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◆ MG – President Report



In Starsky and Hutch they had Huggy Bear who gave them the “word on the street”. They seemed to rely totally on him and never talked to anyone else, so I guess his information could have been a bit skewed.

“What is going on Huggy?”

“The word on the street is that informant rates have gone through the roof. It’s \$300 per tip now.”

Starsky whispers to Hutch “We only give him a fiver. I guess we’ll have to start paying up from now on.”

I’m lucky that I have a whole committee and a bunch of informants (well, staff is the proper term), so I get lots of good info. The word in the NSBC hood seems to currently be a bit wrong, so I’m going to talk about that.

Word on The Street 1:

We want to get everybody back face-to-face so we can shut down RealBridge

No, we don’t. We have been promoting face-to-face sessions so that people know they are available and have a choice of venues and technologies. If we don’t get appropriate numbers for face-to-face we have to make difficult choices about closing down venues due to the relatively large, fixed costs. Thankfully, we are (touch wood) doing very well in this area mainly thanks to Mike’s efforts, and numbers are up at East Lindfield and The Willis which is great.

The majority of our members use RealBridge, and we are very pleased to be able to continue to provide it. Gary does a fantastic job of

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President:	Mark Guthrie	0423 861 767 m@rk Guthrie.com
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Hon Secretary	Sharon Thompson	0422 613 530
Hon Treasurer	Rod Owen	
Committee	Carol McMurray	
Committee	Ian MacLaren	0418 680 879 imhmacLaren@bigpond.com
Committee	Jake Andrew	0478 838 588
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National Director	Ronnie Ng	0405 507 753
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Web Master	Leo Goorevich	0410 490 123 leo.goorevich@inet.net.au
RB Venue	Gary Mobile	0413 884 805
EL Venue	EL Phone	02 9415 8344
WS Venue	GM mobile	0435 528 872
Bridge Teaching & Training coordinator	Kay Moyes	0416 002 701 moyes_kay@hotmail.com
Teacher	Anita Curtis	ac210927@bigpond.net.au
Teacher	Jessica Brake	jessicabrakebridge@gmail.com
Teacher	Liz Wilkinson	0433 389 952
Teacher/Director	John Newman	
Teacher/Director	Sue Crompton	0416 290 867
Teacher/Director	Jamie Thompson	0491 127 604

running this for us and we have no intention at all of closing anything down.

Also, if you think about it, RealBridge is much less hassle for us than face-to-face (dealing cards, cleaning up, providing tea and coffee, printing hand records, etc), so why would we want to shut it down.

In case you've come here from the future to find the quote where I promised never to close a session on RealBridge, of course any individual session whether online or face-to-face, that isn't popular for a period of time and has dwindling numbers will eventually be closed down so we can focus on the more popular sessions. That isn't us shutting a session down, that is the session dying of natural causes and we always try to build sessions back up before this happens. Just saying.

Word on The Street 2:

Open Sessions are only for Open Players

Nah, you can play up into any session you like. Everyone is welcome. The Supervised, Rookie and Restricted sessions are there to provide support for players as they develop, but there is nothing at all to stop you playing in a higher session than your masterpoints might suggest.

They even let me play in the Open!

The only thing that might happen is that if you play against better players, then at least to begin with, you are more likely to do worse than you would in a lower session. I find it quite inspiring that becoming a better player means you will get better results, but I've only ever won prizes that say, "Participation Award", so what do I know.

If you fancy playing in a higher session, go for it. If you don't like it, you can go back, nothing lost. If you aren't sure about it, why not ask your director or teacher if they think it is a good idea or not. And if you are happy where you are, be happy where you are.

In next month's newsletter... Word on the Street is that we are getting rid of Supervised,

Rookie and Restricted and forcing everyone into the Open. No, we are not!

Congress

The highlight of the past month has to be the annual club congress. We are lucky to have a big enough club to be able to run a whole range of events over two extended weekends with events for all levels of experience for pairs and teams and to seamlessly combine online and face-to-face.

It felt, to me at least, that everything came together very well and highlighted how good it is to be able to offer different ways of playing bridge at our club. Congratulations to Mike and the team for making this happen.

The diversity of our congress even attracted some new members (with teaching as always moving our numbers up too). We are once again at just over 1,800 members. I even got an email from a BBO Robot asking if it could join so as to play in the Falls Estate Matchpoint Swiss Pairs. I checked the constitution and couldn't see anything that mentioned our members needing to be human, so I took its money. Then when the game started, I booted it off and told it there was a connection error. Two can play at that game.

The Committee

As always, the committee has been active, and I haven't. Ian "Lunch" McLaren is still working on his secret printers project. He seems to be deep under cover in the murky world of printer leasing and has taken to meeting people at the far end of carparks in unmarked cars.

Janie "Don't Talk About Me in the Newsletter" Russ isn't getting talked about this month.

Carol "Captain Marvel" McMurray has been spotted all over the place and was even in the kitchen at the congress serving up her home-made cakes.

Jake "Brains" Andrew and Shaz "The Lightning" Thompson have been deep into things too. Brains built a brilliant spreadsheet

for Mike so we can properly track income and expenditure and apportion it to the right areas. Shaz went a step further and build a dashboard on top of it that not only shows us a breakdown of the financials, but also links into things like the social media activity and who is visiting the website. It's like Star Trek, except its real and not made of cardboard boxes and glue. This is going to give us a really good way to take decisions based on accurate data, which I fear has removed yet another excuse for me when I get it wrong.

Both Jake and Shaz have also branched out into Hollywood with some great videos about what we are doing at the club. If you haven't seen them then you should take a look. Short, professional, and informative. A bit like me.

Rod "Numbers" Owen had the cheek to go on holiday, but we still sent him the same amount of work to do. He has been working with Kit on breaking down the costs too. So, we are really doing this work from two side. In the trading world we would think of this as a front-office view (Jake and Shaz) vs a back-office view (Rod and Kit). Or top-down vs bottom-up. It will take time to get it right and to get the numbers to roughly match, but it will be a really useful tool for us in a couple of months.

Julie says I can't have any more biscuits because I look like I'm ready to hibernate so I'm going to change my sign off (at least for this month).

Friendly - Inclusive - Inspirational

♦ MP – Manager Report



For the Manager's Report June 2022

- Mike is away in NZ, on bereavement leave.
- We acquired a new sponsor, "**The Falls Village**" during June. Helped sponsor a couple of the Online Festival Congress Events.



The Falls Estate Retirement Village
The RHYTHM of the BUSH
A CONNECTION with Nature
A RETIREMENT less ordinary.

- In June we ran our highly successful Bridge Festival which featured:
 - EL "**Two Men & a Truck**" Restricted Pairs & Teams congress
 - EL **Watermark** Swiss Pairs
 - EL **TBIB** Swiss teams
 - RB **Falls Village** Swiss Pairs
 - RB **Falls Village** Swiss teams
 - Redpoint Walk-in sessions during the festival at all bridge venues.
- We have NSWBA agreement to run an **RB Winter Swiss Teams Congress** on Sunday 31/July. We are also hopefully negotiating a new sponsor agreement for this event.

Kevin

Current F2F Sessions

Day	Venue	Start	Est. Finish	Grade	Director
MONDAY	East Lindfield	1:00 PM	4:00 PM	Open	David Hagley
	The Willis	1:15 PM	3:15 PM	Rookies	Sue Crompton
TUESDAY	The Willis	12:45 PM	3:45 PM	Open	Ronnie Ng
	East Lindfield *	1:30 PM	4:00 PM	Rookies	John Newman
WEDNESDAY	East Lindfield #	10:00 AM	1:00 PM	Open	Sue Crompton
	East Lindfield #	10:00 AM	1:00 PM	Restricted + Rookie	Sue Crompton
	The Willis	12:45 PM	3:45 PM	Open	Jamie Thompson
	The Willis	12:45 PM	3:45 PM	Restricted + Rookie	Jamie Thompson
THURSDAY	East Lindfield	10:00 AM	12:30 PM	Restricted + Rookie	Sue Crompton
	East Lindfield	1:00 PM	4:00 PM	Open	Sue Crompton
SATURDAY	East Lindfield	1:00 PM	4:00 PM	Open	Sue Crompton

Sunday IMP Pairs on RB

Sundays: 1:30pm from June 5th

Open & Restricted/Rookie Imp Pairs

We guarantee a game, just come along and we will find you a partner
A chance to learn to play **IMP scoring methods**.
Swiss Pairs & Swiss Teams are popular congress & tournament type events.

SUNDAYS ARE BACK!

RED Point IMP Pairs

OPEN & Restricted: Starting June 5, 1:30pm

Normal RB table fees (\$11 Members & \$14 Visitors welcome)

◆ GB – Online Manager Report



◆ ST Clubs Social Media



Are you on Facebook or Instagram?

Click on Icons or links below

To or clubs [Facebook Homepage](#)<https://www.facebook.com/nsbridgeclub/>To our clubs [Instagram Homepage](#)<https://www.instagram.com/northshorebridgeclub/>To our website "[Social Page](#)"

◆ Club committee Minutes

These are stored on our 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

Shaz Thompson
Secretary

Bridge Across The Ditch 2022



FORMAT - PAIRS 15 x 2 BOARD ROUNDS - IMP SCORING

REGULAR SESSION FEES \$11 MEMBERS & \$14 VISITORS

*** LIMITED ENTRIES - FIRST IN BEST DRESSED ***

Welcome Everyone

We have an exciting new daytime competition happening on Tuesday 12th July where North Shore Bridge Club will have a friendly bridge battle with Auckland Bridge Club. This is just like a regular session of bridge with 2 board rounds with IMP Scoring (what is IMP scoring) and a chance to meet new people and make new friends.

To Enter : email your pair names & ABF Numbers to garybarwick@outlook.com along with the section you wish to play Open or Rookie & Restricted

Please Note: You will need to pre-enter to play in this event we are trying our best to balance the fields so we only play pairs from the other club. To enter please email garybarwick@outlook.com (as above) and each morning this list will be updated with registered entries.

** ENTRIES ARE PENDING UNTIL A MATCHING ENTRY FROM AUCKLAND IS ENTERED **

#	Open Pairs	#	Rookie & Restricted Pairs
1	Anthony Burke, Phil Gue	1	
2	Jean Hydeleman, Ralph Edwards	2	

♦ Women's Bridge

BAMSA papers on gender and Bridge

Should the women's bridge world championships continue? If the women-only game both helps and hinders women's progression in the card game bridge, should...

[Summary on the paradox of women's bridge](#)

[Summary on the process of doing research on gender and bridge.](#)

♦ 2021 Club champion



Wayne Zhu gets presented with the Brownie Cup for winning the **2021 Club championship** at our F2F Lindfield Congress.

♦ Major Competitions on Thursday Nights

			7-Jul	Thursday Night		ANC Interstate Teams
			12-Jul	Tuesday	RB IMP	Ditch - Inter-Club Imp Pairs
			14-Jul	Thursday Night		ANC Butler week
13	1/3		21-Jul	Thursday Night		
	2/3	10	28-Jul	Thursday Night	RB	W/L Board a Match
	3/3		4-Aug	Thursday Night		
21	2x	10	31-Jul	Sunday	RB IMP	"New Sponsor" Open Winter Swiss Teams
			11-Aug			Coffs week
14	1/5		18-Aug	Thursday Night		
	2/5	20	25-Aug	Thursday Night	RB IMP	Watermark Club Open Teams
	3/5		1-Sep	Thursday Night		
	4/5		8-Sep	Thursday Night		
	5/5		15-Sep	Thursday Night		
15	2x	10	*****	Sunday	EL IMP	Swiss Teams Congress
16	1/4		22-Sep	Thursday Night		
	2/4	10	29-Sep	Thursday Night	RB MP	Club (State) Open Pairs Championship
	3/4		6-Oct	Thursday Night		
	4/4		13-Oct	Thursday Night		
17	2x	10	3-Oct	Monday	EL MP	Labour Day Pairs Congress
			20-Oct			Sydney Spring Nationals
			27-Oct			Sydney Spring Nationals
	2x		30-Oct	Sunday	EL IMP	Metro North - Inter-Club Teams
18	1/5		3-Nov	Thursday Night		
	2/5	20	10-Nov	Thursday Night	RB IMP	The Falls Estate Mixed Teams Championship
	3/5		17-Nov	Thursday Night		
	4/5		24-Nov	Thursday Night		
	5/5		1-Dec	Thursday Night		
	2x		27-Nov	Sunday	EL MP	Metro North - Inter-Club Pairs
19	1/3		8-Dec	Thursday Night		
	2/3	10	15-Dec	Thursday Night	RB IMP	Club XMAS Teams Championship
	3/3		22-Dec	Thursday Night		

Information about all Thursday night events can be found on our [Thursday Night Events](#) web page on the website.

♦ BAM Teams

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



BAM Teams Championships



RealBridge in 2022

3 Thursday Nights 21st & 28th July, 4th Aug

7pm Start: Board-A-Match Teams

Prize Pool: Generous, but Dependant on Entries

This event incorporates the **8th** running of the “NSBC BAM Teams Championships”.

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

Director: **Ronnie Ng**

Convenor: **Gary Barwick** M: 0413 884 805

Entry Management: Enter by **NSBC website - Upcoming Events**

2021 7th BAM Champions: **Martin Bloom, Peter Gill, Liz Adams, Tony Nunn**

\$42 / Members (\$14/Night PP) \$51 / Non Member (\$17/Night pp)

♦ Watermark Club Teams

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



“Watermark” – 62nd Open Club Teams Championship



5 Thursday nights: 18th, 25th Aug, 1st, 8th, 15th Sep

7pm Start 5 Sessions – Club Teams Championship

Generous Sponsor Prize Pool: \$2500 .. More dependant on entries

This event incorporates the **62nd** running of the NSBC Club Open Teams Championships. Results (x2) will count towards 2022 NSBC Club Champion (Brownie Cup)

Director: **Ronnie Ng**

Convenor: **Gary Barwick** M: 0413 884 805

Entry Management: Enter Via NSBC website “Upcoming Events”

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

61st Teams Champions : **Tony Hutton, Malcolm Carter, Jill Magee, Terry Strong**

Player Fees pp Members: \$85 (5x\$17) Visitors \$100 (5x\$20)

♦ RB Club Open Pairs Championship

58th Club (State) Open MP Pairs Championship

4x Thursday 22nd Sep -13th Oct on RealBridge
7pm Start 4 Sessions – Match Pointed Pairs Event
Prize Pool: Generous - dependant on entries



This event incorporates the clubs State Pairs Qualifying

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



Convenor, queries & partnership advice: Gary Barwick M: 0413 884 805

Director: Ronnie Ng

Entry Management: Enter via NSBC website

Pre-Payments: NSBC Members use PP System, & Visitors use website payment app

Previous 2021 champions:

57th Open Pairs Champions : Dennis Wan & Henry Chu

Members (pp) \$56 (4x\$14)

Non Members \$68 (4x\$17)

♦ RB July Winter Swiss Teams Congress

**Open Winter Swiss Teams**

Sunday 31/July – on Realbridge
10:00am Start 2 Sessions – Swiss Teams (IMP) Event
Prize Pool: Generous but depends on entries

This event incorporates the 2nd running of the NSBC Winter Online 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 Winners

Winter Teams Champions : Kim Morrison & David Weston, Bruce Neill & Julian Foster

Player Fees (pp) \$30

♦ EL Aug Swiss Teams Congress



14th **EL** Open Swiss Teams

Sunday 28th Aug back F2F @ East Lindfield
10:00am Start 2 Sessions – Swiss Teams (IMP) Event
Prize Pool: Generous - dependant on entries

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

Convenor, queries & partnership advice: **Mike Prescott M: 0435 528 872**

Director: **Ronnie Ng**

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 Winners (RB based in 2021)

13th Teams Champions : **David Hoffman, Julia Hoffman, Christopher Quail, Richard Brightling**

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

♦ 2022 Table Statistics

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

This table shows just the "June" Table numbers via Venue & Session Type

June Tables - Club Venues	Planned Venue Use	Active Tables	Active Sessions	Tables / Session	%Tables	June Tables by - Session Type	Active Tables	%Tables
"RB" RealBridge Online Totals	111	1,049	112	9.36	66.68%	"Open" Type Sessions	1,096.0	70%
"EL" East Lindfield F2F Totals	30	400	34	11.75	25.41%	"Restricted" Type Sessions	196.0	12%
"WS" Willis Sports & Rec Centre	12	125	12	10.38	7.92%	"Rookie" Type Sessions	194.5	12%
				F2F%=	33.3%	"Supervised" Type Sessions	86.0	5%
June Totals	153	1573	158	9.95		June Membership= 1,803	1573	

2022	Ven Note	Active Tables	No Sess	Avr Tables / Session	Comments	RB Tables	EL Tables	Willis Tables	Net Num of Members at End of month
YTD totals	YTD=	8,448	806	10.48		6,294	1,622	533	
Jan-22	RB EL WS	1,328	129	10.29	ABF RB Summer Festival, Covid resurgence, RB Congress event, Tables RB=84% Open =71% F2F=16%	1,118	153	57	1,736
Feb-22	RB EL WS	1,328	121	10.98	ABF F2F Surfers, NZB RB Congress, Covid improving, 100 new members from beginner lessons, Members not renewing being removed. Tables RB=80%, Open=68%, F2F=20%	1,058	195	75	1,755
Mar-22	RB EL WS	1,559	141	11.06	ABF F2F Tas, NSBC F2F Congress @ EL, Covid improving, Floods, ABF Home Club annual Membership rationalisation , Mike Prescott back as Mgr, EL Congress Tables RB=79%, Open=66%, F2F=26%	1,150	314	95	1,728
Apr-22	RB EL WS	1,257	119	10.56	NSBC AGM , ABF Adelaide, limited Easter Sessions & Anzac, Tables RB=74%, Open=71%, F2F=25%	928	256	73	1,737
May-22	RB EL WS	1,404	138	10.17	ABF Barrier Reef & River City, EL Charity Day, Tables RB=71%, Open=68%, F2F 29%	992	304	108	1,782
Jun-22	RB EL WS	1,573	158	9.95	ABF VCC, 4 NSBC F2F EL Congress Events , 2 RB Congress events , Restart on Sundays, Tables RB=67%, Open= 70%, F2F= 33%	1,049	400	125	1,803

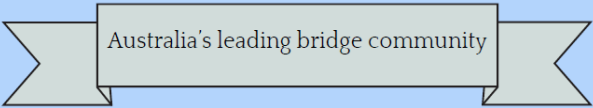
100,000 player sessions a year

Estimated Base Progress:

Year	2020	2021	2022 Estimates
Estimated "Player Sessions"	60,000	73,000	64,000

Notes:

- 2020 Estimates are a little inflated as half tables were counted as full tables
- 2021 had included several very well attended **extra RB Online Congresses**. Estimates are a little inflated as half tables were counted as full tables.
- 2022 - about 8450 Tables, 33,000 player sessions to end June. Only couple extra congress events, we should see your yearend total to be an estimated 64,000



Australia's leading bridge community

Click for **Member satisfaction** [UTube Video](#)
 Click for **Strategic Direction** [UTube Video](#)

We are Australia's largest Bridge Club

Club Memberships at End of June

NSBC Membership Numbers	Home Club Members	Non Home club Members
2- RealBridge (remote members)	0	119
2-074 East Lindfield	313	14
2-120 North Shore	1145	212
Total June	1458	345
Grand Total Memberships end of June	1803	

We are yet to register our online RB as a formal club entity

MP grades (Home Club), by ABF MP Centre

ABF - Our Home Club		
MP Range	2-074	2-120
	EL	WS + RB
0-20 MP	39%	48%
20-50 MP	21%	14%
50-100 MP	14%	10%
100-300 MP	20%	10%
300-1000 MP	5%	9%
1000+	1%	8%

♦ JA Member Survey



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 are 2 a short 5-minute updates on the results and findings.

The referred **strategic direction document** follows in this report.

As Mark referred to in his "June 22" Management report, we have been doing some work on strategy for the club.

We have made some key macro decisions that will help us evolve our strategy further. This link is an article explaining the decisions, and this alternative format video presentation.

<https://youtu.be/eMFmJhwvQIQ>

We hope you find our strategic direction interesting.

Mike and the NSBC team

♦ JA Member Survey Strategic Direction

THINK BIG

2ND JUNE 2022

Jake Andrew

ON BEHALF OF NSBC COMMITTEE

Big challenges. Big questions.

Why does NSBC exist? What does long-term success look like for our club? How to measure progress? What are our values? Existential stuff for a bridge club!

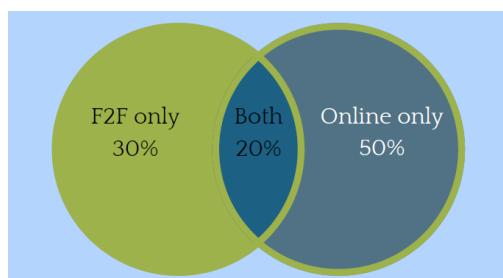
While we are Australia's largest club several measures, the club faces some tough challenges, to which we need to respond.

- What should we focus on - face to face, or online?
- How do we compete sustainably? (Consider we now compete nationally and internationally against very different types of clubs.)
- How should we use technology, especially the internet?

- Should we aim to buy a physical venue, and if so, where should that be?
- How to turnaround our financial performance pretty urgently?

Answers may seem obvious, and many of you feel so strongly! Interestingly we have different and passionately held views, and several are mutually exclusive.

For example, the actual behaviour of our members at East Linfield, The Wills and online in the first four months of 2022 was:



However, many members firmly believe we should reduce, or even entirely stop, offering online sessions as they “compete with F2F” and “stop people returning to the club”. This is surely a fallacy – players will just play elsewhere online, and we will lose them to other clubs.)

Alternatively, many members love playing online, and believe creating the best online offering should be our focus, as that seems the club’s future. The snag is we have many people who really enjoy playing F2F. It is an opportunity to be sociable, especially after COVID isolation. So, we have an opportunity to recreate the social feeling we offered pre-COVID, and again feel connected to that community. Re-establishing strong F2F sessions must be a high priority.

Creating clarity

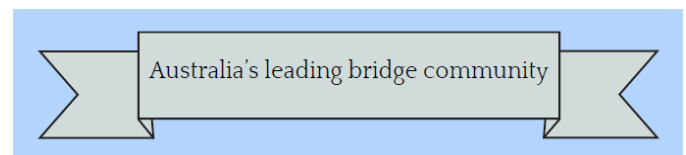
Given we have a nearly all-new Committee, and Mike 2.0 has returned to the club, we now need to make many decisions. Big picture clarity can make many aligned operational decisions easier and faster and help advance what we are trying to achieve.

As input for this, and to gain a better understanding of players’ needs, in May 2022 NSBC members were invited through a survey to help answer several questions. Thank you to over 500 people for sharing your opinions. This is a wonderful response, and really helpful. Thank you again. A huge thank you too to an enormously valuable volunteer job from Lorna Davies, and fellow Committee members Sharon Thompson and Carol McMurray, for a massive amount of work to deliver such a professional survey.

We have reviewed all responses, read every comment, and started analysing. Armed with that as part of the May 2022 Committee meeting, we discussed your comments, and could start to get some clarity.

Why does our club exist?

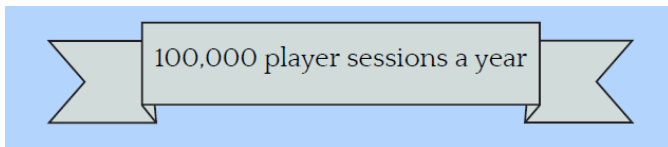
A few decisions, from the top



We decided at the highest level this best represented our “purpose”. What we mean by these simple words really matters though.

- **Australia** – See ourselves in the national context. We seek to be the best.
- **Leading** – Clear leadership and offer the best experience and the best club. To do this we need to be financially strong and invest in the long-term.
- **Community** – Welcome players at all levels. We need to engage volunteers and consider players, teachers, Directors, professionals, other clubs, and the ABF in our decisions.

What is our long-term goal?

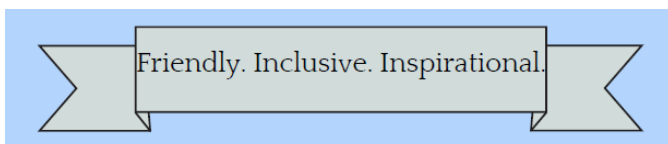


The number of people playing a session of roughly in a year. Importantly this is a long-term goal. We hope it will happen sooner, but best to think of this as a 10-year goal.

It includes all player levels (Rookie, Restricted, Open), all playing sessions (club games, events, congresses etc), and both f2f (East Lindfield and The Willis) and online. Everyone playing an NSBC game is included.

Beginner lessons are incredibly important to sustain the club, and many teachers have undoubtedly played a key role in making the club as it is today. However, an objective of teaching beginners is to create **active bridge players**. So, we have excluded people attending lessons from our goal to help keep the focus on what lessons ultimately should deliver. We look forward to including their graduates when they begin to play at our club.

What are our values?



- **Friendly** – Be welcoming and respectful. Behave as a good friend with integrity and sincerity.
- **Inclusive** – Involve all levels from beginner to world class. Players from across Australia and internationally. Different playing styles, bridge conventions, and abilities are welcome at NSBC.
- **Inspirational** – Encourage all players to be their best. Offer positive and constructive learning, directing and support. From beginners to champions.

We have aimed to articulate in just three words the values and behaviours we aspire to see from everyone. With over 1,600 members, this was no easy task. What we mean by these words, and how they influence our actions, matter far more than the three words.

Making this real and practical

Guidance on which to make many aligned decisions. Consider three examples:

With our long-term goal in mind, we can develop shorter-term goals for the NSBC team. These work towards achieving our long-term goal, with simple supporting plans and budgets.

We received many touching messages about feeling unwelcome, or disrespected (for many reasons) at NSBC. This is a **social club**. It's meant to be enjoyable. So, we aim to address this actively.

Several of you believe it important NSBC encourage all players to develop their bridge, and even life skills, through our club. Investing in and inspiring youth are our future. To create an appropriate atmosphere in which everyone likes to play, connect with others, and strengthen our community for years to come, our behaviours are important. Our new three values aim to improve this.

For some who just want to play bridge, this might seem abstract and unrelated to our club or your bridge experience. We believe they're fundamental. Essential foundations even.

Your new Committee prefers an open and transparent style. Where possible, we will share strategic direction and key updates with you. We feel this improves our accountability to you, and over time will build understanding and increasing alignment between us all. We hope you agree and look forward to your thoughts.

Jake Andrew
On behalf of the NSBC Committee
2 June 2022