Nominate on our on-line booking system (please click on CHRISTMAS PARTY – Moreton Bay Boat Club when booking).

Payment must be made by 1 December (before the event) and members can pay by:

1. **Bank transfer** to the club BSB 484-799, account no 024403550, **please indicate your name**, or pay
2. **By Credit or Debit card** on our Square Terminal at a bridge session in the clubroom.



ON-LINE BOOKING SYSTEM

When making a booking, please check under **Coming Events** on our home page of the website to see if you are already booked in for a bridge session. Only one player in the partnership should book the game, there have been many double bookings lately and if you check first – this should not happen.

Wayne has also explored other options for our current on-line booking system, and he has liaised with various clubs on their usage and presented a range of options and costings. It was decided to not proceed with any new system, as it is hoped that this will not be necessary soon with the government roadmap.

EDUCATION REPORT - Max

- Wayne has conducted 2 training sessions – Part 1 “Bridgemate Assistant” and Part 2 “Running a Bridge Session” outlining both the Directors and Bridgemates roles. Both sessions were well attended and Wayne’s expertise in this area was appreciated.
- The committee has approved further lessons to be conducted by Andy Hung, with Max liaising with him for lessons to be conducted in early December.
- Prior to the Novice session on Friday, Ross has organised for various presenters to provide tutorials for our advancing players. Our thanks to Ross, Max, Gordon, and Richard for their input to assist, and to our more experienced players who give further game experience with players less than 30 MPS. These sessions are well attended with an average 25-30 players.
- A big thank you to our new member and IT whiz, Peter Hancock, who has recorded these tutorials and provided them for players who may miss a session or require more reinforcement. These tutorials can be viewed at <https://photos.app.goo.gl/o1qnQDDER62b35s6N9>

TOURNAMENT ORGANISER – Steve

- A working group of Steve, Annette and Wayne is currently finalising the 2022 Program Book, which will be approved at the next committee meeting and distributed to players late November.
- Under By-law 2.1(g) a review of the club weekly playing schedule is to be undertaken to ensure member needs are met.
- There have been enquiries from members for the return of an open Friday session, that existed pre-Covid. Some novice players would like a separate session on Monday.
- With the low numbers for our Tuesday session, consultation occurred with the current Tuesday group, and there was no support for this to be changed to a Wednesday session.
- It was decided to survey members to identify playing needs for the introduction of 2 new sessions. The survey was forwarded on 15 October and closes on 22 October. Consideration will be given at the next committee meeting on any session changes for inclusion in the new Program Book.

MASTERPOINT SECRETARY - Annette

- We experienced something that hasn't happened before, with the ABF Masterpoint site collapsing on 27 September.
- End of quarter reports on Masterpoints are very significant, and in a non-Covid era, it determines the amount of red point events that will be allocated to a club for the following year.
- The ABF use this cut off to determine eligibility for the various sessions at the Gold Coast Congress and used for MYABF congress nominations. It is also used for our annual club awards.
- Over the past 2 weeks the ABF have been rebuilding the site and on 19 October, Annette and Midge were able to upload the September Masterpoints which have now been awarded to members.
- Annette advised that the ABF is only sending Bridge Ranking Certificates every 3 months now, rather than monthly, saving postage.
- RBC currently have 182 Home and 33 non-home club members.

Congratulations to the following members on their promotion to the next level:

Peter Stride	Bronze Life	Vesna Markovic	National
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CONGRESS ACHIEVEMENTS

It is encouraging to see club members achieving outstanding results in several recent congresses and congratulations to:

- Annette Hyland in captaining the QBA A Grade Novice Team of 3 for 1st place at Northern Suburbs.
- Greg Gosney and Margaret Plunkett for winning the B Grade Pairs and Teams at Toowoomba.
- Vesna and Voyko Markovic for winning the C Grade Pairs and Teams at Toowoomba. Also, a very special effort in coming 4th overall in a very experienced field; and 2nd in the BBC Restricted B Grade Pairs.
- Melva Leal and Midge Spice for their first place in the Sunshine Coast Novice Pairs.
- Janet Franklin and Lynda Bennion in coming second in the Sunshine Coast Novice Pairs.
- Gary and Deb Gibbards, Noreen Weyling and Tony Davidson for first place in B Grade at the Gympie Teams.

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BUILDING AND MAINTENANCE - Ron

- Ron has examined all our chairs and is in the process of replacing caps on the bottom of the chairs that are stacked on the southern side of the room.
- Ron has checked the dishwasher and undertaken some minor repairs. He has also obtained quotes for a replacement if necessary.
- Arrangements are to be made for the shampooing of the playing chairs.

WELFARE REPORT - Elly

Elly arranged for sympathy cards to be sent to 2 members. She will follow up in contacting members who are currently not playing bridge.

OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY - Carol

- Carol has updated the club document, from 10 years ago, to meet government legislative requirements, alignment with our MBRC lease and club By-laws. This is an 11-page document, and we greatly appreciate the effort Carol has undertaken in formulating this. The document will be available on the club website documents and in a folder in the playing room.
- It was decided that this document should be reviewed annually by the incoming committee and By-Laws are to be amended at the AGM to include this as 2.1 (h) Review of OHS Documents to ensure compliance with legislative requirements.

PREPAID COUPONS

There are still a small number of prepaid game coupons being held by our members, if you are holding some of these coupons, please see Wayne and he will exchange them for cash so that we can get them out of the system. The preferred method of payment for a bridge game is to use your debit or credit card on the Square Terminal.

ABF NEWS

The ABF have issued their October Newsletter - <https://www.abf.com.au/abf-newsletter-october-2021/>

There are a range of very interesting hands to work through, as previously reported the ABF Masterpoints site has been down and being recovered.

QBA NEWS

The Queensland Wide Pairs and the Queensland Individual events have been cancelled.

The Queensland Senior Pairs (born before 1 January 1960) will be held on Sunday 14 November at Sunshine Coast Bridge Club (nominations through MYABF).

Other Congresses:

Oct 30-31	Hervey Bay Pairs and Teams
Oct 31	Caloundra Graded Pairs
Nov 6-7	Northern Suburbs Imp Pairs
Nov 14	Toowoomba Restricted and Novice Teams
Nov 20-21	Noosa Cross Imp Swiss Pairs
Nov 21	Gold Coast Teams
Nov 28	Toowong Graded Matchpoint Pairs
Dec 5	Redland Teams
Dec 12	Toowoomba Teams
Jan 2	Gold Coast Teams
Jan 9	QCBC Graded Matchpoint Pairs and Novice
Jan 22-23	Kenmore Graded Matchpoint Pairs and Graded Teams

Keep well, Fay Jeppesen – President and Editor