



Hi everyone!

From the face-to-face side of our club, the COVID-19 situation continues to present both challenges and opportunities. The Omicron surge began just before New Year's Day and hit record numbers in mid-January; yet we seem to be firmly on the downward slope now and things are starting to feel more 'normal'.

As I write this, daily COVID cases have dipped below the 10k mark for the first time in several weeks which is a great sign. As confidence in our community continues to increase, our table numbers at our face-to-face venues in East Lindfield and The Willis have risen too. If you haven't tried playing with real cards for a while, we would love for you to give it a go. It's safe and fun and the social aspect (and perhaps a cheeky drink afterwards?) can't be overstated.

We are looking to add two new face-to-face sessions this month: a Restricted duplicate and a "Rookie Improvers" session.

The Rookie Improvers session will be looked after by John Newman who is well-known to many at the club and will differ from other sessions by including a free 30-minute in-depth lesson before the game, as well as a social hand review after the session. John has a great track record of improving the game of players at clubs around Sydney and his ideas for this session are exciting!

I will let you all know when we have the details lined up as well as the weekly days and times. We will be launching these new sessions with a launch party and a free lunch so keep an eye on your inbox.

If you are interested in tournaments, our Pauline Evans Swiss Pairs Congress is coming up on March 20. At this stage, our plan is to hold this prestigious annual event **face-to-face** at East Lindfield. I am optimistic that we can have a fine event with real cards, tables and people and I am looking forward to it.

Finally, my thanks go to Kevin Davies for spearheading the charge towards revamping and revitalising our newsletter into a new and improved online format. We welcome your feedback – please email Liam (manager@bridgeclub.com.au) or Kevin (kdav1951@gmail.com) with your thoughts.

With warm regards,

Liam Milne – NSBC Face-to-Face Club Manager, 0478 626 393