



TOOWOOMBA BRIDGE CLUB

NEWSLETTER

June 2012

55 Stuart Street, Toowoomba 4350
PO Box 45, Northlands 4350



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President's Report



My report starts on a sad note to advise members of the passing of Joyce Benson, the club's first Life Member and a person who was very highly respected in the bridge fraternity and our club in particular. Many members

were taught the game by Joyce, and I often hear comments of how delightful a person she was. Further recent sad events were the passing of Bruce Hinchliffe's wife, Jocelyn, and the passing of regular player, "Mick" Hore. Our sincere condolences go to Bruce and his family and Lee Hore and her family.

The last few months have seen a lot of activity with several Club Championship events (Tuesday Night Perfect Teams, Thursday Perfect Teams, Ivy Dahler Novice Pairs) held during the period as well as our major May Congress. The results of these are reported elsewhere in this newsletter. Congratulations to all of the winners. Whilst we see many of the same names cropping up as winners of some of the championship events, it is encouraging to see new names coming up as well.

You will read elsewhere that the committee recently appointed Jeff Aitchison as Grounds Coordinator. He has taken this role on enthusiastically and together with the maintenance performed by his willing band of helpers, the future looks good for our gardens. As you will read in the Ground Co-ordinator Report, we now use a contract gardener to mow lawns to give Ralph a well earned rest from this strenuous activity. Ralph is still involved with trimming hedges and other

maintenance tasks. Enormous thanks to Ralph for the many, many hours of unpaid work that he has given to the club over the years.

The committee has put in place a Voluntary Workers Personal Accident Insurance policy through Chubb Insurance. Thanks are extended to Lorraine Sutton for the work that she put into obtaining and reviewing quotes for consideration by the Committee.

The Social Sub-committee is meeting regularly and their activities are reported elsewhere in this newsletter. I encourage members to support any activity arranged by the sub-committee and to approach any member of the Social Sub-committee with their suggestions for future activities – names of the sub-committee members are on the notice board.

To finish my report, I want to highlight the article written by Chris in this newsletter on the subject of poor behaviour. This policy was discussed in the first instance by the Tournament Sub-Committee and received strong support. It was then submitted to the Management Committee Meeting where it received full endorsement. Please read the article to obtain a full appreciation of what this change will mean to the club.

Happy bridging,
Floyd Wilson
President

Welfare Officer

Please contact Glenda Filbee on her home phone (4636-7622) or at the club if you know of a member who is ill, hospitalized or suffering a bereavement and Glenda will respond suitably on behalf of the Club.

New Master Rankings

Congratulations are extended to the following members who have achieved new Master rankings since the last newsletter:

GRADUATE MASTER Sue Dowe
Suse King
Frances Leeson
Pamela Mackintosh

CLUB MASTER Richard Behrend
John Cox
Anna Goldsmith
Carol Harris
Allison Lewis
George McKinnon
Ann Robertson
Leonie Spence

LOCAL MASTER Anne Arnold
Gabrielle Elich
John Elich
Lucy Parker
Margaret Tucker
Margaret Wyche

***LOCAL MASTER** Esme Burnie
Jack Burnie
Gabrielle Elich
Jamie Long
Lesley Meyer
Ellen Zeller

****LOCAL MASTER** Graeme Dalrymple
Walter Hendriks
Shirley Hooper
Keith Jenkin
Margaret Vines
John Vines

REGIONAL MASTER Chris Evans

STATE MASTER Denise Hartwig
Charles Leicht
Byron Longford
Betty Steele
David Thomson

***NATIONAL MASTER** Robert Fulton
Laurie McRoberts
Marlene Mirtschin

LIFE MASTER Elizabeth Zeller

SILVER LIFE MASTER Chris Snook

WELL DONE!

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

PRESIDENT	Floyd Wilson
VICE-PRESIDENT	Bruce Hinchliffe
SECRETARY	Gabrielle Elich
TREASURER	Lorraine Sutton
COMMITTEE MEMBERS	Hugh Robinson Glenys Clift Robbie Fulton Keith Jenkin Glennis Cowell Chris Snook Byron Longford
MASTERPOINT SECRETARY	Chris Snook
PROVIDORE	Chris Snook
CONGRESS CONVENOR	Byron Longford
MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY	Chris Snook
QBA DELEGATES	Chris Snook Byron Longford Floyd Wilson
ZONE REPRESENTATIVE	Chris Snook Byron Longford
PRESS OFFICER	Kim Nicoll
LIBRARIAN	Henry Eastment
NEWSLETTER EDITOR	Keith Jenkin
CLUB TEACHER	Trudy Dunne/ Elizabeth Zeller
MEMBERSHIP BADGES	Glennis Cowell
TENANCY CO-ORDINATOR	Bruce Hinchliffe
GROUNDS CO-ORDINATOR	Jeff Aitchison
MAINTENANCE CO-ORDINATOR	John Clift
HOUSEKEEPER	Bette Flamstead

Three sub-committees coordinate much of the work in the clubrooms:

Tournament Sub-committee: Talk to your Director or a Committee member about the activities of this sub-committee, which cover all facets of bridge play at the club.

Social Sub-committee: This group helps organise all the social events at the club such as Melbourne Cup party, Christmas party, Birthday party and perhaps a few other special events through the year.

Maintenance Sub-committee: This sub-committee, led by John Clift, looks after the building. If you notice something needs repair, then let John know or add a note to the "maintenance register" next to the results noticeboard. Tell the Director if you think the matter is more urgent.

Membership Secretary's Report



NEW MEMBERS

We would like to give a very warm welcome to the following new members who have recently joined the Toowoomba Bridge Club.

Shirley Cooley
Frank Cooper
Jill Cory
Roger Douglas
Ann Downs
Janet Doherty
Judy Giesemann
Ray Haddrell
Wendy Jackson
Deborah Jones
Robyn Morris
Margaret Raymond
Lynda Stallman
Ian Steger
Chris Tait
Elizabeth Thorne
Tony Thorne
Lyn Vary
Judith Zeller

Our current membership numbers are:

1 Junior member
57 Away members
348 Home members
4 Life members

Happy Bridging!

Chris Snook
Membership Secretary

Treasurer's Report

After the car park extension cost of \$122,000 which took nearly all our reserves that were built after the initial building project we now have \$25,000 in reserve in a Term Deposit. We also have just over \$30,000 in working capital.

Our net income is slightly down on last year's results despite the considerable savings we are making in the kitchen.

We still need to be prudent in our spending, as our net income will probably not cover our depreciation at the end of the financial year.

Also, the management committee continues to review our insurance needs and in conjunction with the ABF I am happy to say the Club has adequate insurance.

I am available if anyone is interested in knowing more about the accounts.

Happy bridging

Lorraine Sutton
Treasurer



Providore's Report

The system for purchasing our supplies is working well, with a small group of people each looking after one commodity item. If you see that our supplies are running low, feel free to list them on the whiteboard in the pantry, and I will ensure they are bought within a day or so.

I read an interesting novel last year called "Tickets to the Devil" by Richard Powell. Set in the 60's it is a story that includes some real bridge players of the time embellished with some interesting extras. I mention it because I have visions of what 60's bridge was like (I don't know I was just a toddler then). In my mind I see players gathered around a table, a smokey haze all around, as top players wearing dinner jackets, sit, smoking their cigar, sipping port and partaking of a cheese platter. I guess I am entitled to dream.

Back to reality, and I am happy with our mid-session break, a biscuit and cup of tea or coffee. Of course, members are encouraged to bring their own treats if they want something more than the regular supply of buns and biscuits. An example is the Thursday Night players who work with a roster to ensure that there is always an excellent spread of culinary delights.

Happy bridging!

Chris Snook

Congress Convenor's Report

The Toowoomba Bridge Club held two Congresses recently, The Novice pairs on the 25th March and the Toowoomba Pairs & Teams from 5th-7th May. Both Congresses were attended extremely well, with a lot of local support as well as many visitors.

There were fifty pairs competing in the Novice Pairs event. This was the largest attendance of a Novice congress in South East QLD in 8 years, until the following week, when Surfers Paradise had an attendance of fifty-two pairs, so well done, to all who attended.

Championship

- 1 Denise Hartwig - Mavis Simpson
- 2 John Elich - Gabrielle Elich
- 3 Judith Bennett - Del Dudman

Category B

- 1 Rebecca Knight - Naureen Gearon
- 2 John Vines - Margaret Vines
- 3 Ron Kuypers - Caroline Morgan

Category C

- 1 Margie Maddison - Annette Scott
- 2 Gerry Orrin - Joy Orrin

Enid Busch Trophy (both players <50mp)

John Elich - Gabrielle Elich

The Toowoomba Pairs and Teams event was also well attended, with fifty-four pairs and twenty-two teams competing over the three days.

In the Pairs, the best Toowoomba performers were Val McClement and Eileen Josey. They were placed third in the Championship as well as winning the trophy for the Highest Ladies Pair and the Highest Toowoomba Pair.

The Teams event was of a very high standard, including players such as Ralf Parker, Neville Francis, Nathan Van Jole and Pranjal Chakradeo. The best performing Toowoomba team was the Snook Team, consisting of Chris Snook, Mohan Trada, Edwin Willey and Bruce Meakins (QCBC), finishing in 2nd place overall, only 5VPs behind the winners. Well done.

The winners of the Teams Championship were:

Category A

- 1 Parker (Ralph Parker, Nathan Van Jole, Pranjal Chakradeo, Neville Francis)
- 2 Snook (Chris Snook, Mohan Trada, Edwin Willey, Bruce Meakins)
- 3 Wenham (Diane Wenham, Margaret Keating, Penny Trenerry, Rita Groom)

Category B

- 1 Dalrymple (Graeme Dalrymple, Nonie Mccay, Ann Klibbe, Denise Hartwig)

Category C

- 1 Harms (Joan Harms, Carmen Powell, Trudy Dunne, Lesley Meyers)

I would like to thank the volunteers who assisted in the kitchen over the three days and did a superb job of organising and serving continual snacks throughout the day. Thanks very much for a job well done. I would also like to give a special thanks to my mother, Yvonne and wife, Julie, who did a wonderful job providing the lunches for all three days. Everyone who attended the congress enjoyed their lovely lunches. Thirty-eight boxes of boards were dealt for the three-day event, so many thanks to Alison Snook and Jessica Betts who spent many hours at the dealing machine. Jessica also helped with printing of personal scorers and caddied for the pairs.

There are many others who assisted in making the May 2012 Congress a huge success, so thank you to everyone involved.

Upcoming Events:

- 8th Jul Redlands Novice Pairs
- 8th Jul Gold Coast Swiss Teams
- 15th Jul BBC Graded Teams
- 22nd Jul Darling Downs Novice Pairs

Byron Longford

Congress Convenor

Masterpoint Secretary

The past few months have been busy ones for your masterpoint secretary. Of course, this is good news as it means we are playing more bridge and it means you are earning more masterpoints!

In May, I processed 66 sessions/events yielding 174.27 green, 16.42 red and 48.00 gold masterpoints. The club has awarded 1259 green masterpoints since the ABF census date of 30th September 2011, up from 1204 at the same date the previous year.

Here is a little lesson for those who are chasing more masterpoints so you can achieve your next promotion. In regular matchpoint sessions, the number of tables determines the winner award. If you double the number of tables then you double the winner award. If you place second, then you earn 70% of the winner award. Place third and you earn 50%. Place fourth and you earn 33%. These awards are restricted to the top half of the field.

My advice if you want to increase your masterpoints:

- Win more often.
- Play more bridge.
- Invite friends so you increase the number of tables in a session.
- Play in Howell rather than Mitchell movements.
- Play in multi-session events (eg a two-weekly or a three-weekly event).
- Play in Congresses because these award red masterpoints at a higher rate than club sessions.

If you have a query in relation to masterpoints then the ABF says you should speak to your Club Masterpoint Secretary (that's me) in the first instance.

Cheers

Chris Snook

Masterpoint Secretary



In the Zone

Grand National Open Teams

We ran our qualifying rounds for this event on Saturday 21st and 28th April with ten teams competing. The top two teams progress to the Zone Area Final that will be hosted by the Goondiwindi Bridge Club on 9th September. The winner of that event will represent the Darling Downs Zone at the National Final at the end of November. These winning teams were:

1. Chris Snook, Mohan Trada, Edwin Willey and Bruce Meakins
2. Glenys Clift, Jackie Henderson, Merna Atkins and Pat Penberthy

Here is an interesting hand that caused grief for a few teams:

BD: 4	♠62	Dir: W					
	♥A7652	Vul: Both					
	♦4						
	♣QJT98						
♠AT7		♠KQJ843					
♥J43		♥KQT8					
♦K873		♦AT6					
♣A73		♣					
	♠95						
	♥9						
	♦QJ952						
	♣K6542						
	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT		
N	3	-	-	-	-	7	
S	3	-	-	-	-	12	15
E	-	3	3	5	3	6	
W	-	3	3	5	3		

With EW having 27 HCP, 3 aces, 3 kings and a void, six of the ten teams bid 6 spades.

The problem arises if South finds the 9 Hearts lead, and partner behaves by winning with the ace and returning the suit for a ruff 1 down! Four teams met this fate.

Of course, nothing is ever this easy, and some Souths couldn't help themselves by entering the auction and this was normally enough to temper Easts ambitions and an easy 4 Spade contract was found.

Have a chat to partner and see what you would do!

Queensland Open Teams:

Players from all zone clubs can play in the qualifying event held on **Sunday 17th June**. The top two or three teams are then supported to play in the State Championship on 24/25 August.

Queensland Open/Novice Pairs:

Players from all zone clubs can play in the qualifying event held on **Sunday 29th July**. The top two or three pairs are then supported to play in the State Championship on 20/21 October.

GNP (Grand National Pairs):

For players below Life master ranking.

Club Qualifiers are a three session event. Either:

Wednesday 4th, 11th & 18th July.

Saturday 4th, 11th & 18th August.

Many players then qualify for the zone final to be held on Sunday 11th November. Top two pairs then play in the national final in Canberra in January 2013.

Cheers

Chris Snook

Chief Tournament Director

Club Teachers' Report

BRIDGE LESSONS

WEDNESDAY

Trudy Dunne

The next series of beginner's lessons will start on 29 August with a week off on 31 October (completed on 28 November).

THURSDAY

Liz Zeller

The lessons for this term are now finished. We have started supervised play in the East room.

We had a regular attendance of between 16 and 20 students and they have all come a long way in a short time.

The next lessons for Thursday night will be commencing in August, so if you know of anyone who is interested in lessons, have them ring the club or me directly.

MONDAY BRIDGE

Monday is still a popular day for players under fifty masterpoints. Supervised play has been suspended for the time being and all players are competing in a normal Bridge session. We usually have twenty tables or more and we use both rooms. Players are still able to come without a partner and are assured they will be able to play.

The Ivy Dahler Novice Pairs competition was held on the 14th and 21st of May. Keith Jenkin and Barry Copley were successful. Congratulations to you both. Your names will now be placed on the Honour Board.

The Ivy Dahler Novice Teams competition is underway and results will be published in the next newsletter.

Many thanks to all who provide a delicious afternoon tea and who help in the kitchen.

Mary McConachy

Librarian's Report

During my absence in June, July and August, Denise Hartwig has agreed to act as Librarian. Annette Sullivan is in the process of putting details of the Library Collection and the borrowing procedure on the Club's Web page. I have also placed some books and tapes that are surplus to the Library's needs in the cupboard on the Southwest corner of the clubroom and placed a notice there advising members that they can take or borrow these items without recording their removal.

The only new book purchased recently is:

KLI 3. When to Bid When to Pass by R Klinger.

Please follow the Library's borrowing procedures so that all members may benefit from its offerings.

Enjoy your Bridge

Henry Eastment
Librarian

Grounds Maintenance

A detailed report on the current state of the gardens has been compiled and submitted to the Management Committee for information and follow up action.

In particular, it has been recommended that a working bee to assist with weeding and mulching could be useful in mid-August. This will allow the plantings some time to be established and before the weeds get moving. Hopefully the weather will be a bit more agreeable then. A notice seeking volunteers for the working bee will be displayed in due course.

Jeff Aitchison

Grounds Co-ordinator

Winners are Grinner

March Monthly Eclectic Winners

Monday	John Vines & Margaret Vines
Tuesday	Melba Leicht & Chris Evans
Tuesday night	Mohan Trada
Wednesday	Gloria Collins & Ralph Geddes
Thursday night	Jeff Aitchison & Roger Ley
Friday	Marlene Mirtschin
Saturday	Pat Penberthy & Merna Atkins

April Monthly Eclectic Winners

Monday	Walter Hendriks & John Clift
Tuesday	Denise Hartwig & Ian Jesser
Wednesday	Kim Nicoll
Thursday	Bruce Meakins & Edwin Willey
Thursday night	Byron Longford
Friday	Val McClement
Saturday	Henry Eastment

May Monthly Eclectic Winners

Monday	Rozalyn Wright & Anne Arnold
Tuesday	Ian Jesser
Tuesday night	John Churchett & Peter Cooke
Wednesday	Denise Hartwig
Thursday night	Gabrielle Elich & John Elich
Friday	Jackie Henderson & Val McClement
Saturday	Peter Cooke

Ivy Dahler Cup

Ian Jesser & Carol Wilson

Wednesday Handicap Cup

Lesley Meyer & Vi Applegarth

Thursday Perfect Teams

Edwin Willey & Henry Eastment & Bruce Meakins & Val Buchanan

Tuesday Night Perfect Teams

Ian Jesser & Jim Wood & Liz Zeller & Eileen Josey

Ivy Dahler Novice Pairs

Keith Jenkin & Barry Copley

Thursday Teams Championship

Edwin Willey & Bruce Meakins & Henry Eastment & Roy Constantine

Join me in congratulating all these players for the success they have enjoyed.

Chris Snook

Social Sub-Committee

The Jumpers and Jazz festival trip is set down for Thursday 26th July. It is fully subscribed (24 members) and we have a few on the standby list. A successful outing is anticipated.

The trip to the Repertory Theatre to see "Wife after Death" has been set down for Friday 17th August. You will find details on the Notice Board. So far, 23 members have indicated they will be going. Cost is \$14.00, which includes supper. Doors open at 7pm. Keith Jenkin has booked at least 30, however, if numbers exceed this he should be able to increase the number prior to the middle of July. Payment of \$14.00 will need to be made by Wednesday 18th July.

The Melbourne Cup function was very successful last year and the same caterers will be catering for this year's event.

The Xmas Party is scheduled for Saturday 8th December.

Jeff Aitchison

Sub-Committee Chairman

AFTERNOON TEA CLEANUP

In case people are not aware, Carmel Stephens has been coming to bridge to help get the kitchen ready at 11am on Wednesday and Fridays when Jackie, Mary, Joyce and Carol were providers and now Chris. Quite often now, because we don't have a lady to clean up, you will see her in the kitchen after afternoon tea helping with the clean up. She has never been provider but she is the one member that all our providers and by association the club has relied on.

There are still some members of our club, who seem to think because they have paid their membership fees and their \$5 table money, other people should clean up after them. Be it washing their cup or putting their rubbish in the bin. If everyone did that, the club would turn into a pigsty and eventually cease to operate. We have never in the past or now expected people who have mobility problems to put themselves at risk. That is just silly.

There are also members who believe this is a rich club, why should I have to do anything. One of the best days of my life was when Elizabeth began to come on Mondays for the clean up. For four years I ran supervised play and cleaned up the kitchen and now I am back doing it again. Do you honestly believe that if there was a workable alternative that I wouldn't have suggested it. Fair Work Australia, complements of Julia has now made employing some-one for 1-2 hours impossible. Apart from the minimum hours, we also have to pay superannuation, workers compensation and so it goes on. Elizabeth was employed as a contractor with her own insurance, ABN and company structure and that rules out a lot of people.

Like Carmel, I don't mind helping because I know there will come a time, when I won't be able to do it. But I find it very difficult when some-one puts their cup down, and I ask them if they could rinse it out and they turn their nose up at me and walk off. Likewise if I ask a sit out to help and they roll their eyes at me, glare as if what right have I to ask.

The irony is at home I don't spend any time in the kitchen and like you, I also come to bridge to play and have a nice social afternoon. All I am asking is if you are unable to help, just get some-one else to take your cup in and if you can help, that would be wonderful. And while I am at it, a big thank you from Carmel and me to all those people who

do come in and help with the clean up. Without people like you our club wouldn't exist.

Cheers,
Glenys Clift

Policy of Zero Tolerance of Poor Behaviour

One issue that worries many of our members is the apparent poor behaviour of some players at the table. People come to the club to socialise and to play an enjoyable game of bridge, and we are committed to ensuring that this occurs.

For these reasons the Toowoomba Bridge Club (at its Management Committee meeting of 14th June 2012) has adopted a policy of Zero Tolerance of Poor Behaviour. A copy of the guiding principles of this policy is included in this newsletter. Full details can also be seen in By-Law 5.

Basically, examples of expected behaviour are listed, and examples of unacceptable behaviour are listed. If poor behaviour occurs at your table and it interferes with your enjoyment of the game, then you should call the Director immediately.

If the Director is satisfied that a breach of the policy has occurred then the offending player will be fined (eg their score for the session reduced) by 25% of a top on a board. This non-discretionary penalty equates to approximately 1% in the session. These penalties are a part of bridge and are covered by Laws 74 and 91. If a player commits a third offence at the same session then the player will be removed from the session and sent home. Any decision of the Director may be appealed (Law 92) but an appeals committee may not overturn a disciplinary penalty. They can, however, suggest that the Director change his ruling. We hope it never comes to this, but our policy covers the situation just in case.

This policy is not a draconian measure meant to upset our longstanding and faithful players. It has been adopted to encourage good behaviour so that we provide a safe and enjoyable environment for all of us.

Please enjoy your bridge

Regards

Chris

Zero Tolerance of Poor Behaviour Policy

EXPECTED BEHAVIOUR

1. Greet players prior to start of play of each round.
2. Be a good 'host' or 'guest' at the table.
3. Do everything possible to make bridge enjoyable for yourself, your partner and your opponents.
4. Give credit when opponents make a good bid or play.

UNACCEPTABLE BEHAVIOUR

1. Criticising partner or opponents.
2. Badgering, rudeness, insinuation, profanity, threats of violence, violence.
3. Negative comments concerning opponents' or partner's play or bidding.
4. Discussing hands after the round is called.
5. Objecting to a call for the director.
6. Disputing a Director's ruling during the game. (Lodging an appeal is the appropriate action.)

PENALTIES

If the Director is satisfied that a breach has occurred, the offending player will be fined 25% of a board, or 3 IMPS. (If both partners are guilty, the fine will double.)

PROCEDURE

When unacceptable behaviour occurs, opponents should call the Director immediately, indicating that the player/pair are 'interfering with our enjoyment of the game.' (breach of Law 74 A)