



# TOOWOOMBA BRIDGE CLUB

## NEWSLETTER

December 2017

55 Stuart Street, Toowoomba 4350  
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### Presidents Report



At the club's Annual General Meeting on 21<sup>st</sup> October, our new Management Committee was elected with me as President and Lyn Vary, Desley Hanrahan, Dave Roberts continuing on as Committee

members. Margaret Tucker is no longer Secretary but continues on as a Committee member and I thank her for all her hard work over the last twelve months. We welcome Chris Snook as Secretary, Greg Munck as Treasurer, and Henry Eastment, Trevor Henderson, Jane Lawson and Michael Mumford as Committee Members. With a nice mix of experienced and new members, I hope that this will be great for our large club and provide many new ideas to make bridge as enjoyable as we can for our members.



John Churchett, Leonie Spence and Jean Moetara retired from being Committee Members but they

continue on in their roles as Newsletter Editor, Functions and Catering Chair and Librarian respectively. All have made excellent contributions to the management of our club, and we thank them for all their good work.

At the AGM, the Position of Treasurer had no nominations. After quite some time of comments and names being put forward, Greg Munck agreed to hold the position. We are truly grateful for this, especially as Greg still works full time in his own business as well as tending to the maintenance in our club. Chris Snook also works full time as well as fulfilling club duties of Secretary, Masterpoint Secretary and Chief Tournament Director and we are so grateful to have such talent in our club.

Having said this, to ease the load of our members and those who are still working, the club needs more members to volunteer for positions instead of leaving jobs to just a few. We are the fifth largest club in Queensland and a lot of volunteers are needed and I ask now that you consider putting your hand up to volunteer on the Committee for next year as well as for all the smaller jobs around the club that routinely need doing.

I thank all the members who currently volunteer to do jobs at the club such as deal boards, direct club sessions, help clean up the room after play, replenish the table supplies, sharpen pencils, wash tablecloths, spot clean as required, look after and water the gardens, trim the hedges and numerous other important jobs that I have not mentioned. The club would not run as well as it does without all your help and we all enjoy our bridge because of your efforts. Thank you all very much.

I was saddened by the news of the recent passing of one of our past members, Pat Penberthy. Pat was a popular, respected and well know member of our club for many years. She was a regular supporter of all the local Congresses and Zone

events and was held in high esteem by many members and will be sadly missed.

Coming up in February is one of Australia's largest and most successful Congresses. It's the 57<sup>th</sup> Gold Coast Congress and this year is being held from February 17-25<sup>th</sup>. There are numerous events for various levels of bridge players – open, intermediate, restricted and novice. There are also special sessions for Rookies with 0-10 Masterpoints and for players between 0-50 Masterpoints. These all attract Gold points, which are very rare in the bridge congress scene. If you only want to play shorter sessions, there are Holiday Walk-in Pairs every single day and these attract Red points. Hope to see you there!

Our annual Christmas Party and Awards ceremony is being held on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> December commencing at 11am. Hope to see most of you there for a celebration drink and fun game of cards.

Merry Christmas and have a safe and Happy New Year.

**Denise Hartwig**  
President



## **MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

<b>PRESIDENT</b>	Denise Hartwig
<b>VICE PRESIDENT</b>	David Roberts
<b>SECRETARY</b>	Chris Snook
<b>TREASURER</b>	Greg Munck
<b>COMMITTEE MEMBERS</b>	Henry Eastment Desley Hanrahan Trevor Henderson Jane Lawson Michael Mumford Margaret Tucker Lyn Vary

## **MANAGEMENT**

<b>CHIEF TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR</b>	Chris Snook
<b>CONGRESS CONVENOR</b>	David Roberts
<b>MASTERPOINT SECRETARY</b>	Chris Snook

<b>PROVIDOR</b>	Keith Jenkin
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## **MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY QBA DELEGATES**

Desley Hanrahan  
Chris Snook  
Greg Munck

## **ZONAL DELEGATES**

Roger Ley  
Denise Hartwig

## **PRESS OFFICER**

Chris Snook

## **CLUB TEACHERS**

Denise Hartwig

## **LIBRARIAN**

Kim Nicoll

## **NEWSLETTER EDITOR**

Denise Hartwig

## **HOUSEKEEPER**

Trudy Dunne

## **SPONSORSHIP COORDINATOR**

Jean Moetara

## **WELFARE OFFICER**

John Churchett

## **FIRST AID KIT, WH&S**

Lyn Vary

## **RECORDER**

Henry Eastment

## **TENANCY CO-ORDINATOR**

Desley Hanrahan

## **INFORMATION & TECHNOLOGY**

Roger Ley

## **& WEBMASTER**

Ian Jesser

## **BUILDING MAINTENANCE**

Bruce Hinchliffe

## **GROUND MAINTENANCE**

Chris Snook

## **BOARD DEALING COORDINATOR**

Michael Mumford

## **BIRTHDAY CLUB**

Greg Munck

## **PARTNERSHIP ARRANGER**

John Ryan

Roger Ley

Desley Hanrahan

Pam Gebbett

As well as the elected and appointed positions, the Toowoomba Bridge Club has three sub-committees to help coordinate the running of the club:

## **TOURNAMENT SUB-COMMITTEE:**

Chris Snook (Chair), Glenys Clift, Henry Eastment, Ian Jesser, Adrian Mayers, Leonie Spence, Floyd Wilson, Liz Zeller, David Roberts and the President (ex-officio)

## **FUNCTION AND CATERING SUB-COMMITTEE**

Leonie Spence (Chair), Desley Hanrahan, the Provider (ex-officio) and the President (ex officio),

## **TEACHING SUB-COMMITTEE:**

Denise Hartwig, Trudy Dunne, Ian Jesser, Byron Longford, Chris Snook, Leonie Spence and Liz Zeller and Henry Eastment

## Coming Events



Christmas Party is on Saturday December 9 at 10.30 for 11am start. Presentations, lunch and a social bridge game.

Remember to kindly donate non-perishable food items and children's gifts for the Salvation Army.

## Teaching Report

For any members who wish to revise a few techniques or bids, Trudy Dunne will be holding lessons on Wednesday mornings from 9 to 11.30am in January and February on the following topics:

Jan 17 – Negative Doubles

Jan 24 – Opening Strong  
Balanced Hands

Jan 31 – Opening Strong  
Unbalanced hands

Feb 07 – Opening Weak 2H & 2S

Feb 14 – Pre-emptive Bids at the 3 & 4 Level

Feb 21 – Looking for Slam



### Beginner's Lessons

The format and the content of the beginner's lessons will change slightly next year. They are being based on the format recommended by the ABF Teaching Coordinator, Joan Butts.

There will be four introductory beginner's lessons based on the Mechanics of Bridge, Opening the Bidding, Responding to a 1NT Opening and Responding to Suit Bids. The focus on these lessons will be card play techniques. The introductory lessons will be followed by four weeks of "Help with Play".

After these basics, four further lessons will be given on Opener's Rebid, Responder's Rebid, Overcalls and Take-out Doubles, followed once again by four weeks of "Help with Play".

Next year beginner's introductory lessons will be held Wednesday mornings, Thursday evenings and Saturday afternoons. They commence on Wednesday 28 February, Thursday 1 March and Saturday 3 March 2018.

If you know of someone who may be interested in learning to play bridge, the Club is holding two sessions where prospective players are able to come into the club, get a brief outline of the game and then stay and join in on a real live bridge lesson. These two sessions are Wednesday morning 7<sup>th</sup> February starting at 8.30am and Saturday afternoon 10<sup>th</sup> February starting at 12pm. Contact Trudy, Denise or Chris if you know of someone who may be interested and would like to come along and find out more about the game.

If any members are stuck for ideas for a Christmas present for someone who has everything, a Bridge Voucher for the four introductory lessons would be an ideal gift. For a short time, the club is currently offering Vouchers for \$20 each and can be purchased by contacting either a Bridge Teacher or a member of the Management Committee.

### Supervised Play and Intermediate Lessons

Once again Ian Jesser and Chris Snook have been doing a wonderful job helping the Wednesday morning supervised group and the Friday morning intermediate group. They both are still averaging around the nine tables per session, however Fridays seems to be increasing a bit gradually. A short lesson is conducted before each session.

Denise Hartwig

## New Rankings June - October



Byron Longford

Mohan Trada

Laurie-Marie McRoberts

Robert Fulton

Denise Hartwig

Pamela Gebbett

John Erlandson

Gold Life

Silver Life

Silver Life

Silver Life

Bronze Life

Life

Life



◆ Kim Nicoll	Life
◆ Lennie Goodson	*National
◆ Jane Lindenberg	*National
◆ Brian Wippell	*National
◆ Charles Leicht	National
◆ Majella Wilson	National
◆ Rebecca Knight	National
◆ Jan McIlwraith	*State
◆ Barbara Power	State
◆ Hugh Robinson	State
◆ John Laker	State
◆ Rita Fatseas	State
◆ David Roberts	*Regional
◆ Lyn Vary	*Regional
◆ Paul Matthews	*Regional
◆ Rozalyn Wright	*Regional
◆ Desley Hanrahan	Regional
◆ Jean Moetara	Regional
◆ Jane Lawson	Regional
◆ Jamie Long	Regional
◆ Suzanne Brazier	Regional
◆ Kay Behrend	Regional
◆ Esme Bernie	Regional
◆ Pam Hosfield	Regional
◆ Jack Bernie	Regional
◆ Kay Blakeney	Regional
◆ Kaye Fisher	Regional
◆ Steve Hosfield	Regional
◆ John Burnett	Regional
◆ Kathleen Beckwith	Regional
◆ Jan Lindau	Regional
◆ Doug Clauson	**Local
◆ Colleen Wildman	**Local
◆ Ann Downs	**Local
◆ Val Witenden	**Local
◆ Jill Young	**Local
◆ Pam Davey	**Local
◆ Marilyn Oakroot	**Local
◆ Judy Edwards	**Local
◆ Alastair Nixon	*Local
◆ Carmel Barrett	*Local
◆ John Ryan	*Local
◆ Rachel Klupfel	*Local
◆ Bronwyn Hamilton	*Local
◆ Greg Munck	*Local
◆ Joan Mladen	*Local
◆ Carolyn Shannon	*Local
◆ Joan Mladen	Local
◆ Carol Edwards	Local
◆ Peter Bryce	Local
◆ Anne Hall	Local
◆ Angus Walker	Local
◆ Ken Orange	Club
◆ Beverley McCasker	Club

Alison Banks	Club
Valarie Inwood	Club
Anne Hurran	Graduate
John Hurran	Graduate
Michael Walsh	Graduate
Paul Davey	Graduate
Robert Dodman	Graduate
Peggy Hansel	Graduate
Heather Smith	Graduate
Gail Donovan	Graduate
Helen Fitzgerald	Graduate
Carol Dashwood	Graduate
Mary Murphy	Graduate

Congratulations to all and especially to Joan who jumped two rankings in the period.

## Membership Secretary's Report

As you are all aware membership fees for 2018 are now due. \$50 for home membership and \$20 for home members of other clubs. So far over half have paid which is great. Looking forward to receiving your fees before the end of the year. Merry Christmas to you all,

Desley Hanrahan  
Membership Secretary.

## The Provider

Hi everyone. I would like to wish everyone a very merry Christmas and look forward to serving you all in the coming year.

Keith Jenkin.

## Welfare Officer

Please contact Desley Hanrahan on (0416136779) or at the club if you know of a member who is ill, hospitalized or suffering a bereavement and Desley will respond suitably on behalf of the Club.

## Garden Report

On Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> of November the Garden Committee members, Ralph Geddes, John Ryan and Neville Lutton planted 35 new native plants into our garden areas. The native plants were selected by Dr. Kerry Rathie and his wife Annabel. We were supported with our own bridge member Alison Langdon who happens to be the current President for the local Toowoomba Native Plants.

The whole event took considerable time as Ralph located the areas with our expert Kerry and dug the holes required. The planting day took us about two and a half hours. Ralph will continue to follow up the watering required. The event was a cost of \$200 to the club.

The Garden Committee would like to give thanks to Dr Kerry Rathie, Annabel and Alison Langdon for the time and interest they have done for us.

We will be arranging for the gutters to be cleaned soon and are still waiting on a couple of quotes.

## Trump Coup

		NORTH	
		♠ 7	
		♥ A K	
		♦ A K Q J 9 7 4	
		♣ A K Q	
WEST		EAST	
♠ 6		♠ K 5 3	
♥ 9 8 7 6 5 3		♥ Q J 10	
♦ 5 3		♦ 10 8 6 2	
♣ 10 8 5 3		♣ J 9 7	
		SOUTH	
		♠ A Q J 10 9 8 4 2	
		♥ 4 2	
		♦ —	
		♣ 6 4 2	

Contract is 7 Spades by South.

Lead is Spade 6.

You are East. Plan the play to stop a Quintuple grand coup.

## Winners are Grinners

The "Monthly Winners" are recognised as the winner of eclectic multi-session events that run on the same day over the course of a month. These awards are displayed on the noticeboard and on the club website. This is an effective way to celebrate the high performing players in each session and provide additional green masterpoints to those players who play regularly in club sessions.

These events combine of all the green masterpoint sessions in a month that have not already counted toward a competition. If there are three available sessions then your best two scores are counted, if there are four available sessions then your best three scores are counted and if there are five available sessions then your best four scores are counted.

### July Monthly Winners

Monday Open Paul Matthews & David Roberts

Monday Restr John Ryan & Peter Bryce

Tuesday Night Eileen Josey

Wed Open Chris Snook & Denise Hartwig

Wed Restr Claire & Graeme Raisin

Thursday Night Frank Elston & David Roberts

Friday am Barbara Power

Friday pm Glenys Clift

### August Monthly Winners

Monday Open David Edwards

Monday Restr Val Witenden & Judy Edwards

Tuesday Gwen Francis & Rae Capon

Tuesday Night Mohan Trada

Wed Open Henry Eastment & Adrian Mayers

Wed Restr Paul Matthews & David Roberts

Thursday Night Jill Cory & Lyn Vary

Friday am Kaye Fisher & Jane Tait

Friday pm Rod Brilliant & Eileen Josey

### September Monthly Winners

Monday Open Paul Matthews & David Roberts

Monday Restr Colleen Wildman & Marion Hunt

Tuesday Ian Jesser & Carol Wilson

Wed Open Henry Eastment & Adrian Mayers

Wed Restr Joan Mladen & Doug Clauson

Thursday Night David & Carol Edwards

Friday am Joan Mladen & Doug Clauson

Friday pm Glenys Clift

Saturday Ian Jesser & Henry Eastment

### **October Monthly Winners**

Monday Open Delma Clark & Judith Briggs  
Monday Restr John Ryan  
Tuesday Adrian Mayers & Byron Longford  
Wed Open Henry Eastment & Adrian Mayers  
Wed Restr Lyn Vary & Desley Hanrahan  
Thursday Night David Roberts  
Friday am Paul Matthews & David Roberts  
Friday pm Glenys Clift & Adrian Mayers

### **November Monthly Winners**

Monday Open David Edwards  
Monday Restr Peter Bryce  
Tuesday Adrian Mayers & Byron Longford  
Tuesday Night Eileen Josey & John Churchett  
Wed Open Henry Eastment & Adrian Mayers  
Wed Restr Joan Mladen & Doug Clauson  
Thursday Night Frank Elston & David Roberts  
Friday am Paul Matthews & David Roberts  
Friday pm Byron Longford & Pat Larsen

In recent club competitions:

### **Tuesday Pairs Competition**

1<sup>st</sup> Pat Larsen & Robbie Fulton  
2<sup>nd</sup> Byron Longford & Adrian Mayers  
3<sup>rd</sup> John Hede & David Edwards

### **Tuesday Night Pairs Competition**

1<sup>st</sup> Greg Munck & Mohan Trada  
2<sup>nd</sup> Michael Doherty & Brian Wippell  
3<sup>rd</sup> Lyn Vary & Chris Snook

### **Individual "Fun Day" (Saturday 22 July)**

A 1<sup>st</sup> Ian Jesser  
A 2<sup>nd</sup> Rita Fatseas  
A 3<sup>rd</sup> Byron Longford  
B 1<sup>st</sup> Michael Walsh  
B 2<sup>nd</sup> Leonie Spence  
B 3<sup>rd</sup> John Maslen & Elizabeth Cavanagh

### **Tuesday Night Teams Competition**

Jenni Buckley, Jim Wood,  
Robbie Fulton & Lorraine Sutton

### **Club Pairs Championship - Open**

1<sup>st</sup> Jenni Buckley & Jim Wood  
2<sup>nd</sup> Col Hutton & AnanDarajah Kumar  
3<sup>rd</sup> Denise Hartwig & Mavis Simpson

### **Club Pairs Championship - Restricted**

1<sup>st</sup> David Roberts & Paul Matthews  
2<sup>nd</sup> Trevor Henderson & Carmel Caton  
3<sup>rd</sup> John Ryan & Peter Bryce

And on the recent Congress scene:

### **Dalby Swiss Teams**

1<sup>st</sup> Lorraine Sutton, Robbie Fulton,  
Laurie-Marie McRoberts & Judy Briggs  
2<sup>nd</sup> Adrian Mayers, Henry Eastment,  
Byron Longford & Pat Larsen

### **Old Women's Butler Pairs**

3<sup>rd</sup> Elizabeth Zeller & Alison Dawson

### **Darling Downs Swiss Pairs**

B 1<sup>st</sup> Lorraine Sutton & Robbie Fulton  
C 1<sup>st</sup> Glenys Look & Sue Crooke  
C 2<sup>nd</sup> Fay Short & Mary McConachy

### **Toowoomba Novice Teams**

1<sup>st</sup> Jacki Horne, Peter Evans,  
Jean Bendall & Colleen Wildman  
2<sup>nd</sup> Trevor Henderson, Carmel Caton,  
Chris Farr & Shelley Farr  
3<sup>rd</sup> John Cox, Jamie Long,  
Rita Fatseas & Sharyn Gierke

### **OBA Open Teams**

B 1<sup>st</sup> Chris Snook, Denise Hartwig,  
Elizabeth Zeller & Byron Longford

### **Dalby Swiss Pairs**

1<sup>st</sup> John Erlandson & Will Higgins  
2<sup>nd</sup> Pat Larsen & Jack Rohde  
3<sup>rd</sup> Ian Jesser & Henry Eastment

### **Toowoomba Queens Birthday Congress – Pairs**

2<sup>nd</sup> Elizabeth Zeller & Alison Dawson  
B 1<sup>st</sup> Carmel Caton & Trevor Henderson  
C 1<sup>st</sup> Margaret Tucker & Maureen Grayson  
C 2<sup>nd</sup> Paul Matthews & David Roberts

### **Toowoomba Queens Birthday Congress – Teams**

2<sup>nd</sup> Henry Eastment, Adrian Mayers,  
Will Higgins & John Erlandson  
3<sup>rd</sup> Elizabeth Zeller, Alison Dawson,  
Carmel Martin & Murray Perrin  
B 1<sup>st</sup> Carol Wilson, Laurie-Marie  
McRoberts,  
Lorraine Sutton & Robbie Fulton  
C 1<sup>st</sup> Leonie Spence, Kathleen Beckwith,  
Pam Gebbett & Mary McConachy

### **Toowoomba Swiss Teams**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Adrian Mayers, Henry Eastment,  
Will Higgins & John Erlandson  
B 2<sup>nd</sup> Barbara Wippell, Kim Nicoll,  
Brian Wippell & Michael Doherty  
B 3<sup>rd</sup> Denise Hartwig, Mavis Simpson,  
Cheryl Stone & Robyn Clark

Well done everyone ☺

Cheers  
Chris

### **Correcting Scores**

Law 79A and 79B provide clauses to specify what the Director can do if you and your opponents disagree on the number of tricks that Declarer and Defender have won. I have spoken about this in earlier newsletters, and you should get agreement at the table before the cards are returned to the board.

After this time, Law 79B3 generally only allows a score to be changed after this time if both sides agree and then only if the Director is absolutely convinced that is what happened at the table. If they are not sure then they may award a “non-balancing adjusted score” – in other words take the trick that is in dispute away from one side but not award it to the other. This is to discourage the situation where a strong and vocal player may “remember” better than the others at the table and pressure them into agreeing. The motto is “agree on the number of tricks before the cards are put away”.

The situation of one person recording an incorrect score and their opponent choosing “accept” without checking is covered by Law 79C and a club regulation included in your Bridge Diary. Law 79C says an error in recording or tabulating the agreed-upon score (by a player or official) may be corrected until the expiration of the Correction Period. The Laws state this is 30 minutes after posting of scores for your session or the time specified by the Tournament Organiser. Toowoomba Bridge Club has this as 30 minutes for multi-session competitions and until midnight of the session day for regular club sessions.

If you get home and see that although you all agreed on a contract and number of tricks that it

has been recorded incorrectly – you have until midnight to advise us. The correct approach is to contact your session Director and if they are not available then you can contact me as the Chief Tournament Director. No one else has authority to make changes so please don't bother contacting them.

I am 100% focussed on us having all scores be correct and you are the best person to do this by checking the scores are they are entered into the bridgemates and accepted.

Cheers  
Chris

### **Masterpoint Secretary's Report**

Total masterpoints earned in the club over the past few months were:

	<b>Green</b>	<b>Red</b>	<b>Gold</b>	<b>Tables</b>
July	157.61	7.30		403.5
August	170.73	14.28		425.5
September	142.94	19.36		365.0
October	151.34	57.56		400.5
November	155.16	11.88		421.0

### **What are Masterpoints?**

The ABF Masterpoint Scheme is intended to:

- Stimulate interest in Contract Bridge.
- Provide means of measuring player achievements.
- Assist with the financing of the ABF's national and international commitments.

### **What types of masterpoints are there?**

There are three types of masterpoints available:

- **Green** for regular club play
- **Red** for major club championships and for Congresses
- **Gold** for major National events such as the GNOT, Gold Coast Congress, Australian Festival of Bridge, etc.

Masterpoints are a measure of how well you are going in your bridge career, and these masterpoints are accumulated throughout your career. The ABF collects fees for each masterpoint that is awarded (currently \$1.75 per green point,

\$1.40 per club red point, \$1.85 per congress red point, \$1.20 per gold point).

### Master Rankings

Masterpoints won by players over their lifetime are used to determine each player's **Master Ranking**. Players receive an official ABF certificate with each promotion within the masterpoint scheme. You can see a list of these rankings and the number of masterpoints required for each on the back of your ABF membership card.

Master	Minimum masterpoints required		
Rank	Total	Red/Gold	Gold
Graduate Master	2		
Club Master	5		
Local Master	15		
Local * Master	25		
Local ** Master	35		
Regional Master	50		
Regional * Master	100		
State Master	50	25	
State * Master	100	50	
National Master	150	75	
National * Master	200	100	
National ** Master	300	150	
Life Master	300	180	30
Bronze Life Master	400	240	40
Silver Life Master	500	300	50
Gold Life Master	750	450	75
Grand Master	1000	700	200
Silver Grand	2500	1900	600
Gold Grand Master	5000	4000	1400
Emerald Grand	10000	8500	3000
Diamond Grand	15000	13000	5000

For the lower rankings, all of your masterpoints are combined to meet the total requirement, in other words you can count Gold and Red as Green. As you get to the middle rankings you must also meet the minimum requirements for Red, and Gold may also be counted as Red. In the highest rankings you must also meet the minimum requirement for Gold.

To progress beyond State Master, you will have to earn some red points by playing in major competitions or Congresses. To progress beyond Life Master, you need gold points as well and will have to play in National events (and the GNOT, Grand National Pairs and Gold Coast Congress are the best way to do this).

### How are they allocated?

I will use an example of a normal club session with a ten table Mitchell movement. Normal club play is called an E-grade event and earns **green** masterpoints with a 1.5 multiplication factor. A single session award is 0.02 green points per table. In our example, Each NS and EW winner will earn  $(0.02 \times 1.5 \times 10) = 0.30$  green masterpoints per player. Second place always receives 70% of the winner award. Third place earns  $\frac{1}{2}$ . Fourth place earns  $\frac{1}{3}$ , etc, with awards being made to the top half of the field. So in our example

1 <sup>st</sup> NS earns 0.30	1 <sup>st</sup> EW earns 0.30
2 <sup>nd</sup> NS earns 0.21	2 <sup>nd</sup> EW earns 0.21
3 <sup>rd</sup> NS earns 0.15	3 <sup>rd</sup> EW earns 0.15
4 <sup>th</sup> NS earns 0.10	4 <sup>th</sup> EW earns 0.10
5 <sup>th</sup> NS earns 0.08	5 <sup>th</sup> EW earns 0.08

- Club Championships are called D-grade and are green masterpoints with a 2.0 multiplication factor.
- Supervised play is called F-Grade and are green masterpoints with a 0.75 multiplication factor.

We also run Red masterpoint events, and I will use an example of a seven table Mitchell. These are B4c-grade events with a 2.5 multiplication factor (the factor is larger because of the higher status of the event). Each NS and EW winner will receive  $0.02 \times 2.5 \times 7 = 0.35$  red masterpoints. Each second receives 0.25 and each third receives 0.18.

In events where playing strength is restricted (eg our Monday Afternoon Restricted or Wednesday Afternoon Restricted) there is a reduction to either 50% or 65% of the calculated award.

Howell and other movements with one winner are calculated in a similar manner but with 0.04 masterpoints per table.

So, for example a red point 4-1/2 table Howell produces  $(0.04 \times 2.5 \times 5) = 0.5$  red points for the winner. Second receives 0.35, third receives 0.25, fourth receives 0.17 (unfortunately we round up).

When an event runs for more than one session, there are outright awards for the top half of the overall field in addition to the awards earned each week.



### Why can't we have more red point events?

Red masterpoint events are a higher status than regular club play and each Club in Australia is only awarded a certain number of red masterpoint sessions. The actual number allocated depends on how many green masterpoints the club awarded the previous year. The rationale behind this is that the number of green points is a truer indication of the size of a club rather than the number of home club members. We are allocated 1 red point session for each extra 65 green points our players earn the previous year. The Tournament Sub-committee shares these red point days out amongst all the sessions the club currently runs.

### What about teams?

If a match is 5 boards or longer, then masterpoints are allocated per "win". If matches are shorter than 5 boards then the teams are ranked in order and masterpoints are allocated to the top 1/3<sup>rd</sup> only. Thus it is essential that all matches are longer than 5 boards.

As an example – a Teams Championship event (D-grade) is held and we are playing 10 board matches. Each win is worth  $(0.008 \times 1.5 \times 10) = 0.12$ , and each draw with worth 0.06. In general, it is easier to win more masterpoints in a teams event.

### Who processes Masterpoints, and When?

Each club elects a **Masterpoint Secretary** (here in Toowoomba it is Chris Snook), who is responsible for all masterpoints within the club. Green masterpoints are processed on the last day of each month and submitted electronically to the ABF. At this time, I also check the provisional masterpoints shown at the club during the month – adjusting the master factor or other conditions if necessary. I then prepare the Eclectic events and masterpoint those as well.

Red masterpoints are processed locally, but then sent to the Queensland State Masterpoint Secretary (Peter Busch) for approval. Peter processes all Gold masterpoints and all red masterpoints from Congresses.

You can check your masterpoints on the ABF website at: <http://www.abfmasterpoints.com.au/> and click on "Players -> Masterpoints Lookup".

If you feel that you are missing some masterpoints, check with the Club Masterpoint Secretary in the first instance – I don't bite much, but please give me as much information as you can. If you think you are missing points from an event, then tell me the event name and date. If you added up the points you think you might receive and the actual amount is different, then tell me the points/events you think you did achieve. Remember that I only process club masterpoints. Those from congresses, nationwide pairs and other events are done by other people, usually many months later.

Cheers  
Chris

## **Pianola Trial**

Pianola is an online bridge club management package with many features that would assist with the running and management of the Toowoomba Bridge Club and benefit members. It will help management save time, improve service to members and help grow our club.

Management Committee have decided to trial this package, primarily to assist with managing communication with members. Pianola allows dynamic creation of "groups" (eg members below 100 masterpoints, members who play on Tuesday, members who have not played in the last three months). This will allow us to target our emails instead of the current bulk mailout system.

There are many other benefits for the Management Committee and numerous benefits for members who want to have more comprehensive information on their own performance. It also has an online partnership organiser function.

Each member will have their own password so that they can manage their own online information and you will receive an email or letter about this in due course.

Until then, you can visit their website to get a better idea about what it provides:

<http://www.pianola.net/>

## Sponsorship Report

**Freedom Aged Care Aveo** provided three prizes for the raffle at the Swiss Pairs Congress. However, they will not be continuing their sponsorship past 31 December 2017. Many thanks to all involved at Freedom Aged Care Aveo for their support from 2013.

### **Mobile Travel Agent (MTA)**

Wendy and Doug provided two prizes for the raffles at the October Congress. MTA have renewed their sponsorship for 2018 and Wendy and Doug accepted an invitation to attend the Prize Giving and Christmas Party. Please support MTA as they continue to support the club.



### **A Message from our Sponsor – MTA Travel**

MTA Travel have developed a guide to the **best 6 overseas destinations** in under 6 hours from Brisbane – 6 beautiful destinations to get you closer to paradise!

Click [\[here\]](#) to see more information on these destinations or call Wendy at MTA Travel on Mob 0438 32759 or Hm 4636 03605

Henry Eastment

## Functions and Events Report

The last 3 months of the year have been very busy with the Club holding the 3 Day congress in October where approximately 120 people attended each day.

The change to a plated meal on the Saturday was welcomed and successful, but its success was mainly to very good workers in the kitchen. Thank you.

The Melbourne Cup lunch was well supported with 44 people attending. A big thank you, goes to those who made the salads and quiches. Very much appreciated.

The Swiss teams event was also a well-attended congress with 100 people participating. We love our bridge, don't we!!

All these events only happen because we have good volunteers who are willing to give up their time so we can play bridge. So next time you are playing, appreciate their efforts and if you can, return the favour so they can play.

Christmas party, this year will once again be finger food. It would be appreciated if those attending can indicate whether they are bringing savoury or sweet as last year we had a surplus of sweets.

We are once again supporting The Salvation Army Christmas appeal by asking members to donate non-perishable foodstuffs, toys for the little ones and gifts for teenagers. Our donation will be picked up on the day of our Party.

Hope to see you there, Leonie.

Leonie Spence, Caterer for Events and Congresses

## Card Play Tip

If you want an opponent to cover an honour lead from your hand, as declarer, lead the higher of your touching honours. If you want an opponent to duck the first round, lead the lower of your two honours on your initial lead.



A very civilised club. Cocktails as you play.



## Treasurers Report

We are still in the transition phase of me leaving the Treasurer role and Greg easing into it. Greg's away at the moment – so you get me one more time.

As at the end of October 2017, the club had

- \$ 54038.93 General Account
- \$ 71412.28 Term deposit 1
- \$ 74565.11 Term deposit 3
- \$ 300.00 Petty Cash
- \$ 1730.00 Cash in the safe waiting to be banked

The November accounts have not yet been reconciled, but a significant event is the usual influx of approx. \$5000 in membership subscriptions and a concomitant liability of \$3000 to the ABF and QBA which is paid after their census date of 31 March 2018.

Also, during November the term deposits were rearranged into two:

- \$ 20000.00 - 3 months at 2.35% matures 23/2/18
- \$ 147429.73 - 12 months at 2.55% matures 27/11/18

This protects the club assets that members have been investing for future repairs, maintenance and new projects; and a smaller sum that is readily available if any major repair is needed in the short term. At 10 years old, the building is requiring more and more maintenance and at some stage will need the interior lights replaced (those fittings are no longer available), repaint and or/re-carpet.

Significant recent expenditure includes:

- \$ 1442.25 Toowoomba Regional Council rates
- \$ 435.05 Snap printing – 1000 brochures
- \$ 940.28 Chronicle – adverts for August lessons
- \$ 1430.00 Audit Solutions – 2016/17 audit
- \$ 2118.37 Ergon Energy

Overall, our club continues to do well in providing excellent playing facilities for the game we all love so much.

Cheers  
Chris

p.s. There was a question at the AGM in relation to the electricity bills, and I think the actual answer was lost in the ensuing discussion. In 2016 we were having some trouble with receiving mail late, and the bill for the period May-Jul'16 was actually paid in August, so 2015/16 only had three payments and 2016/17 had five – this is why the amounts looked so different. Listed below are the actual electricity usage and electricity bill from our recent past.

Period	Usage (kW)	Amount
3/7/15-6/10/15	5933	1,610.61
6/10/15-6/1/16	7467	1,985.43
6/1/16-5/4/16	8359	2,205.94
5/4/16-5/7/16	6515	1,765.28
5/7/16-6/10/16	6376	1,961.26
6/10/16-5/1/17	7830	2,373.59
5/1/17-4/4/17	9534	2,857.32
4/4/17-7/7/17	6094	1,885.19
5/7/17-4/10/17	6222	2,118.37

There has been a slight increase in electricity usage and the increase in cost per kW that everyone in Australia is experiencing. The increase in usage is expected because the modified ventilation air conditioner system means an additional 10-20% of air has to be heated, cooled and dehumidified as appropriate.

## Card Care

It has become time for me to explain to you and the committee why the card dealers are having to discard the amount of packs of cards that we do.

**Bent Cards.** Players without realising are bending the cards as they place them on the table. This makes the cards hard to go through the dealing machine.

**Curved Cards.** While holding the cards, players are curving the cards and we have the same problem as with the bent cards.

The biggest problem that we are having is with **sticky and dirty cards.** While we all enjoy the lovely food that is being given during the breaks, Sticky cakes, chocolate cakes, chocolate biscuits, are just some of the problems that we have with the cards. People handle the food and then start playing cards without realising that they then put the remnants of the food onto the cards because they have not washed their hands.

As there is more than enough food available, if all the sticky type of foods were stopped, I am sure that they would not be missed and the cards would also be cleaner.

Also, we have started to see coffee and drinks are being spilt on the cards and that makes the cards sticky as well. Please take more care with these.

Regards  
Roger Ley.



## The Conventional 5-Major Bid

The ABF Magazine writes numerous articles on bidding tips and card play. Barbara Travis, a top women's bridge player writes several articles and has written about the Conventional 5-Major Bid a couple of times.

It assists in working out whether to bid slam or not after the opponents have made a high level pre-emptive overcall and you need control of the opponent's bid suit.

Your partner opens 1♠ and RHO overcalls 4♥.

You hold:

♠ J 10 6 3

♥ 10 5

♦ A J

♣ A K Q J 9

You are thinking that slam is on provided your partner has the heart suit controlled. You can't bid 4NT (RKCB) over 4♥ as there may be two heart losers. Likewise, you shouldn't be gambling 6♠ for the same reason. You need a bid that helps partner decide.

The way to ask for control of the opponent's pre-empted suit is to bid 5♠. This bid asks partner to bid to slam with heart control – either the ♥A, ♥K or a singleton, whereas a bid of 5♥ is a control cue-bid.

Appropriate responses could be 5NT, showing the ♥A, and 6♠ showing second round control of the heart suit. On the above hand, you bid 5♠ and partner responds 5NT, and you bid 6♠ with partner holding:

♠ A K Q 9 2

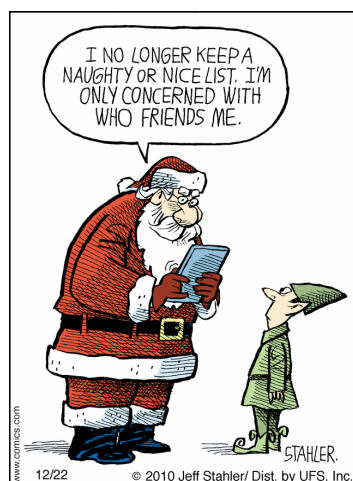
♥ A 8

♦ 7 4 2

♣ 10 6 5

Happy Bridging

Denise Hartwig



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## Invitation Days for 2018

After championing the abolition of Invitation Days from our program - because so many of the "better players" ignored it thus making the competition very lop-sided – I now find myself in the ridiculous situation of having talked the Tournament Committee into bringing them back – if only for one day a month.

Why? Because there are lots of players I would love to have a game with but it is impossible, with the majority of people having regular partners trying to find a slot when they are available. But if there is at least one invitation day a month, that makes it easy. Hopefully other people will feel the same way, and if not well – you can all blame me.

In the past when members received their diary, they would run around booking up people for Invitation Days. It is a nice way to get to know someone a bit better and you keep your system as simple as possible so there is no pressure to learn another person's system given 5 minutes notice. If someone asks what your partner's bid means and you reply "I haven't got a clue, we have never played together before" – well that is going to happen too. And so what. Believe it or not, bridge is supposed to be fun, (although I appreciate that might be news for some people).

So once a month on either a Monday or a Wednesday or a Friday you and your partner have the opportunity to swap partners with another pair or simply ask someone you would like to have a game with. If it is not popular well, it won't continue next year, but let's give it a go and see what happens.

Glenys Clift



## Sponsorship Places

The Club has two sponsorship places available. Any member who may be able to assist in filling these places is asked to contact the Sponsorship Coordinator, Henry Eastment, as soon as practicable with contact details of the proposed sponsor.

Thank you for your help in this matter.

Henry Eastment

[eastmenth@gmail.com](mailto:eastmenth@gmail.com)

## Congratulations

Congratulations to the modest Snook team who had a great success in the COFFS COAST GOLD CONGRESS winning the 'Best team with with under 1000 MPs (each). Well done Denise, Gabrielle, Byron and Chris.

### Some photos of recent Tournament and Congress winners

Thanks to Floyd, Dave and others







## Thanks to Our Sponsors

A reminder to members that we enjoy sponsorship support from the following companies:

### Freedom Aged Care

### Mobile Travel Agents

For contact details and other information provided by these companies, please refer to the sponsorship noticeboard in the club rooms and the Sponsors page at [www.toowoombabridgeclub.com.au](http://www.toowoombabridgeclub.com.au).

Please support the companies that support us.



"At 91, Mum no longer helps out on the farm, but she's still got her freedom."

Peter, son of Edna  
Freedom family

**Freedom Aged Care**  
Visit [freedomagedcare.com.au](http://freedomagedcare.com.au)



For more information please call Bree Moore 0472 878 749



Wendy Allen



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"Your referral is the greatest compliment"