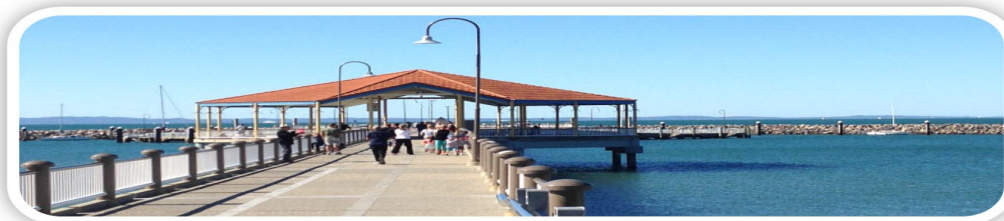


February, 2025



BRIDGE BUZZ

Special points of interest:

- Bridge lessons Date
- Future Tournaments
- Annual Subscription
- Ever heard a player say things like these?

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From the President—Susan Kennard

Not far into the year and we have had several competitions already!

Three teams of three day was an outstanding success combining both elements of education and competition. It was a day that was very much enjoyed and many thanks go to Sandra and Wayne for putting in the hard work that was behind this very successful day.

The Club Championship teams event was held on the 20th January and was strongly contested, but won after a hard day's bridging by

Peter Stride, John Henderson,

Carol Bailey and Fay Jeppesen. Runners up were Sandra Routley, Ted Morriss, Carolyn Adcock and Meryl Perry.

Congratulations to all these winners!

This month twelve brave pairs faced off . . . And successfully won the shield back from Caboolture. This year the event was hosted by us. More about it on Page 6.

A new class of beginners will commence on March 1st and it will be run by Lynda Bennion for the first time and we wish her all the best in this endeavour. Our social activities continue to flourish and once again the



committee gives thanks to all the volunteers in the club who truly make it the special club that it is!

We wish all members the best for the coming year. Sue

Development Award winner January

An anonymous person offered a donation to support the development of club members with <100 masterpoints.

The committee requested that the donation be given on a monthly basis and that the amount on offer was \$50 per month.

The winner each month is based on Player Performance

Reports.

We thank our generous donor.

For the month of January the winner is Peter Hancock .

Runners up were Brooke Anderson and Brian Clarke. Peter has been presented with a \$50 Bridge Shop voucher.



"Bridge is one of the last games in which the computer is not Better." Bill Gates

McCutcheon Awards and James O'Sullivan Awards 2024



Annual Subscription

Due Date for Payment is 28 February 2025

Amount: \$56.60

Bank: Suncorp

Account Name
Redcliffe Bridge Club Inc.

BSB: 484-799

Account Number:
024403550

Reference Field:
Surname and club number

The McCutcheon Awards date back to the 1970s at which time the award was solely a recognition of the Player of the Year, being the player who amassed the highest number of Australian master points for a calendar year and is awarded a Trophy (on average 400-500 master points annually!)

Now there are McCutcheon certificates awarded for the various master point categories nationally, based always on the level of which a player commenced the year.

You can view your master points each month on the ABF Masterpoints Centre at <http://www.abfmasterpoints.com.au/myawards.asp> and inserting either your name or ABF Masterpoint number.

Redcliffe may be a small club, however our players are competitive and achieved outstanding results, both in State and National rankings for 2024.

In 1985, the Queensland Bridge Association instituted the James

O'Sullivan awards for state master point achievement recognising the top player in Queensland, with a certificate awarded to all category winners. If you wish to check monthly on your achievements on state, you may view them at <http://www.abfmasterpoints.com.au/reportsbystate.asp>

The James O'Sullivan Queensland top 20s are as follows:

All Ranks Queensland
14th Abby Wanigaratne
181.86 mps
19th Annette Hyland 168.83

Grand Master
3rd Abby Wanigaratne;
7th Annette Hyland;
17th Errol Miller

Gold Life
19th Margaret Plunkett

Bronze Life
3rd Gary Gibbards (15th Aust);
5th Ross Shardlow (17th Aust);
8th Peter Gruythuisen;
13th Melissa Weber;
17th Robert Barr

Life Master
4th Deb Gibbards (14th Aust);
15th Voyko Markovic;
16th Vesna Markovic

Bronze National
9th Melva Leal (17th Aust)

National
6th John Reiter (20th Aust);
8th Magdeline Wong

Bronze State
2nd John Henderson (4th Aust);
14th Jan Kinross

Bronze Regional
15th Maurice Sanders

Regional
6th Karen Gosney (18th Aust)

Bronze Local
13th Suzy Brownlow

Local
3rd Brian Clark (10th Aust)

Club
14th Brooke Anderson

Congratulations to all for an outstanding effort.

Fay Jeppesen

Education—Bridge Lessons

Bridge Lessons for beginners will be held twice a year commencing on the 1 March, 2025. For enquires and registration please email the club at secretary@redcliffebridge.com.au or phone 3883 4405.

Following the bridge lessons there will be a short period of Supervised Play playing random boards. At the end of bridge lessons, graduates will be offered mentoring session with an experienced player where

possible. Any player wishing to brush up on their techniques or who can assist the teacher with the lessons is welcome to join in and meet the new rookie players.

Education—Intermediate Lessons

Short lessons will be organised for players wishing to improve their game by using more advanced bridge systems to improve their game by

using more advanced bridge systems and conventions. Subjects may include multi-twos, pre-emptive bids, counting losers, leads and signals, CRO—Gerber and Cappelletti just to name a few.

Suitable tutors with the experience of the techniques being presented to run each lesson.

Ted Morriss

Gold Coast Congress

The 63rd Gold Coast Congress occurred from the 1 – 8 February, 2025 at The Gold Coast Convention Centre. The theme for this year was *"Silly Shoes and Kinky Boots"*.

The World Bridge Federation endorsed the event as one of the World Bridge Tour, of which players from Argentina, Austria, Canada, Croatia, France, Germany, Netherlands, New Zealand, Sri Lanka, Sweden, United Kingdom, Uruguay and USA were present with the many from all parts of Australia. The GCC was the first event to count towards the tour.

As you can imagine the field of Open competition in both the Pairs, Teams and the Swiss Pairs was of a very high and competitive standard,

The congress held a number of sessions including the Bobby Richman Pairs Championship, Butler Swiss Pair, Walk-in Pairs, Rookie Pairs, Teams Championship and

Matchpoint Pairs. Grades included Open, Under 1500 MPs, Intermediate (0 – 750 MPs), Restricted (0 – 300 MPs), Novice (0 – 100 MPs) and Rookies (0 – 10 MPs).

Well done to our members including:

Restricted E grade :

Jan Kinross and Rosemary Floquet
7th place

Lynda Bennion and Midge Spice
20th Place

Rookies:

Suzie and Brett Brownlow
9th place

Ivy Dahler Restricted:

Terry Davies and Maddy Wong
1st place

Congratulations to all place getters.

No matter
where I go, I can
always make
friends at the
bridge table.

Martina Navratilova



Pairs
Ross Shardlow and
Peter Gruythuysen



Ivy Dahler Butler Swiss Pairs
Restricted Winners
Magdeline Wong and
Terry Davies

"When you are in bad contract, be an optimist"



Vale Elly Oudendijk

Sadly we have lost one of our longstanding members with the passing of Elly Oudendijk.

Her cheerful face was often to be seen here at the club where she had many friends.

Elly served on committee for us and as she lived nearby would willingly and cheerfully fill in at the last minute if someone was short of a partner. She would also join in any of our themed sessions, such as Melbourne Cup day and sometimes winning the prize for best outfit.

We will miss Elly, her smiling face, her positive outlook and her optimism. RIP

Sue Kennard

Elly Vale Elly Oudendijk (21 July 1946 - 14 January 2025)

Elly was a long standing member of our club, having joined May 2010 and achieved the rank of Silver Local Master. Elly with her partner Maja Widomski won the club Novice Pairs Championship in 2021.

She served on the Committee at the club for 2 years 2020-2022

and undertook the role of Welfare Officer. She diligently checked on players to ensure all were ok, and that cards were sent or a phone call made. Elly also assisted in the Partner Liaison role when Peter was on holidays.

Elly always was thinking of other people and was a strong advocate on committee for issues affecting members. She was very willing to help new players and supported them during the learning phase by hosting some home tutorial games.



I first met Elly when I joined the club in 2013, I played on the Thursday session. Elly always played with an elderly gentleman, Graham, who she used to collect, play the session with and take him home. She didn't care how they played, mainly that Graham had a game that he had loved and played for a long time, but was struggling in age. This was a powerful first impression for me of a very kind, considerate person.

The last few years have been a struggle health-wise for Elly, but she fought the good fight right through to the end! She

enjoyed attending our club Christmas party in December. Sue and I visited Elly on 12 January, taking flowers and fruit for her and a card from our Club Members. Elly was comfortable and not in pain.

I arranged FaceTime with Paula so they could have a chat. Elly was telling us she's organising a party for her friends in April, and returning to her beloved children Susanna and Joost in the Netherlands in May.

Eight (8) club members attended her funeral on 22 January and we met her children afterwards, together with her brother Fred. Susanna visited our club and met with some club members before play on 27 January, before her return home.

Rest in Peace Elly

Fay Jeppesen



Elly two children, son Joost and daughter Susanna



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 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 < 6 HCP.

(See [QBA Regulations Section G 3.2](#) for guidance on the announcement required after a 1C opening).

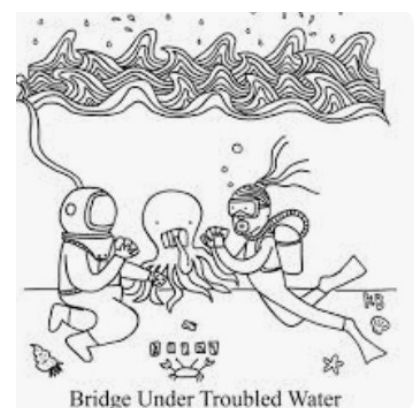
If the partnership agreement is that the responder must respond to a 1C opening because the opener may be short in clubs, then the 1C

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 re-classified 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.

If you have questions or queries, please direct these to Sandra Routley or Susan Kennard.



The Three (3) Way Interclub Competition

The three way competition against Moreton Bribie and Caboolture has been held and this year was hosted at our club.

Twelve Redcliffe pairs faced off against the same number from the other clubs and Redcliffe was successful in bringing the shield home to us. I fondly refer to this event with our sister clubs as the Tri Nations competition!

Top players of the day were Carolyn Adcock and Annette Hyland.

A big vote of thanks goes to Sandra Routley

and Wayne Parker who organised the competition, also to Julie Jeffries who was the Director for the day.

A huge vote of thanks goes to our wonderful members who provided the scrumptious fare for the day; to kitchen helpers Ken Griggs, Jan Dann, Ron Elmes and of course to our providore Maddy Wong who organised the catering for the day.

Thank you, thank you, thank you all for making this such a successful day!

Sue Kennard



Presidents of Moreton Bribie Bob King, President of Caboolture Noreen Weyling with Redcliffe president Sue Kennard



Sue Kennard presenting Carolyn Adcock and Annette Hyland with award for overall champions of 3 way interclub competition

That's
what I
do . . .

I play
bridge
and
I know
things!

Competition Winners

On Monday 20 January the club held the all day Championship team event, directed by Jo Neary. 14 teams battled it out in good spirit all day, with all taking a 'bit of red' home!

The winners were the Jeppesen team (Peter Stride, Fay Jeppesen, John Henderson, Carol

Bailey). They were closely followed in second by the Routley team (Meryl Perry, Sandra Routley, Carolyn Adcock, Ted Morriss).

Many thanks to Sandra Routley, Magdeline Wong and Wayne Parker for their efforts in ensuring the day was such a success.



Peter Stride, John Henderson, Carol Bailey, Fay Jeppesen with President Sue Kennard.



Sandra Routley, Ted Morriss, Carolyn Adcock with President Sue Kennard. Absent Meryl Perry

Rules and By-Laws Changes

Please be advised that the updated [Rules](https://redcliffe.bridgeaustralia.org/documents/RBC%20Rules.pdf) (<https://redcliffe.bridgeaustralia.org/documents/RBC%20Rules.pdf>) and [By-Laws](https://redcliffe.bridgeaustralia.org/documents/RBC%20By-Laws.pdf) (<https://redcliffe.bridgeaustralia.org/documents/RBC%20By-Laws.pdf>) are now in place as of 5 February 2025. This follows the approval of the Rules by the Office of Fair Trading on the same date.

To refresh your memory, these changes were approved by the Club Membership at the 18

October 2024 Special General Meeting. In summary, the changes were necessitated by changes to the 'Model Rules for Affiliated Clubs' administered by the Office of Fair Trading. Other changes included the renaming of the Australian Bridge Federation rank structures and new Australian Tax Office reporting requirements for Not-for-Profit organisations.

Ross Mangano (Club Secretary)



Building Maintenance

In August 2024, the Moreton Bay Council undertook an inspection of the building and issued both the Snooker club and ourselves, a notice outlining the necessary rectification of works. A meeting was held with the Snooker Club, to determine individual and shared responsibilities, with subsequent arrangements made for various contractors to undertake this work. This work has now been

completed. Additionally, grab rails have been installed in both female (2) and male (1) toilets.

During the past month, all 118 chairs in our club rooms have been refurbished with new padding, covering and chair leg caps. A big thank you to Sandra for coordinating this project.

Fay Jeppesen



Ever heard a player say things like these?

1. This club (playing area) is always the right temperature—never too hot or too cold.
2. Free coffee? No thanks.
3. Cool! A four-board sit out.
4. No. I don't think tournaments fees are too high.
5. I can always count on my partner to remember every convention on our card.
6. No gossip, please. I'm not interested.
7. More new Alerts! More new Alerts!
8. One thing I can say about bridge players—they sure know how to dress.
9. No matter which direction we sit, the cards always go our way.
10. I don't feel like bridge today, thanks. I'd rather jog and work out.



Redland Teams



Jim
Evans

PLAYING at Redlands on December 1, this hand came up.

Dlr N	♠ KQ10654	♠ A7
Vul Both	♥ KQJ8532	♥ A9764
	♦ —	♦ 108
	♣ —	♣ K964
♠ J983		♠ A7
♥ 10		♥ A9764
♦ KJ632		♦ 108
♣ AJ8		♣ K964
	♠ 2	
	♥ —	
	♦ AQ9754	
	♣ Q107532	

This is a very strong playing hand, but a very weak defensive hand.

There were different opening bids and responses, mostly 1♥ or 1♠ then 1NT from pard.

Then the action started!

Most opened 1♥, and then after partner's 1NT, they bid 2♠. Others bid 3♠, pard replied 3NT mostly but one passed 3♠. There were a couple of 5♥ after 3NT. Four souls got to 6♥ and got doubled for their efforts. Two were in 6♠. Some played in a minor suit, one in 3♦, others in game and one in 6♠. One was doubled in 4♥ another doubled in 5♥. I don't know how many were pushed to 6♥ after pard kept bidding their minors.

I stayed in 4♥ going three off with a bit of bad declarer play in the endplay.

I opened the bidding 3NT, Kabel, asking for specific aces) intending to bid 7♥ if pard showed both the spade and heart aces. But partner only bid 4♦ showing the A♦ so I now bid 4♥, passed out. ■

Regardless of what sadistic impulses we may harbour, winning bridge means helping partner avoid mistakes.

Directors' Corner



Chris
Snook

Talk to Director Away from the Table

You're a non-playing Director and are casually wandering around the room keeping an eye on the players (much better than being glued to the computer waiting for a Director call). Suddenly a player appears and wants to talk to you. You glance across the room and see an empty seat (South) at table 8.

Players don't have a right to speak with the Director away from the table during the play of a hand. I say it is better that they don't do it, but there isn't a law that prohibits it, so it is up to you as the Director involved. This person is already with you, so you agree to speak with the player to find out what is going on. A similar situation is when a player calls for the Director and then asks to speak with you away from the table.

There could be a few reasons for this request:

1. they may be upset at a behavioural issue at the table and are not comfortable raising this in front of the other players; or
2. they might be unsure of their rights or obligations in a particular situation; or
3. there has been some form of misinformation at the table caused by their side (an unexpected alert, a failure to alert, they realise that they had explained their partners call incorrectly or their partner explained their call incorrectly).

Item 1 is the most difficult and is why you get paid the big bucks.

Items 2 and 3 usually stem from the player's noble attempts to find a solution to their problem without creating unauthorized information (which some players know might create a problem for their partner).

Spare a thought for the three people remaining at the table, who are wondering what is going on. They often have a little chat amongst themselves theorizing on what is happening or sit there uncomfortable wondering what they have done wrong. Leaving the table has also created unauthorized information for partner. They now know "something is up". From history they may now realize that they have mis-explained or not alerted partners call etc. The constraints of Law 16B are now enlivened.

Back to our case at hand, it depends on what South was worried about and Law 75 applies.

1. South might have described Norths bid as ace-asking when they later realise it would have been a control bid. Law 75B.2 tells us that if the opening lead has not been faced then they must summon the Director before the opening lead is faced and make a correction. This may give a small window of opportunity for the Director to "reopen the auction" for the last call from a non-offender (Law 21B). South is also permitted to call the Director before the auction finishes but they are under no obligation to do so. (Laws 21B and 40B3 might lead us to an adjusted score to remedy the damage caused by the infraction).
 2. South might have described Norths bid as ace asking when they later (during the play) realise it would have been a control bid. They summon the Director and provide the correction at that time.
- ... So, if South wants to talk to you about these situations, then there is no major problem. You take South back to the table, the explanation is given, and you rule accordingly.

3. If South has made a bid that is correct according to their system, but North has explained it incorrectly, then Law 20F5 tells us South must not correct until the first legal opportunity:

- a. if they end up being a defender then not until the end of play (but declarer normally wakes up before this); or

- b. if they end up being declarer or dummy then after the final pass in the auction.

... This is where it gets messy when South has tried to speak with you. Their partner knows there is a problem and might surmise what it is (and this is information that they are not authorized to use). The player talking to you away from the table hasn't helped much.

In our example, the problem will follow its well-worn path, and you deal with the UI.

The most positive thing we can do is to continue to educate players of the correct procedure to stop this happening in the future. Tell the player:

1. If you mis-explained, call the Director immediately and correct (best) or at the minimum do so before the opening lead is made.
2. If partner mis-explained, and you are dummy or declarer, correct after the auction is finished and before the opening lead is made (strictly the Clarification Period).
3. If partner mis-explained, and you are a defender, wait until the end of the hand and then call the Director and correct (assuming declarer hasn't raised a ruckus and called the Director already).

Player education is a big part of the Director's role.

Changes to System Regulations

The ABF and the QBA publish System Regulations to define the characteristics of the opening and overcalling structures. There are five colour codes that categorize systems.

- Green (natural) systems
- Blue (strong club / strong diamond systems, eg Precision) systems
- Red systems (all systems employing artificial one level openings that fail the green and blue criteria)
- Yellow (Highly unusual methods) systems
- Brown Sticker – added to the above systems in particular circumstances.

These criteria are applied in turn to a system to determine which one

applies (eg if a system fails the green criterion, then test against blue, and so on).

Green and Blue systems are often allowed in club play and in novice congress events, and Green, Blue or Red are allowed in open congresses. The systems that are allowed will be published in the club, event or congress regulations. Law 40B describes such agreements and empowers the Regulating Authority to allow, disallow or conditionally allow any special partnership understanding and the ABF and QBA System Regulations provide this in a consistent manner.

In August this year, the ABF System Regulations were updated, and these changes are also reflected in the QBA System Regulations.

The biggest change is to the definition of Green Systems which now state:

- a) All one-level opening bids are natural and non-forcing
- b) An opening bid of one of a major guarantees length (4+ cards) in the denomination named.
- c) 1NT should be balanced or semi-balanced

(Note: this does not preclude individual assessment of some hands, e.g. a hand with a singleton honour or a weak longer suit. The subsequent bidding methods however, should not be able to identify such hand types)

- d) All one-level opening bids must, by agreement, promise at least 8 HCP.

The previous version of this part of the System Regulations included:

- ~~b) An opening bid of one of a suit guarantees length (3+ cards) in the denomination named (Exception: 4-4-3-2 and (4-3)-4-2 shaped hands may be opened 1*)~~

The removal of this clause and the exception clarifies matters well.

To be a green system, 1C and 1D openings must not be artificial (that definition of "artificial" has moved to Red systems) and must not be forcing. 1H or 1S show at least 4+ in the denomination named and must not be forcing.

A point of contention has been the "short club" or "very short club". If, in an otherwise standard system, 1C only promises 1+ or 2+ then it will still be a green system if responder will pass with less than (say) 6 points. If, instead, the partnership agreement is that responder "must call no matter what because opener might be short" (in clubs not stature) then the 1C bid has an additional meaning of being forcing and this then fails the green test. Such a system will most likely fail the blue test, and the system is classified as red.

Player education is the key here especially in cases where players have modified their system from the norm. Directors aren't punishers, they are fixers, but if there is a major problem, then QBA Regulations B tell us that "When a pair is found using an illegal system the Director may at his/her discretion impose a procedural penalty proportionate to the degree of damage/benefit reasonably suspected to have been caused/received in the event to date". And ... "Furthermore, if play of a board is in progress, the director may award an adjusted score in accordance with Law 12".

Our actions may vary from a gentle chat to newer players where no major harm has occurred to applying the above for experienced players who should know better.

Gold Coast Congress : Director Get Together

A Director Meet-and-Greet / Q&A / General Discussion session will be held 8:30-9:30am on Thursday 6th February. All Directors and players are welcome.

QBA Director Training

Training/Workshops for the New Director: Saturday 22nd March 9:00-12:00 and 1:00-4:00 online via Zoom.

Suited for players wishing to learn more about the laws; and Club Directors who run the many club sessions around the state. The focus will be on the most common laws and on movements and scoring. Successful completion of this workshop will bring candidates to the standard of the QBA Director Proficiency assessment which is focused on the Director running a single club session. ■



Redcliffe Bridge Club

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Redcliffe, QLD 4020
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Australian Bridge Federation (ABF) News . . .

Recent Newsletter can be accessed on

<https://abfevents.com.au/newsletter/February2025/February2025.html#p=l>



[Click here to read the latest ABF Newsletter \(in flip book format\)](#)

or

[Click here to read in pdf](#)

Upcoming ABF Events

[2025 Tasmanian Festival of Bridge](#)

[2025 Central West Festival of Bridge](#)

[2025 SABF - Autumn National Championships](#)

[2025 Barrier Reef Congress](#)

Masterpoint News

There were no promotions in the month of January

For more information go to ABF Masterpoint Centre

Queensland Bridge Association (QBA) News. . .

The most recent QBA bulletin is available to download

<https://qldbridge.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/qbajan25.pdf>

You also need to be registered with MyABF



Dates to Remember

2 -5 May 2025

29th Barrier Reef Congress
Yeppoon

24-25 May 2025

River City Mixed Pairs
Brisbane

25-31 May

Australia Wide Novice Pairs

6-17th July 2025

Australian National Championships
Brisbane

12-17 August

Coffs Coast Gold Congress
Coffs Harbour