

SUNNYBANK BRIDGE CLUB INC.



THE DECLARER

February 2025

Issue 2025-01



President's Column

Greetings fellow bridge lovers.

Well, 2025 is upon us and we had our AGM on Saturday the 15th February. For those who were unable to attend your hard working committee was re-elected with one change. I would like to thank those who are continuing for their ongoing commitment. I would like to welcome Andrew McKee to our ranks. Andrew was a member some time back and he has returned now that he has retired. May I say I am very happy the core of the committee is continuing in their roles.

One of the announcements at the AGM was to congratulate Sue Holburt for her achievement to become the first Sunnybank Bridge Club member to graduate to become a Congress Director. Well done Sue.

I would like to thank the members outside the committee who have put their hands up to take on the various working roles to help the club to run smoothly. One such role is Editor of our newsletter. As you can see it is back so, thank you to Ray Langler for your contribution.

Our regular upcoming club events are continuing. Thank you to Robyn Chippindall for your hard work organizing the calendar events. Thank you to Judy Bramich for organizing all the various social events. We have had a change of Providore. Thank you to Carolyn Blyth for all her hard work in the past and thank you to Caroline Duncan for taking over this role.

I am sure you will all be pleased to know that the committee has decided to continue with the Xmas lunch at our club house and we will be using the same caterers with a couple of minor improvements. This will be held on Saturday the 6th December. Please mark this on your calendar. Hope you all have a great 2025 enjoying bridge with your friends.

Cheers.
Doug MATTHEW
 (President).

2024/2025 Promotions

NOVEMBER 2024	
Virginia Young	Graduate
Judy Stone	Club
James Clarke	Local
John Atkin	Silver Local
Sue Barnes	State
Sue Holburt	Bronze National
Ed Roggeveen	Silver Life
JANUARY 2025	
Yunus Solwa	Silver Local
Lilly Jia	Bronze Life

2025 Gold Coast Congress

This congress is the largest bridge tournament in Australia with over 500 tables used each day over eight days. Players come from all over Australia and the world to play but this was to be the last GCC. Sadly, QBA were not offered a suitable date for 2026.

About twenty-five of our members entered various events with many of us staying in local accommodation. For those that played the full week, it is bridge, bridge and more bridge. It can be a bit tiring but is great fun and a wonderful experience to see so many like-minded people coming together to play bridge.

It seems so much bridge can make you go batty – literally. On the final night seven of us were enjoying a pleasant BBQ when a bat suddenly flew in and landed on one of us. It was all quite scary, they have very sharp claws and it took what seemed like forever to get the bat to let go.



Congratulations go to Speros and Andrea Pappas who placed 1st overall in the Bobby Richman Pairs - Restricted Division



Gold Coast Congress Results continued

Other notable results:

Carolyn Blyth and Cheryl Martin – 24th place, Bobby Richman Restricted Pairs – B Final

Alice Edwards and brother Ian - 4th place, Bobby Richman Pairs - Restricted C Division

Davis Zhang and Paul Han – 3rd place, Championship Teams, Intermediate Division

Barry Koster, Richard Spelman, Lyn Tracey and Barbara Mackay – 7th place, Championship Teams, Intermediate Division.

Haijal Li and Alice Edwards – 6th place, Ivy Dahler Butler Swiss Novice Pairs.

A great result was had by Tere Wotherspoon and partner, finishing in second place N/S (118 pairs) after the qualifying rounds in the OPEN division of Bobby Richman Pairs.

The bridge got tougher in the next three rounds when competing against many very high-level players.

Directors' Corner

A claim of tricks

Any statement made by declarer or a defender that says they will win a specific number of tricks is a claim. Showing all your cards is also a claim (unless this clearly isn't the purpose)

The claim should be accompanied AT ONCE by a clear statement of the line of play or defence, to show how the claimer will win these tricks. The claimer needs to face their hand. Not following these guidelines may result in disagreement at the table and may result in tricks being awarded to the opponents especially when there is an outstanding trump.

Agreement on tricks won

Law 79A1 states that "the number of tricks won shall be agreed upon before all four hands have been returned to the board". When the director is called to the table due to a disagreement about this, if one pair has gathered their cards up, the director is more likely to rule in favour of the pair still showing the quitted tricks.

Damaged Playing Cards

Our dedicated card dealers have noticed an increase in the number of bent cards. Unfortunately, they get stuck in the dealing machine making their job more difficult. Players sometimes bend the edge of their card up when placing it on the table and are totally unaware that the card is being bent.

Please all be mindful when handling the cards.

Social Committee Report

This year we are planning a Trivia Night, Afternoon Board Games and the Annual trip to Toogoolawah Club. The dates for these events have not yet been set so you will need to watch the website and future Newsletters for dates.

You can also check the Social Committee noticeboard at the club for updates and announcements.

Getting to socialise with each other outside of bridge playing days is really rewarding especially for newer members, so please consider attending future events.

Free Seminar

Know your rights, take advantage of opposition errors, learn about comparable calls and more.

Ed is a high-level director, player and teacher who recently joined our club after moving from New Zealand. He has kindly offered to run this information session for our members.

It will be beneficial for all levels of players.

When: April 5th at 9:30am to 12:00pm at SBCTo register email Ed by March 28th at

edroggeveen5@gmail.com



SUNNYBANK BRIDGE CLUB INC.



Position Vacant

Daytime Partnership Co-ordinator

The job requires matching up players who have let the co-ordinator know they are available with others who are looking for a partner. If you would like to help, please contact a committee member.

Convenors Report

Recent Events –

Only one Red Point event has been held so far this year.

Tuesday Summer Pairs – 18 February

- 1st Tere Wotherspoon & Kathleen Clifford
- 2nd Doug Matthew & Davis Zhang
- 3rd Dennis Lee & Albina Smyth

Coming Events - See Events Noticeboard for more information

Friday Autumn Pairs – 21 & 28 March

2 week event. No entry required

Sunnybank Championship Pairs – Saturday 29 March – 9am for 9:30am start

This is one of the club's only two Championship events, with the winning pair's names added to our Honour Board.

The event is restricted to Sunnybank members only (and all entrants must have played in at least 6 green point sessions in the 12 months prior to 31 January).

While this is a prestigious event, we encourage all members, incl our newest members, to enter. It is a great opportunity for players to experience an all-day major event in familiar surroundings and

amongst familiar faces. The play is designed so that, for most of the day, you play against members with similar ability and experience.

Prior entry required

ENTER NOW!

Email entry to convenors.at.sbc@gmail.com or call Robyn Chippindall on 0414 702 705

KISS Trophy – Sunday 6 April – 12.45pm for 1pm start

This is a long-standing event, inaugurated by Mike and Gonnie Koster, who were very generous contributors to our club and this tradition has been continued by their son, Barry.

KISS stands for the Koster International Sausage Sizzle. It is played during the Sunday afternoon session and is followed by the traditional BBQ. Trophy and cash prizes are available for Sunnybank members.

Prior entry required - Email entry to convenors.at.sbc@gmail.com

QLD Novice Pairs – Sunday 27 April 9am for 9:30 start

This event is for all Novice players with under 100 Masterpoints as at 28 February and is hosted by our club. The event is for all novices within QLD, although the entrants, in addition to our members, are usually from local clubs around Brisbane. This is an excellent chance for our Novice players to experience a Congress event in their own club and to meet with players from other clubs.

The Director and organisers ensure that this is a relaxed, low-pressure event so that players can enjoy a great day together.

Entrants range from those with some years of experience to new players who have never competed in a major competition before.

As with the Championship Pairs event, the movement is designed so that, for most of the day, you play against members with similar ability.



Old Novice Pairs continued:

Prior entry is required. This year players will need to enter via the MyABF website.

This website will be new to many players, but it is becoming the way of the future for all Australian Bridge Clubs.

The event is not yet open for entries, but will be by the 2nd week in March, if not earlier.

If you have any queries about the event or how to log in or register with MyABF, please call Robyn Chippindall on 0414 702 705.

We would love to have a big contingent of Sunnybank players in the event!

Robyn and Cheryl

New Newsletter Editor

Yes, your club has a new Newsletter Editor for 2025. Thank you to Sue Holburt who took on the role during 2024 and who has been a fantastic help to me as I take on this role.

I am a “novice” bridge player having taken lessons at the beginning of 2023. I am afraid I do not have enough years left for me to progress beyond always being a novice!

I hear friends complaining that Golf is a most frustrating game – it seems to me that Bridge is the indoor equivalent!

I do enjoy the game and have been made especially welcome by all the wonderful members of SBC.

I hope to send a Newsletter at least by the end of every second month.

The proposed dates for 2025:

Feb, April, June (before the middle of the month),
Aug – (I will be away so no Newsletter)
September
November

I will always welcome ideas, articles, suggestions and any feedback regarding the Newsletter.

You can contact me on the following Email address:

Newsletter.at.sbc@gmail.com

Ray Langler (Editor)

New Members

Welcome to all the New Members to our club. We hope you enjoy your time with us and I know you will be made to feel welcome.

Especially welcome to those new to the game of Bridge who are currently attending the lessons held every Saturday afternoon. We look forward to meeting you at the bridge table soon.

For Sale

One set of bridge boards with cards in carry case. \$100

Please contact Carolyn Doherty



Almoners Report

Our thoughts are with the following members who are experiencing health issues at the moment.

Sue Barnes, Bronwyn Taylor and Jenny Andrews.

We wish them a speedy recovery and hope to see them back at the table before too long.

Ros Purchase (Almoner)



On a Lighter Note

In this section, I plan to include some jokes, trivial Bridge Facts etc. Your contributions are welcome.

LORD YARBOROUGH

A hand that contains no card higher than a nine is known as a Yarborough. It is so named after Lord Yarborough who used to offer players odds of 1000-to-1 against picking up such a hand. The noble lord no doubt knew he was on to a good thing because the true odds against picking up a Yarborough are 1,827 - to - 1. The odds against two partners picking up a Yarborough simultaneously are 546,000,000 - to - 1!

Anyone had a Yarborough recently? Let me know and we can celebrate your good fortune in a future Newsletter.

LAUGH A LITTLE:

1. I asked my trainer at the gym if I could start shadow boxing.

He said, "Knock yourself out!"

2. What is the most depressing thing about tennis?

You will never be as good as a wall!

SIGNS AROUND THE WORLD

In a hotel room in Vienna

"In case of fire do your utmost to alarm the porter."

On the box of a clockwork toy.

"Guaranteed to work throughout its useful life."

In a hotel Brochure in Italy:

"This hotel is renowned for its peace and quiet. In fact, crowds from around the world flock here to enjoy its solitude.

Who Am I?

I thought it would be fun each month to highlight the "secret" life of one of our members beyond and before the bridge table.

I might have a chat with you to gain your permission and to ask you to provide some information.

This Month: (No prizes for guessing I might be a male!)

As a child I was always involved in Sport of various kinds including - Tennis, Cricket, Squash, Netball. My favourite trophy is one from cricket showing a bowling average of 12 wickets for 48 runs in a match (when I was about 13 yrs old!)

During High school I was involved in theatre, acting in numerous plays. This interest continued until I "retired" from amateur theatre when I was about 50. I once appeared in a mass nude photo shoot with thousands of others in Melbourne along the Yarra River and on Victoria Bridge.

I enjoy travelling, watching "art house" movies, and camping in the bush.

I have been retired for 20 years this year.

Who am I?

Answer will appear in the next edition – you have two months to try to find out who it is!