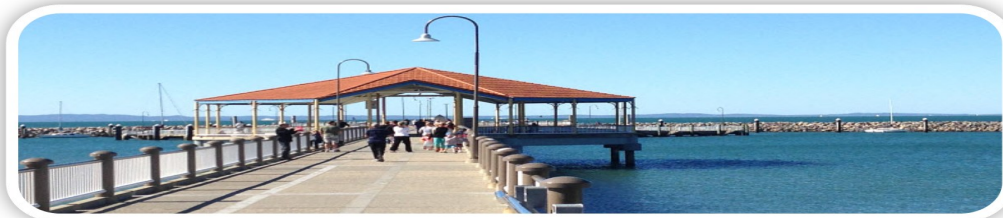


November, 2025



BRIDGE BUZZ

Special points of interest:

- Masterpoints Report
- Monthly Achievement Award
- QBA System Regulations

Inside this issue:

Club Champion Pairs	1
Sunshine Coast Congress	2
Emergency Workers Recognised	2
Club Champion Pairs	3
Novice Trophy	3
Redcliffe Congress	4
Redcliffe Congress Con't	5
Monthly Achievement Award	6
Bridge Lessons	6
QBA System Regulations	7
Melbourne Cup Fun Day	8
Melbourne Cup Fun Day Con't	9
MyABF Update	10
Rank Promotions	10
ABF & QBA Newsletters	10
Dates to Remember	10

From the President—Susan Kennard

Dear Members,

As we move towards the end of the year it is perhaps time to reflect on the events of 2025.

I am pleased to report to you that the committee have managed to negotiate a ten year lease with the council for our premises and this bodes well for the future of the club as it guarantees us a home for a long period of time.

This year also saw the commencement of the Monthly Achievement Award, thanks to an anonymous donor. The conditions of this award have now been refined and it will be good to see the results of this.

Elizabeth Gibson is to be warmly congratulated on winning not only the individual club championship, but also the champion pairs with **David Lehmann**. It is a pleasure to have such a player of great standing in our club.

At the time of this letter, a beginners class is well underway now with more aspiring future members for the club enjoying the tutelage of **Wayne Parker** and his merry band of helpers each Saturday morning.

There have of late been some changes made by the Queensland Bridge Association to their system regulations and I encourage all members to familiarise themselves with these changes. Details can be found on the QBA website and may be clarified by our Directors.

We have two new trainee directors this year, **Brian Clark** and **Suzy Brownlow**, and it is great to see our younger players taking on these roles.

A big thank you to **Wayne Parker** who has stepped into the role of secretary at short notice, following the resignation of **Marg Nicholls**. The committee thanks



Marg for undertaking this role and regrets that she was unable to continue.

Our Christmas party is coming up at the beginning of December, so we will soon be taking names of members who wish to attend this function at the Dolphins Leagues Club.

As usual we will be asking for a \$10 deposit from you as a sign of commitment, so make sure that you keep December 3rd free for a great lunch and Christmas party!

Sue

Bridge is one of the last games that the computer is not better.



Christmas Lunch
will be held on
3 December
at 12 pm
Dolphins League
Club

Sunshine Coast Bridge Club Graded Pairs Congress

The 2025 Graded Pairs Congress was held on 28 September at the Sunshine Coast Bridge Club.

A **Graded Pairs Congress** is a competitive bridge event designed to provide enjoyable and fair play for participants of all experience levels. Instead of grouping all pairs together, players are divided into **grades (A, B, and C)** based on their masterpoints or ranking.

This structure ensures that everyone competes against others of similar skill, creating a more balanced and rewarding experience. It's an excellent opportunity for newer players to gain confidence in a congress setting, while more experienced pairs can enjoy challenging, high-level competition.

Graded Pairs events are also known for their friendly and social atmosphere — a great mix of learning, competition, and camaraderie among players from different clubs.

This event attracted 27 tables, a wonderful increase from last year's 22 tables, with players joining us from across South-East Queensland. It was fantastic to see so many members from other clubs supporting the day.

With three separate grades, the format once again proved popular, providing an enjoyable and competitive experience for players of all levels.

Congratulations to all the winners:

A Grade: **Alison Dawson and Liz Zeller**

B Grade: **Julia Caldwell and Kerry Rutter**

C Grade: **Suzy Brownlow and Karen Gosney**

A great day was had by all.



2nd B Grade Ted Morriss and Melva Leal



1st C Grade Suzy Brownlow and Karen Gosney

Sunshine Coast Bridge Club Graded Pairs Congress

Emergency personnel from across Moreton have been recognised for their outstanding efforts at the annual First Responders Officer of the Year awards held in Caboolture. Hosted by the Rotary Club of Caboolture, the Lions Clubs of Morayfield and District and Caboolture North, on September 8, the awards dinner celebrated and shone a light on the exceptional dedication and service of Queensland's emergency personnel. Congratulations to Brett Brownlow for his services and award.



Monthly Achievement Awards

Congratulations to **Peter Hancock**, our Monthly Achievement Award recipient for **September**! This award celebrates not only Peter's impressive results at the bridge table but also his dedication, skill, and the positive attitude that contribute so much to the friendly spirit of our club.

Congratulations to **Claudio Piovesan**, our Monthly Achievement Award recipient for **October**. This award recognises not only Claudio's outstanding performance at the bridge table but also his dedication, skill, and the positive attitude that greatly contribute to the friendly and welcoming spirit of our club.

Well done, Peter and Claudio on this well deserved recognition — we look forward to many more great achievements from you both in the months to come!



Peter Hancock
And
Linda Almond



Melva Leal
And
Claudio Piovesan

Novice Pairs Trophy

The **Novice Pairs** events were held over two enjoyable days — **10th and 17th October** — and attracted a fantastic turnout.

The competition was open to players with fewer than **50 Masterpoints**, providing an excellent opportunity for our newer members to gain experience, build confidence, and enjoy the fun and challenge of competitive bridge in a friendly environment.

Congratulations to the winners of the event, **Ross Mangano and Brooke Anderson**, who took out first place with an impressive performance.

Alex and Jan Bencsevich secured second place, and **Fred Bittar and Geoff Talbot** came in third — well done to all!

It was a wonderful day filled with good bridge, camaraderie, and plenty of smiles.

Thank you to everyone who participated and supported the event — we look forward to seeing even more novice players take part next time!



Brooke Anderson



Ross Mangano

Redcliffe Congress

The **Redcliffe Bridge Congress** held on **17 August** was a fantastic day of bridge, bringing together competitors from a number of clubs across the region. It was a day to test our knowledge and skills, challenge ourselves at the table, and enjoy the camaraderie that makes our game so special.

We extend our congratulations to the **Overall Winners**, as well as the **B and C Grade Winners**, whose strategic play and teamwork were exemplary.

Beyond the competition, the day was filled with friendship, laughter, and fellowship—reminding us that bridge is not just about the cards, but the connections we make along the way.

A special **thank you** goes to those who organised the day, including **Sandra Routley, Wayne Parker** our Convenor and other members of the **Redcliffe Bridge Club**, whose hard work and dedication made the event such a success.

Thank you to everyone who participated, and we look forward to seeing even more faces at the next congress, ready to enjoy both the challenge and the joy of bridge.

“We had a partnership misunderstanding.”

My partner assumed I knew what I was doing.”



Overall winner

Raelene Clarke
and
Richard Fox



Over All Second Place

Jim and Lyn Martin



**Over All
2nd Place**

Annette Hyland
and
Carolyn Adcock



B Grade Winner

Fay Jeppesen
and
Melva Leal

"Old bridge
players
never die;
they just lose
their
finesse"



**B Grade
Runners Up**

Melissa Weber
and
John Henderson



**C Grade
Winner**

Joanne Sinclair
and
Brian Vernon

Redcliffe Bridge Club Pairs Champions

The Club Championship Pairs were decided after playing a full day event on Friday the 12th of September.

Thirty-eight pairs competed in this eight-match event and fifty-six boards were played in total.

After strong competition and some outstanding play, congratulations were in order for David Lehmann and Elizabeth Gibson who were crowned Club Champion Pairs for 2025.

Runners-up were Ted Morriss and John Scrivens.



Sue Kennard presented David Lehmann and Elizabeth Gibson with their winnings.



Sue Kennard presented Ted Morriss and John Scrivens with their winnings.

You know you're in trouble when you are the declarer and the opponents start drawing trumps.

Bridge Lessons

We provide supervised lessons offering ongoing support to both beginners' and intermediate players who wish to improve their game. We also have a comprehensive bridge library which is available to members only.

Basic Beginners' Lessons are usually held in March and September each year:

Our next set of bridge lessons will be in March of 2026 with a date to be determined. They will start at 9am and finish around 11am.

All lessons are FREE and the lessons will run for approximately 10 weeks.

For enrolment or further information, email the club at secretary@redcliffebridge.com.au and we will put you on the list and return your message, alternatively phone the clubhouse on 3883 4405 after our bridge session times and leave a message.

A short period of supervised play will follow the lessons and then players will advance to our normal bridge sessions.

BRIDGE LESSONS

You can review the bridge lessons for new and intermediate players by choosing one of the videos found on the website at <https://redcliffe.bridgeaustralia.org/lessons.asp>

INTERMEDIATE LESSONS

From time to time, the Club will also hold intermediate lessons to advance your playing and bidding skills. Want to learn more! The video titles include:

- Bergen Raises
- Cappelletti Convention
- CRO Gerber
- Drury Convention
- Jacoby 2NT Convention
- Law posters
- Lead signals
- Lebensohl Convention
- Stayman and Transfers

QBA System Regulations Changes

The Redcliffe Bridge Club, like most clubs, allows only two bidding systems for play in regular sessions—a **Green System** (Natural), and a **Blue System** (Strong e.g. Precision).

Recently, the ABF System Regulations were updated and those changes are reflected in the QBA System Regulations. The classification of **Green Systems** has not changed to any great degree but what has changed is the way they are described. The definition of a **Green System** is to be found in **QBA Regulations Section K 2** and now states:

All one-level opening bids are natural and non-forcing. If players claim to be playing a natural system like Standard American and Acol, 1C may not be forcing under any circumstances.

That is not new but what is new, is that players may now agree to open 1C with a singleton. A responder must be able to pass when not holding clubs and fewer than say, 6 HCP.

To be a Green System, 1C and 1D openings must not be artificial and must not be forcing. If, in an otherwise standard system, 1C promises 1+, 2+, 3+, 4+ clubs, then it will still be a Green System if responder passes with say, < 6 HCP. (See **QBA Regulations Section G 3.2** for guidance on the announcement required after a 1C opening).

If the partnership agreement is that the responder must respond to a 1C opening because the opener may be short in clubs, then the 1C opening has the additional meaning that the 1C opening is forcing and fails the requirements of a Green System. If this bidding also fails the Blue System, the system may be reclassified to being a Red System.

- An opening bid of one of a major guarantees length (4+ cards) in the denomination named. This doesn't affect players playing five-card majors.

- 1NT should be balanced or semi-balanced.
- All one-level opening bids must, by agreement, promise at least 8 HCP.

I think the meaning is crystal clear that any agreement to respond to 1C must not be on the understanding that a response is required, no matter what.

Any 1C opening mustn't be forcing if it's a Standard American System. In that system, if the responder holds, say, 6+ points, there is no problem about answering any one level opening. With fewer points and an expectation that 1C is forcing, then any one-level response to that opening makes that system a red system. The specific point range for responding at the one level isn't listed in the new regulation but the ABF description of Standard American Bidding states an expectation of 6+ HCP.

A good guide is if, after partner opens 1C, your immediate reaction is that you can't leave your partner in that bid but you have <6HCP and you feel you must bid. If that conclusion is reached, then any bid from you at the one level may turn your Green System (Standard American) into a Red System which is not permitted at our club.

This advice on changes to the QBA System Regulations was sent to you earlier this year but as it is still confusing to some, the advice is being resent.

Further elaboration in an article by Chris Snook can be read in the January 2025 QBA bulletin, pages 12 and 13.

Sandra Routley
Tournament Organiser

**How
Observant
Are You?**
The King of
which Suit is
stabbing
himself in the
head?
The King of
which Suit you
can see only
one eye?

Melbourne Cup Day

Our Melbourne Cup Fun Day was filled with laughter, colour, and a wonderful sense of celebration. Members arrived in great spirits, many donning their finest hats and fascinators for the occasion. The room was a sea of creativity, with everything from elegant race-day styles to fun and quirky designs adding to the festive atmosphere.

The day featured not only exciting bridge play but also a friendly hat competition that brought out everyone's playful side. Congratulations to our Best Hat winners:

Female: **Lesley Brown** – for her stylish and eye catching creation.

Male: **Paul Hendry** – for his imaginative and entertaining headwear.

Between the games, laughter, and lively conversation, it was a wonderful day shared among friends. The combination of bridge, fashion, and fun made it a truly memorable event.

A huge thank you to Ken and Sue for their hard work and organisation in making the day such a great success. Your efforts ensured everything ran smoothly and that everyone left with a smile.







**Australian Bridge Federation (ABF)
News . . .**
<https://www.abf.com.au/abf-newsletter-october-2025/>

**Queensland Bridge Association (QBA)
News . . .**
<https://qldbridge.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2025/09/QBASep25.pdf>

Redcliffe Bridge Club

2A Irene Street
Redcliffe, QLD 4020

PO Box 2179
Redcliffe North, QLD 4020

Phone: 07 3883 4405

Email:

secretary@redcliffebridge.com.au

Masterpoints news

Rank Promotions				
Grade	September		October	
	Name	Total MPs	Name	Total MPs
Silver National	Duncan Cape	302.62		
State	Brooke Anderson	53.35		
Regional			Barbara Wales	50.16
Silver Local			Maya Widomski	35.28
Bronze Local			Ross Mangano	26.00
Bronze Local			Jan Bencsevich	25.64
Bronze Local			Annette McNee	25.16
Local			Di Williams	15.15
Club	Debbie Paltridge	5.87		
Club	Ian Paltridge	5.72		
Graduate	Susan Gallagher	2.08		

Dates to Remember



Sunday, 16 November

Redcliffe Under 300 MP Team Congress
9 am for a 9.30 am start
Redcliffe Bridge Club

Monday, 24 November

Single Session Teams – 12 pm
Redcliffe Bridge Club

Tuesday, 25 November

ABF Club Teams Knockout – Final
7:30 pm - 10:30 pm - On line (ABF)

Friday, 12 December

Pro / Am – 12 pm
Redcliffe Bridge Club