Club Management

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MG – President Report



Have you ever bought something really stupid, late at night, when you were struggling with some kind of mild food poisoning that impacted your brain? Liquids can be especially bad for this. One time I woke up and found I'd bought a sauna off the Internet (true). This time it wasn't so bad, it was only a tennis umpire's chair.

Now, there was some kind of warped logic to this purchase. With so much going on at the club I thought that in order to make it successful I should stay out of the way. However, as president I am expected to be nearby to shout words of encouragement if required. What better location than atop an umpire's chair where I could see The Willis and East Lindfield as well as have a laptop logged into RealBridge. Even then I had space left over for a book and a small bottle of something. I was born to this.

I climbed up into my chair to survey the NSBC empire and I heard someone shout "You cannot be serious!" I looked around for John McEnroe but all I could see were club members commenting on me being president. I don't mind it when they shout up at my umpire's chair, at least it gets them away from the front of my house.

As soon as I had settled into my chair, I had to climb down again and visit the bank with our treasurer Rod "Numbers" Owen. We needed to register with the government and change over the signatories for the bank accounts from the previous president and treasurer (David and Les) which required us to attend in person.

You are probably all familiar with the joke about the lady going into the bank and being asked to identify herself. She pulls a small mirror out of her handbag and looks in it. "Yes, that is definitely me." she says.

Turns out that is a true story.

In order to get access to the vast fortunes of our bridge club I required my own driving licence and a copy of the Minutes of the AGM noting that I was the new president, *which I printed myself and signed*. (I also needed David Fryda's signature which the lady behind the counter actually recognised and accepted as genuine, but that somewhat ruins the story).

So not only am I the president of NSBC with access to our bank accounts, but by some careful use of a printer and a pen, I am (as far as the government and a number of local banks are concerned) also the president of rather a lot of other organisations in the area. I'm still trying to find one with a decent amount of cash in reserve though.

Speaking of printers, from my umpire's chair I've been watching our manager Mike along with "Numbers" and Ian "Lunch" McLaren doing a lot of stuff with printers recently. In our efforts to return to profitability, printers have been a rather unpleasant area of concern. My suggestion to use them to print money was not well received. I had hoped there would be an end to this story in time for publication, but it is ongoing. I am sure David Fryda, our last president, would chuckle at this and say, "I thought the same at this point in my presidency."

Meanwhile at the bridge club...

Janie "Don't Talk About Me in the Newsletter" Russ, had the whole committee come to her house for a meeting. From what I hear, it went well.

Jake "Brains" Andrew and Shaz "The Lightning" Thompson were on the red cordial for the whole month. Carol "Captain Marvel" McMurray was in there geeing them up too. Luckily, I was just sitting up in my umpire's chair. I could say I was watching the whole thing in detail, but really it was more like Vivid with the speed and colours flying around below me.

You can, and should, read a lot more about the survey and the strategy in the other articles in this newsletter. It's really good stuff! The only thing I want to emphasise is that we really appreciate the time people spent on completing the survey, and we are listening to the feedback. Normally the president doesn't like to be upstaged by their committee, but frankly I would have been out done by an upside-down tortoise and it is great to have such a strong committee.

I mentioned the time people spent on completing the survey, but I think I spent more time than anyone. Not just because I am a very slow typist but more the sheer number of responses I had to fill in. I spend days sitting in my umpire's chair using different coloured inks and different handwriting to try to make it look like they weren't all done by me. As there wasn't a specific question about it, I had to use the free format answers to achieve my goal, "I fink we has the bestest president eva", "No other bridge club has such a tall leader", "I saw Mark save a kitten from a fire".

Back when I was middle-aged, and the world had higher standards, John Brownie was the president of our club. I used to watch him help the director giving out the boards at the sessions he played in, when he wasn't washing leper's feet. I thought to myself "I should give that a try".

Ian "Postcode" Plummer saw me and said, "I got sacked from that job for getting it wrong". I shook my head, how can you give out boards and get it wrong.

I asked one of our most resilient directors, Sue "No Problem" Crompton if I could give out a few boards, and she wasn't quick enough in saying no.

The first time I did it, it was perfect. The second time Sue had to get everyone to wait in the car park while she sorted out the mess.

The third time I just sat in my seat in shame as lan came by and handed three boards to our table, "Thanks for getting me my job back!" (true story)

It is important for a president to know everything about their club. For example, did you know we are the second oldest NSBC bridge club in Australia? Northern Suburbs Bridge Club in Queensland beat us by a mere 47 years. (I found this out when I went to the bank with my driving licence and a copy of their latest AGM Minutes signed by me, and claimed to be their founding president.)

Anyway, in my attempts to understand the club better, I found out that we have almost certainly the best teaching program in the galaxy (actually, I knew that already, everyone does), so I caught up with our champion triumvirate of senior teachers: Anita Curtis, Liz Wilkinson and Kay Moyes this month. Not all at once of course, I summonsed them individually to stand at the bottom of my chair. I was too scared to come down.

I was keen to understand more about teaching at NSBC (this one, not the other one, silly) and it turns out it is pretty awesome. However, I only know that from feedback from others, as all three of them, having played against me before, assumed I was looking to learn how to take a finesse and count high card points. I pretended I knew all this stuff already, but I made some pretty good notes if anyone wants them.

If you feel left out because you don't have a "middle" name, let me know and I will include you in future episodes. I weirdly met "Virtual" Gary Barwick in person at another bridge club this week.

When I finally get down off this chair, I may need help.

Serious summary:

 Shaz has done great work with social media and a video on the survey – please let us know what you think

- Strategy is coming together and will be communicated more going forwards
- Mike (mostly, and others) are doing a great job of cutting the losses and getting us back to breakeven, mostly by getting table numbers up
- Jake is working with Mike on a spreadsheet so we can track detailed activities (I think the word 'spreadsheet' sells it short)
- Printers... hopefully next month, year, century
- By all known measures, the club is 5% more incredible than last month

Stay Safe - Play Bridge - Eat Chocolate Biscuits (but bring your own)

Mark

Club committee Minutes

These are stored on the website for members' review.

Link to Minutes:

Committee Minutes

Meeting	Publication Date
2022-04 14 April Committee Meeting Minutes - click here	22-May-2022
2022-04 2 April Committee Meeting Minutes - click here	13-April-2022
2022-03 2 March Committee Meeting Minutes - click here	19-March-2022
2022-02 17 February Committee Meeting Minutes - click here	19-March-2022



Club Management

MP – Manager Report



Manager's Report June 2022

Face to Face sessions at East Linfield and The Willis

I ran a survey for Restricted and Rookie players and had many responses which was fantastic.

We started these sessions on 25th May, but not many players attended we are going to continue in coming weeks and hopefully get these sessions going with your support. So come along we would love to see you. Wednesday 10.00am East Lindfield Open section and Restricted-Rookie. Wednesday 12.45pm The Willis Open section and Restricted-Rookie. Thursday 10.00am East Lindfield Restricted-Rookie.

Numbers in our Face-to-Face sessions have been building up over last few weeks which is great seeing some sort of normalcy returning to our world of Bridge. The atmosphere at both venues is positive and good to see players really enjoying getting back to the club.

New Committee

The new committee have been in action since early April. Just to let members know we have some real assets on the committee doing endless hours of work for the club. I would like to reach out and on behalf of all Members and Staff to say a huge thank you all for your efforts it is very much appreciated.

Real Bridge

The online platform continues to be very popular and gives many Members that can't make it to the club a way of continuing the game we all love. All sessions on Real Bridge continue with steady numbers and we appreciate all your support.

NSBC Bridge Festival 2022

We are very lucky that 2022 Festival has many sponsors Two men and a Truck, Watermark, And TBIB Insurance. This is fantastic and the prize money pools that exceeds over \$5500.00.

Don't miss out as the Face-to-Face events are limited so get your entry is ASAP. Please go to upcoming events on the NSBC Website. Also during the week of the Festival all sessions Rookie and above will be awarded Red Points in both Face to Face and Real Bridge.

Kind regards Mike and the NSBC Team



Cancer Foundation Fundraiser NSBC

We ran a fundraising morning tea last Wednesday at East Lindfield. It was a fun morning and a huge thank you to all volunteers who baked, we had a great selection of goodies. We raised **\$2750.00** thanks to all of the generous donations from our members.

The Cancer Foundation raised over **\$3.5** million which is amazing.

•										
CC no	Sess	Max CC	Date	When		n Type	2022 CC Events List			
	1/2		16-Jun	Thursday Nig	ht	RB MP				
8		2x10	23-Jun	Festival no play	RE		Winter (Gender) Pairs			
	2/2		30-Jun	Thursday Nig	ht					
			7-Jul	Thursday Nig	ht		ANC Interstate Teams			
			14-Jul	Thursday Nig	ht		ANC Butler week			
	1/3		21-Jul	Thursday Nig	ht					
13	2/3	10	28-Jul	Thursday Nig	ht RE	W/L	Board a Match			
	3/3		4-Aug	Thursday Nig	ht					
			11-Aug				Coffs week			
	1/5		18-Aug	Thursday Nig	ht					
	2/5		25-Aug	Thursday Nig	ht					
14	3/5	2x10	1-Sep	Thursday Nig	ht R	3 IMP	"Watermark" Club Open Teams			
	4/5		8-Sep	Thursday Nig	ht					
	5/5		15-Sep	Thursday Nig	ht					

Major Thursday Night Competitions

Information about all Thursday night events can be found on our <u>Thursday Night Events</u> web page on the website.

• Winter (Gender) Pairs

The next event is the clubs Winter Gender Pairs (i.e. Men's & Women's Pairs Championships) in June. 2 Sessions only, interspaced with the Festival events.



BAM Teams

The following event after the **ANC 2 week break**, is the clubs Board a Match Teams in July.



Watermark Club Teams

The following event after the **Coffs 1 week break**, is the sponsored "Watermark" Club Teams Championships in Aug/Sep



Member Survey Results

Jake Andrew 0478 838 588



Sharon Thompson 0422 613 530



Committee member

Secretary

In April 2022 we surveyed our members, as and when we analyse the results, we will share the outcomes and our interpretations with you. Below is a short 5-minute update on the results and findings of **Member Satisfaction**.

Click image or UTube Video



(https://youtu.be/6QIn58DYtJA)

Club Management

Clubs Social Media



Are you on Facebook or Instagram?

We have revived our social presence; this will give you another source of information on all things #NSBC. We will be aiming to post up and coming events and their results, teaching programs and offers, celebrate member successes and any other information we think you may find interesting. Please follow us on **Facebook** and/or **Instagram** to see our new posts.

Click on Icons or links below



To or clubs <u>Facebook Homepage</u> (https://www.facebook.com/nsbridgeclub/) To our clubs <u>Instagram Homepage</u> (https://www.instagram.com/northshorebridgeclub/)

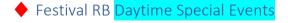
Not on social media – not to worry – we have you covered! Visit our new "<u>Social</u>" Page on our website to see the latest posts.



Thank you to volunteers **Leo Goorevich**, **Kevin Davies** and **Fiona Lavery** for their help in getting this up and running. *Sharon Thompson*, *NSBC Club Secretary*

• Festival events in June

	2x		18-Jun	Saturday	EL	IMP	Festival "2 Men & a Truck" Restricted & Novice Teams															
	2x		19-Jun	Sunday	av EL MP		Festival "2 Men & a Truck" Restricted & Novice Pairs															
	1/2		20-Jun	Monday @ 10		MD	Festival Online Restricted Pairs															
	2/2		27-Jun	Monday @ 10	RB MP		Championship															
	1/3		20-Jun	Monday @ 2																		
	2/3		21-Jun	Tuesday @ 2	RB MP	RB	RB M	RB	MP	3 MP	MP	Festival Online Rookie Pairs Championship										
	3/3		22-Jun	Wednesday @ 2			enampionemp															
9	2x	10	23-Jun	Thursday Daytime	RB	MP	Open Matchpointed Swiss Pairs															
10	2x	<mark>2x10</mark>	24-Jun	Friday Daytime	EL	IMP	"Watermark" Open Swiss Pairs															
11	2x	10	25-Jun	Saturday	RB	IMP	Saturday Festival Open Swiss Teams															
12	2x	<mark>2x10</mark>	26-Jun	Sunday	EL	IMP	"TBIB" Open Swiss Teams															





2022 Restricted Pairs Champions Prizes: 2 "Monday 10am Restricted " RB Sessions in NSBC Festival Week: 20th , 27th June This Restricted match pointed pairs event will be run over the 2 x day time RealBridge sessions during NSBC Festival Week in late June, to decide the Clubs 2021 Restricted Club Pairs Championship title. You can play in 1 or both sessions. All sessions are 24 Boards. Your scores percentage will be counted towards the Restricted championship and the cash prizes. Both Partnership players must be "Restricted status" (ie <300 MP or less). This event is open to all Restricted players (Members or Visitors). Directors: Normal We welcome all players who are financial Convenor: Gary Barwick members of the ABF subject to MP status, to play in this event. Yellow complex Red Points (B5) Systems are not permitted

2021 Restricted Champions: Lorna Davies - Sharon Thompson



Normal RB daytime rates apply \$11 Members (PP) & \$14 visitors



Festival F2F Restricted Congress



Sunday 19th June @ East Lindfield

10:00pm Start 2 Sessions – Swiss Pairs (IMP) Event

Prize Pool: 1st \$200, 2nd \$150, 3rd \$100 Best Novice 1st \$100

This event incorporates the 5^{th} running of the NSBC Festival "Two Men &

a Truck" Restricted & Novice Pairs Championships

Convenor, Queries & Partnership advice: Mike Prescott M: 0435 528 872Director: Ronnie NgEntry Management: Enter by MyABFPre-Payments: Visitors MyABF Credits & NSBC Members to select "Club PP System"

Conducted under the auspices of the NSWBA . The ABF has approved the issue of red masterpoints at level B4. All players are subject to the NSWBA's Disciplinary Regulations

Previous 2021 4th Restricted Pairs Champions : Clare Ainsworth & Mary Poynter Novice Pairs Champions : Paula Nigem & Richard Sheldrake

Player Fees (pp) \$45 (Light lunch and snacks provided)

Festival RB Open Congress Events

NSBC Festival Match Point Swiss Pairs

Thursday 23rd June on RealBridge

10:00am Start 2 Sessions – Swiss Pairs (MP/VP) Event Prize Pool: dependant on entries

This event incorporates the 4th running of the NSBC Festival Open Match

Point Swiss Pairs Championships. Results will count towards 2022 NSBC Club Champion (Brownie Cup)

Convenor, queries & partnership advice: Mike Prescott M: 0435 528 872 Director: Mathew MacManus

Entry Management: Enter by MyABF

Pre-Payments: Visitors MyABF Credits & NSBC Members to select "Club PP System"

Conducted under the auspices of the NSWBA . The ABF has approved the issue of red masterpoints at level B4. All players are subject to the NSWBA's Disciplinary Regulations Previous 2021

3rd Open Pairs Champions : Leo Goorevich & Kevin Davies

Player Fees (pp) \$30



NSBC Open Swiss Teams



Saturday 25th June – on Realbridge

10:00pm Start 2 Sessions – Swiss Teams (IMP) Event Prize Pool: dependant on entries

This event incorporates the 17th running of the NSBC Festival Open Swiss Teams Championships.

Results will count towards 2022 NSBC Club Champion (Brownie Cup)

Convenor, queries & partnership advice: Mike Prescott M: 0435 528 872 Director: Mathew MacManus

Entry Management: Enter by MyABF

Pre-Payments: Visitors MyABF Credits & NSBC Members to select "Club PP System" Conducted under the auspices of the NSWBA. The ABF has approved the issue of red masterpoints at level B4. All players are subject to the NSWBA's Disciplinary Regulations

Previous 2021

16th Open Teams Champions : Peter <u>Jeffery</u>, Les Grewcock, Bob Sebesfi, Wayne Zhu

Player Fees (pp) \$30

Festival F2F Open Congress Events



"Watermark" - Swiss Pairs



Friday 24th June F2F @ East Lindfield

10:00pm Start 2 Sessions – Swiss Pairs (IMP) Event Prize Pools: 2x (\$400, \$200, \$100) + Best Restr \$200

This event incorporates the 17th running of the NSBC Festival

"Watermark" Open Swiss Pairs Championships.

Results will count towards 2022 NSBC Club Champion (Brownie Cup)

Convenor, queries & partnership advice: Mike Prescott M: 0435 528 872 Director: Mathew MacManus

Entry Management: Enter by MyABF

Pre-Payments: Visitors MyABF Credits & NSBC Members to select "Club PP System"

Conducted under the auspices of the NSWBA . The ABF has approved the issue of red masterpoints at level B4. All players are subject to the NSWBA's Disciplinary Regulations Previous 2021

16th Pairs Champions : Marilyn Chadwick & Kim Morrison

Player Fees (pp) \$45 (Light lunch and snacks provided)



"TBIB" - Open Swiss Teams



Sunday 26th June F2F @ East Lindfield

10:00pm Start 2 Sessions – Swiss Teams (IMP) Event Prize Pool: \$600, \$300, \$200 + Best Restr \$200

This event incorporates the 17^{th} running of the NSBC Festival "TBIB"

Open Swiss Teams Championships. Results (cc x2) will count towards 2022 NSBC Club Champion

(Brownie Cup) Convenor, queries & partnership advice: Mike Prescott M: 0435 528 872 Director: Mathew MacManus

Entry Management: Enter by MyABF

Pre-Payments: Visitors MyABF Credits & NSBC Members to select "Club PP System"

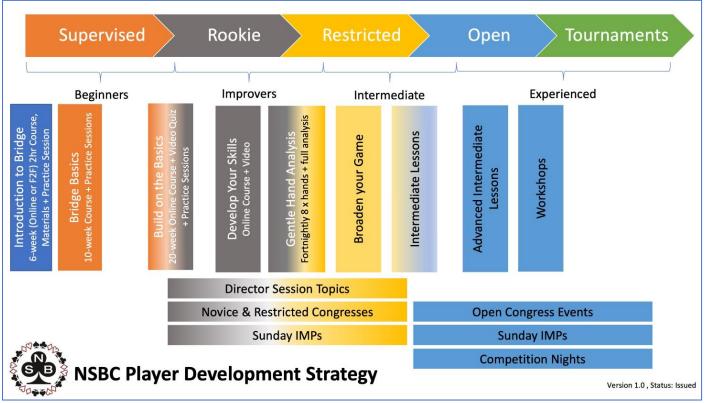
Conducted under the auspices of the NSWBA . The ABF has approved the issue of red masterpoints at level B4. All players are subject to the NSWBA's Disciplinary Regulations Previous 2021

16th Teams Champions : Peter <u>Jeffery</u>, Les Grewcock, Bob Sebesfi, Wayne Zhu

Player Fees (pp) \$45 (Light lunch and snacks provided)

Club Management

This complex diagram sets out our NSBC Player development strategy



2022 Statistics

This table shows the 2022 table numbers (overall & at each venue) and our club Membership numbers at end of each month.

2022	Ven Note	Active Tables	No Sess	Avr Tables / Session	Comments	RB Tables	EL Tables	Willis Tables	Net Num of Members at
YTD totals	YTD=	6,887	648	10.63		5,266	1,227	394	End of month
Jan-22	RB EL WS	1,328	129	10.29	ABF RB Summer Festival, Covid resurgence, NSBC Congress event, RB=84% Tables, Open grade =71% Tables, F2F=16%	1,118	153	57	1,736
Feb-22	RB EL WS	1,331	121	11.00	ABF F2F Surfers, NZB RB Congress, Covid improving, RB=80%, Open=68%, F2F=20% 100 new members from beginner lessons, Members not renewing being removed.	1,061	195	75	1,755
Mar-22	RB EL WS	1,559	141	11.06	ABF F2F Tas, NSBC F2F Congress @ EL, Covid improving, Floods, RB=79%, Open=66%, F2F=26%, ABF Membership rationalisation, Mike Prescott back as Mgr	1,150	314	95	1,728
Apr-22	RB EL WS	1,257	119	10.56	NSBC AGM, ABF Adelaide, limited Easter Sessions & Anzac, RB=74%, Open=71%, F2F=25%	928	256	73	1,737
May-22	RB EL WS	1,412	138	10.23	ABF Barrier Reef & River City, EL Charity Day, RB=71%, Open=68%, F2F 29%	1,009	309	94	1,782

May Tables - Club Venues	Planned Venue Use	Active Tables	Active Sessions	Tables / Session	%Tables	May Tables by - Session Type	Active Tables	%Tables
"RB" RealBridge Online Totals	97	1009	97	10.40	71.46%	"Open" Type Sessions	971	68%
"EL" East Lindfield F2F Totals	27	309	27	11.44	21.88%	"Restricted" Type Sessions	145	10%
"WS" Willis Sports & Rec Centre	14	94	14	6.71	6.66%	"Rookie" Type Sessions	270	19%
				F2F%=	29%	"Supervised" Type Sessions	43	3%
May Totals	138	1412	138	10.23		May Membership= 1782	1429	

This table shows just the "May" Table numbers in more detail

Message from ABF

BETTER TOGETHER

"Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much." - Helen Keller



This year's National Volunteer Week theme is 'better together'. Volunteering at club, state, or national level is widespread and diverse with thousands of players volunteering every year. Bridge in Australia could not function without the loyalty and patronage of our wonderful volunteers.

Our volunteers are vital to our success as they provide the foundation for us to build on. We would be lost without their dedication as volunteers help every day in every area and in every aspect. We could not afford to pay them what they are worth.

Join me as we celebrate and recognise the vital work of volunteers of many kinds.

Thank You Volunteers



Allison Stralow, ABF President

NSWBA Chairman

Introducing a Strategic Review of Bridge in NSW

COVID -19 has affected many businesses in NSW adversely. The NSWBA and Affiliated Clubs are no exception. Bridge in NSW has lost clubs, playing venues and some 4,000 players over the past two years.

Overall, we are seeing a decline in table numbers and only a trickling influx of new and/or younger players.

Online bridge has given us new opportunities, but many miss the social aspects of their bridge gettogethers. Compared to pre-Covid times, large state-wide events are nowhere close to attracting the same number of players.

It is time to take stock! Consequently, the NSWBA is undergoing a "where should we be in five years" warts and all review of strategy. We have engaged Randall Pierce of THINK: Insight & Advice, a strategy consultant specialising in the area of Not-For-Profit organisations and Associations, to help us in understanding the breadth of the problem facing bridge in NSW, what shape the NSWBA should take and what actions need to occur to both safeguard and grow the bridge playing community in NSW going forward.

The first phase of this process, we call it the **Discovery Phase**, will be to conduct a number of interviews and focus groups. We will be throwing the net wide to capture feedback and ideas from metropolitan and regional bridge clubs, staffers and players, administrators and state representatives alike.

The data gathered in the Discovery Phase will provide the input for the **Consultation & Survey Phase**. We anticipate that every single affiliated club in your region will be contacted during this phase, and here is where we need you to assist the process. I have asked all Regional Representatives to help facilitating the completion of the Surveys by all bridge clubs and players.

Yes, I would appreciate it if most of the 10,000 bridge players in NSW give freely of their time and provide frank answers to questions.

Finally, all the facts, feedback, ideas and suggestions provided by the bridge clubs and members will feed into the **Strategy Making Phase**. In this third and final phase we expect to tackle and make decisions on the big gnarly issues, develop a vision moving forward and an operating model that can deliver.

The quality of this review depends on <u>you</u> helping the NSWBA to ensure a successful outcome with a better bridge playing future for all.

Thank you



John Scudder Chairman, NSW Bridge Association.