

Kevin Davies

Need an **Assistant Editor**

I have holidays booked affecting the May, Jun & July editions. Looking for an assistant to help write & publish the club's newsletter. Word/Excel skills required.

Easter Weekend 7-10th April sessions

Easter Dates	Easter Weekend Sessions April 2023
Good Friday 7th April	Online Open and Restricted game at 1.30pm Red Points. No morning game.
Easter Saturday 8 th April	Online and Face to Face just normal Saturday sessions.
Easter Sunday 9 th April	CLOSED.
9	Online Open 1.30pm no morning game. Red Points
Easter Monday	Online Rookie 2.00pm Red Points
10th April	Face to Face East Lindfield 1,00pm Red Points
	Supervised 10.00am and 7.00pm Closed.

RB Online Congress 23rd April





RB Online Interclub "Bridge Across the Ditch" 18th Apr



Anzac Day 25th April



29TH Club AGM @ Lindfield







Club AGM 29th April

Club Secretary Sharon Thompson

You are invited to attend the club's 2023 Annual General Meeting ("AGM") on Saturday 29th April at 11 am. The AGM will be held at our premises at East Lindfield Bowling Club. A light lunch will be provided to members attending the AGM at East Lindfield. A "red points" duplicate session runs at East Lindfield at 1 pm.

If you are attending the AGM, we would be very grateful if you registered. This will assist us with a "fast-track" registration for you and indicate numbers for catering purposes. Registration is a quick process, please complete it by clicking here.

Link to <u>documentation for the AGM</u>. This documentation includes the following:

- The AGM agenda
- The Minutes from last year's meeting held on 2nd April 2022
- The President's report.
- The Treasurer's report.
- The Club Manager's report
- The Online Manager's report.
- The audited Financial Statements for the year ended 31st December 2022
- The Committee or officeholder nomination form
- The Proxy form.

If you are interested in standing for the committee, the nomination form to become an office holder These need to be received by me by 11 am on **Saturday 22nd April 2023**.

If you cannot attend and wish to give an attending member your proxy. As per our constitution, each member attending the AGM will be able to hold up to one proxy. Proxy forms are invalid unless completed and received at the Club's Office at 325A Eastern Valley Way, Middle Cove, 2068, NSW no later than 11 am on Friday 28th April 2023.

On behalf of the NSBC Committee, we look forward to **seeing you at the AGM**, if you have any questions - please do not hesitate to contact me at 0422 613 530 or email me at secretary@northshorebridgeclub.com.au.



MG – President's Update



NORTH SHORE BRIDGE CLUB President's Report Annual General Meeting – 29th April 2023

Mark Guthrie

The North Shore Bridge Club has had a relatively strong year, especially in comparison with other Australian and International bridge clubs. That is not to say that everything is perfect, or that there aren't areas of concern, but overall, I am very happy with the state of our club. I am going to talk through a few different areas to give you more insight.

Table Numbers

The point of a bridge club is for people to play bridge, so table numbers are a key measure of the health of the club. Our table numbers are strong with over 300 tables per week. It was a struggle to get people back to face-to-face bridge after the pandemic, but Mike has done an excellent job and we now have healthy numbers across both face-to-face venues and online. It is very important that we can offer both ways of playing bridge for our members, and I am also working as part of an ABF committee to look at how we can get both online and face-to-face bridge to work as effectively as possible together.

Membership Levels

When we go through the annual membership renewal process, we usually lose about a third of our members and they gradually pick up again throughout the year. This year we lost significantly less than normal, and our membership currently sits just above 1,700. The vast majority of our members are Sydney based, primarily in the North Shore and surrounding areas, but we have players from every state in the country and New Zealand and we welcome the contribution that they bring to the club.

Member Feedback

Our members are very engaged with the club and of course are the club. For such a large club, with so many things going on, we get surprisingly little critical feedback. I don't think this is in any way a bad thing, I believe it just means that you, as members, are happy and are focussing on your bridge as you should. When we raised the table fees in November Mike got about 10 emails from members. The vast majority were positive and thanking Mike for the work the club does. Most of the feedback we do get is extremely positive, with people suggesting ways to improve things. I encourage everyone to continue to help us in this regard.

Diversity of Games

We try to offer a complete range of support for our members, from beginners' lessons through to advanced lessons, from supervised play all the way through to our Thursday night competition, and our program of congress events throughout the year. The one area I don't think we have managed to address post-Covid, is to get a consistently strong face-toface session. I do get some stronger players asking about this, but unless we get enough of you who want to play at the same time there isn't a lot we can do about it. Evening bridge continues to prove difficult. This isn't unique to us, evening bridge worldwide has been on the decline for a long time, well before Covid came along. While this is disappointing as it makes it harder for us to appeal to people who are still working, if there is no demand then there is

little, we can do about it. That aside, I believe our range of times and locations (online and face-to-face) provides great opportunities for our members to play a lot of bridge.

Staff

We are fortunate enough to have the size and the scale to be able to employ permanent staff to work for us. We are even more fortunate that we have such good people in these roles.

Mike Prescott as the Club Manager is central to everything that we do. Running a bridge club is a difficult and highly specialised job. There are very few people with the right mix of skills and experience around and Mike is the standout best Club Manager in Australia. We are very lucky to have him.

Gary Barwick is our Online Bridge Manager. This is another highly specialised role requiring not just knowledge of bridge, but also deep understanding of technology. Gary is a huge asset to the club and provides advice and support for all of our members and online directors. Gary also has a lot of ideas, and this year has been looking at new and innovative ways to run online bridge events including the excellent Across the Ditch and Down Under vs Up Over events on RealBridge as well as pushing for more competitive games across all levels of play.

Sue Crompton manages East Lindfield for us. As well as directing, Sue handles a lot of the aspects of the venue that will not be obvious to most people. Sue also has a lot of great ideas and is an essential link for Mike and me, with everyone who plays at East Lindfield. Sue also has a great relationship with the team at East Lindfield Bowling Club.

Josh Ogle is a familiar and friendly face for those of you who play at The Willis. Josh does everything from making tea to dealing boards to moving furniture. This year we have a new addition to the team with Fiona Lavery taking on the role of Teaching Co-ordinator. Fiona has only recently started but is already making a big difference with her ideas and her energy. Two of our staff took a step back this year, after both had provided many years of great service to the club. Margaret Owen was our Membership Secretary but did an awful lot more than that for the club. Margaret has

stepped down to focus on things at home and also to play more bridge. Similarly, **Kay Moyes** is also hoping to play more bridge having been the teaching co-ordinator to great effect for many years. We wish them both well and thank them for everything they have done for the club.

Volunteers

While it is great that we have staff, any club also needs a healthy attitude to helping out when needed and we are very lucky to have so many members who help out in any way they can. At our congresses we get some of the best home-baked goods you could ever want to taste, and volunteers help out in many other ways such as checking up on members or giving people a lift to bridge when they need it. A special mention goes to **Kevin Davies** for the enormous amount of work that he does for the monthly Newsletter and to **Leo Goorevich** who manages our web site so well.

Directors

I have never directed a session of bridge. I imagine it requires a vast range of skills to be an effective director. You need to know the rules to one of the world's most complex games for a start, you need to be able to work out movements, deal with late arrivals, manage a room full of people and keep smiling however difficult it all gets. Directing online bridge removes some of the work required for face-to-face as RealBridge does a lot of this, however, it gets replaced with having to deal with technology problems which can often be very hard to diagnose. We have some of the best directors going around. Allan Pike, Angie **Boulton, Brian Soutter, David Hagley, Fiona** Lavery, Jamie Thompson, Jenny Barnes, John Newman, Kim Neale, Malcolm Martin, Ronnie Ng. Sandra Da Silva and Sue **Crompton** are all first-rate directors. Ronnie Ng and Matthew McManus are also National Directors and run our congresses for us. Without these people there would no bridge games and I am very thankful for their efforts and skills.

Teaching

We have a wonderful teaching program that covers all levels of skill. Anita Curtis, Jessica Brake and Liz Wilkinson do a fantastic job of teaching beginners and improvers. Our teaching program is the envy of clubs across the world. Fiona Lavery, John Newman, and Ann Pettigrew round out the teaching team and many others help throughout the year with supervised sessions and support. Additionally, this year, Mike was able to get time from Andy Hung and Pete Hollands to run some online lessons for us which were extremely well attended and received.

The Committee

Our committee consists of Jane Russ (Vice President), Sharon Thompson (Secretary), Rod Owen (Treasurer), Carol McMurray, Ian MacLaren and Jake Andrew. We have had a busy year as a committee with many areas requiring attention. While everyone on the committee has done a lot for the club. I would like to make special mention of Sharon Thompson who has worked tirelessly across many areas to improve things for the club. Her energy and patience as well as her technical skills are wonderful to behold, and we are extremely fortunate to have her involved. Jane and Carol are stepping down from the committee this year and I would like to thank them for everything they have done for us.

Sponsors

I would like to thank our sponsors who I am sure you are all familiar with. TBIB, Two Men and a Truck, Morgans, Falls Estate, Watermark Residences and Highgrove Willoughby. I believe that our sponsorship arrangements provide good value for us and for the sponsors and it is great to see that so many are multi-year relationships.

Providers

Kit Myers has again been our bookkeeper through his company Compukeep and continues to be a trusted partner for us. Christopher Coote was again our auditor and

spent time with Rod and I to go through things with us. Michael Giugni from the firm of Austin Giugni Martin continues to advise the club on any legal matters which arise. Matthew McManus provides exceptional support for our pre-paid system as well as directing some of our congresses. We continue to bank with Bendigo Bank and to use PayPal for incoming payments. **Milan Durovic** continues to provide excellent support for our web site.

New South Wales Bridge Association

As you may be aware there are significant changes happening at our state body the NSWBA. They are in the process of splitting the bridge club side of things out from the state body side of things. While this is a major change, we don't expect it to greatly impact us. Jake Andrew is heavily involved in this work, and we will be provided with updates by the NSWBA as it progresses. At this time, we are watching with interest but not with concern.

Technology

Like it or not, technology is a key part of how we operate NSBC. I suspect you are not all aware of how much technology we rely on. • BridgeMates – used for capturing the table results • CompScore - software used to score a session • Pianola - results and email • Websites – session information, news, marketing and much more • RealBridge online platform • Matthew McManus' pre-paid system - management of bridge payments • MailChimp – newsletter mail out • Dealing Machines – to deal the cards for face-to-face bridge • EFTPOS Terminals - these were replaced this year with newer machines and better software for us to view transactions In the last twelve months there have been a number of projects undertaken in the technology space, mostly driven by Sharon Thompson. • Updates to the look and feel of the website. Sharon and Leo have done a great job just sharpening the website up a little. I think it now looks fantastic and works better for marketing and for use on smaller devices. •

New internal systems

Sharon and Mike have worked very hard on a series of spreadsheets and reconciliations to help us tracking things like money in and out and session numbers. This still needs time to bed in but so far looks very promising. By using Sharon's IT skills to build our own custom systems we should be able to reduce the amount of time spent on this and save money. • Printers – Ian MacLaren, Rod Owen and Mike worked to move from our old printer arrangement to a new one. This is saving us a reasonable amount of money and also giving us newer printers and better service.

Social Media

Sharon with help from others has reinvigorated our Facebook presence and added Instagram. This should help us to reach a wider audience.

Marketing

Sharon ran a pilot of advertising our lessons through online marketing. It is early days, but we should learn a lot from this exercise. The main computer at East Lindfield gave up the ghost a month or so ago and had to be replaced. This highlighted the need to have a spare, which will be a project for the future.

Premises

We have been at East Lindfield now for getting on for 10 years. The premises are good, it is a nice venue to play bridge at with lots of natural lights, a pleasant outlook and ample parking. The bar is well used after the games, and we have built up a great relationship with the staff and officials of the bowling club. The relationship with The Willis is much younger (at least this time around) but is growing well. It is also a nice venue and serves a different geography. The Willis also provides us with much needed storage and an office. The only concern to raise about The Willis is that at some point in the future they plan to renovate, and we will need to find alternative accommodation for several months while this takes place. They do not know when this will happen, but we will be given as much warning as possible. Leo Goorevich led a review of

other possible venues this year and Mike and I joined Leo in some visits to check them out. This is just good practice so that we know what is available, we have no intention at the moment of taking on additional or different venues.

Finance

Our most challenging area this year has been finance. We have lost \$108k, which although better than the previous year is still not sustainable. The details of this can be found in Rod's Treasurer's Report but I will provide some commentary here. It is important to separate out the operational profit and loss (day-to-day running of the club), from the investment profit and loss. Both are important, but we need to consider them separately. In terms of the investment side, we are generally quite conservative with our investments. This year we lost about \$25k in this area. When we decided to invest some of our money in a fund it was at a time when bank deposit rates were virtually zero and returns from funds were good. I fully support the decision taken at the time to do this (prior to this committee), but we will review our position again in light of current conditions. It should be noted that this is a mark-to-market loss which may well come back over time.

The area that concerns me more is our operating profit and loss as this is far more indicative of the financial health of the club. Our club is the largest in Australia by a considerable amount. We offer a high-quality product which is what our members want, however offering that comes with a cost. Our main expenses are accommodation and staff costs, but other costs are also a consideration. We put the table fees up in November and I think it gives a truer reflection of the actual trajectory we are on to consider the last few months. On that basis we are losing about \$6,000 per month which is approximately half of what we were losing last year, but still not sustainable. That gives us a further projected operating loss for next year of \$72,000. For those members who are interested in the financial side of the club (and I know many are not), it is important to understand the thought processes that the committee, Mike, and I, go

through when considering this. I will run through some of this.

Firstly, given that we have reasonable reserves, we could continue to operate at a loss and still survive. Our reserves do give us a buffer here, so we have time to turn this around, but just eating into our nest egg is not something that I am prepared to do as a longterm plan. There are two main reasons for this. Firstly, I believe that the President and committee have a duty to leave the club in the best state that they can when they leave office. Running down our reserves would not achieve this. The club would be worse off. The second, and more important reason, is that a club that is losing money is not viable in the long term. This leads to general issues of morale amongst staff and to some extent members. We want to thrive, and not achieving this is an unrewarding outcome for all. I know some people like to find hidden meanings that aren't there, so for the complete avoidance of doubt, I am not casting aspersions on the previous committee or president by commenting that we lost less money this year than the year before. Under David Fryda's excellent leadership, the club successfully navigated Covid which happened during premises changes and Mike's health issues. It may have looked calm at the time, but I can assure you that without David's leadership we would not be in the strong position we are today. However, those are not the

Aside: I do get asked why we need to maintain reserves when we are no longer in a realistic position to buy premises, which was the original driver for our reserves. The honest answer is that I don't know. The money is there in case we need it, but I have no more idea than anyone else what we are going to need it for. I can think of many situations where having capital will be required in order to serve the best interests of the club, this could be as a buffer for an adverse event, another pandemic without government support, a legal issue or a liability that we are not yet aware of, or it could be for an opportunity such as the ability to take out a

circumstances that this committee finds itself in

and we now need a different approach.

long term lease at reduced rates or a chance to merge with another club, or invest in a strategic software platform. I don't know. The one thing I do know, is that if something good or bad comes up, we will need capital. For that reason, I am not prepared to see it diminish without good reason. You may disagree in which case you are free to stand for the committee and change our direction, but I won't change my views on this easily. So, what levers can we pull to address this? Basically, we can cut cost or increase income. We have worked very hard this year to reduce costs and I can tell you that every week when I catch up with Mike, this is front of his mind and mine. From reducing storage costs to changing staff contracts and reviewing our external spending. I am confident that we have done as much as we can, and we continue to look for opportunities to do more. Could we do even more to reduce costs? Absolutely. But I don't think you want us to. We could move to cheaper but less appealing premises. We could get rid of the pre-paid system and return to cash at the table (I'm not even sure that would now save us money), we could return to travellers (remember them?) and get rid of Pianola and BridgeMates, we could employ cheaper and less competent staff. I think you get the idea, any more significant reductions in cost are going to have a very detrimental impact to your bridge.

The other side of the equation is income. Our sponsors help us greatly here, but the main source of income is table fees (slightly helped by annual subscriptions). Here the maths is very simple. The more people that play, the more revenue the club obtains. Our income is basically Table Fees X Players (It is actually not that simple as we have sliding scales for director pay, different financial relationships with our venues and a number of other factors that make this non-trivial, but at a simplistic level if we have more people playing, or we charge more, then the club does better) Not surprisingly, this links back to the very first metric that I referred to in this report Table Numbers. At some point this year, we will apply inflationary increases to our table fees. At that point, and based upon table numbers, we will attempt to match the fees to the cost of running the club. I hope nobody is surprised when this happens, and also that you understand the thought processes behind it. One thing that I am very keen to ensure is that we never prioritise profit/breakeven over the other key indicators I have listed here that represent the success of the club. We are a not-for-profit organisation. Conclusion

I will repeat what I said at the start of this report: "The North Shore Bridge Club has had a relatively strong year, especially in comparison with other Australian and International bridge clubs. That is not to say that everything is perfect, or that there aren't areas of concern, but overall, I am very happy with the state of our club." I am very proud to be the President of North Shore Bridge Club and I am sure, given everything that I have covered here, that we will continue to be a great place to play bridge.

Cheers Mark Guthrie President, North Shore Bridge Club



2023 Club Champion Race

The 2023 club champion will be determined from results in 28 major club events. Four CC Events completed in March.

- Congress Online Open Teams
- Comp night Club Mixed Pairs.
- Congress Pauline Evans Pairs @ EL
- Stratified- MP Pairs 3 / 4 Sat @ EL & RB



The leaders board at end of March

	2023 Club Championship Lea	ader Boa	rd
Rank	Member	CC Points	Events
1	Wei ZHANG	26	6
2=	Helen LOWRY	23	8
2=	Witold CHYLEWSKI (jun)	23	7
4=	Michael COURTNEY	19	6
4=	Peter JEFFERY	19	4
4=	Yumin LI	19	4
7=	ANDREW PEAKE	17	3
7=	DAVID HUDSON	17	3
7=	GISELLE MUNDELL	17	2
10	Catherine ZHANG	16	5
11	Mischa SOLAR	14	5

Two more CC Events will **complete in April**.

- Comp night Morgans Swiss Pairs.
- Congress Online Swiss Pairs

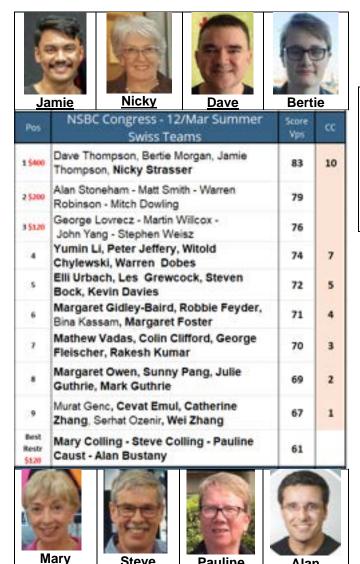




Congress - Online Teams Results



This RB Online Teams Congress was contested by 26 teams and was well directed by Mathew McManus.



Link to Online Teams Honour Board Link to Open Full Results

Pauline

Alan

Comp Night – Club Mixed Pairs Results



This RB Online Club Mixed Pairs (using Imp/VP Scoring) was contested by 28 mixed Pairs.

A full round robin was played over 3 Thursday nights, playing 9 x 3 board matches each night. Well directed event by Ronnie Ng.



Pos	2023 Comp night - Club Mixed Pairs Championship	Score MPM	cc
1	Giselle MUNDELL - Andrew PEAKE	62%	10
2	Sophie ASHTON - David BEAUCHAMP	61%	7
3	Wei ZHANG - Wayne ZHU	58%	5
4	George BILSKI - Mischa SOLAR	55%	4
5	Helen LOWRY - Gary BARWICK	53%	3
	Steven BOCK - Linda AUBUSSON	53%	2
7	Fiona LAVERY - Leo GOOREVICH	53%	1

Winners will be offered to represent the club at the State Mixed Pairs finals to be held at the NSWBA on 21/22 May.

Link to Club Mixed Pairs Honour Board Link to Full results

Congress – Pauline Evans Results



This 10th running of our Pauline Evans Swiss Pairs Congress at our east Lindfield premises, attracted 36 Pairs. Nibbles and an attractive lunch were included in the entry.

6 x 9 board matches were played to determine the winning pairs. The event was well directed by Michael Prescott.



Pos	NSBC Congress - 26/Mar - Pauline Evans - Swiss Pairs @ EL	Score VPs	cc
1	Jeanette Abrams & Helen Lowry	81.6	10
2	Gary Lane & Geoff Smith	80.2	7
3	Alan Stoneham & Mitch Dowling	78.5	
4	Les Grewcock & Julianne Rocks	77.2	5
5	Kevin Wu & Jake Lin	76.5	4
6	Matt Smith & Warren Robinson	73.5	
7	Robin Ho & Alexander Cook	72.7	3
8	Fiona Fawcett & David Hudson	71.0	2
	David Burton & Marlaine Gahan	70.8	1

Link to Pauline Evans Congress Honour Board Link to Open Full Results

"Hygrove" Stratified Pairs Results



The Stratified Pairs is a special type of competition that brings all members of our club together to play in one huge event during the month of March with lots of prizes. Visitors are very welcome to participate in this event too.

Once again, all of us at NSBC would like to thank our wonderful sponsors Hyegrove Willoughby for the very generous prizes. Hyegrove are providing world-class retirement living in the new Heart of Willoughby. Please visit their website, as you just might find that special place you have been looking for. Visit the Hyegrove Website



Each week, the outright winners at each Venue / session won cash prizes of \$100 & \$50.

Date	Ven	1	Pos	"Hyegrove Willoughby" Stratified Pairs @ EL & RB Outright Session Winners	Score N
	EL	16	15000	Mark & Julie Guthrie	63%
4-Mar	er.	10	2550	Trish Harrison & Helen Jeffery	62%
+400	000	18.5	1 5100	Kuldip Bedi & Helen Milward	64%
	RB	18.5	2 550	Lorna Ichilcik & George Fleischer	63%
		16.5	15100	Alessandro Gado & Alex Kemeny	68%
	EL	16.5	2,550	Peter & Marika Lorschy	62%
11-Mar	nn.	100	15500	Michael Courtney & Paul Brake	62%
	RB	18.5	2 550	Gisselle Mundell & Rena Kaplan	61%
	-		15000	Alessandro Gado & Alex Kemeny	70%
15.64w	EL	15.5 2500 Carol Mo		Carol McMurray & Alicia Mercer	64%
10.00	-		15000	Helen Lowry & Jane Beeby	63%
	RB	15	2 556	Peter Bendelstein & Mark Moskow	60%
-	-		1,5500	Alessandro Gado & Alex Kemeny	64%
25-Mar	EL.		2550	Beverley Callaway & Maria Remedios	61%
20-0/8			1 5100	Michael Courtney & Paul Brake	65%
	RB		2550	Alicia Mercer & Julia Connor	62%

Session Winners



OVERALL PRIZES

To be eligible for overall prizes you will have to play with the same partner in at least three stratified sessions. At the end of the event the results from both venues will be combined and re-scored using the best three scores for each pair in each find the category winners. The prize categories are:

- A. 750+ masterpoints
- B. 500 750 masterpoints
- C. 300 500 masterpoints
- D. 100 300 masterpoints
- E. 0 100 masterpoints

Overall prizes for each category are \$300 for 1st place and \$150 for 2nd place. The category you were placed in is based on the player in the pair with the most masterpoints.



Link to <u>Stratified Pairs Honour Board</u> Link to <u>Outright Full Results</u>



Anita Curtis is running her popular **Develop** your **Skills** & **Broaden** your **Game** series. See website for more details.

Anita offers an extensive range of topics in the Broaden Your Game and Intermediate Hand Analysis Classes held on Wednesdays at 2pm. From the 1st April, there is a small price increase for these lessons, they are still great value at \$20 for members and \$25 for visitors. I invite you to take your game to the next level and join Anita on Wednesdays, if you can't make the date or time - Anita will email you a recording to watch at your leisure.





Broaden Your Game (BYG): aspiring intermediate players who play in Rookies or Restricted.

Intermediate: aspiring open players or those with considerable experience in Restricted.

Date	Lesson Topic	Description
5 Apr	Discards – Eddie Kantar	BYG/Intermediate defence. As a defender, a hand is often won or lost on what you discard. One of the world's expert teachers gives tips that will make you a better defender!
12 Apr	Splinters - Tools for major suit success	6YG bidding. The next step in intermediate bidding knowing how to show opener that you have a singleton
19 Apr	Consider the bidding as declarer – Eddie Kantar	the bidding to help place the cards during the play? Eddie Kantar shows you how to make inferences and the best decisions.
26 Apr	Card combinations missing 2 honours (part 2)	Inti/Intermediate declarer play. How to play common card combinations missing 2 honours.

NSBC Develop Your Skills Mar-Apr 2023 Program ONLINE THURSDAYS at 9.30am with Anita Curtis



Develop Your Skills (DYS) is aimed at players who have completed the Build on the Basics course or who have been playing for at least one year. Bidding, declarer play & defence are all targeted, as well as hand analysis to consolidate skills leant. These lessons will be held on-line. You can suite the video or participate in the arons session (9.30-11.30am). You can also play the hands on <u>linelitridge</u> after the lesson at your convenience.

Date	Lesson Topic	
Apr 6	Hand Analysis 1 (review all skills)	
Apr 13	Signalling is Legal (defence)	
Apr 20	Brilliant switches (defence)	
Apr 27	Double or nothing - when is a double for penalties? (bidding)	

Visitors \$20; Members \$17

For more information or to register, email Anita: ac210927@bigpond.net.au



Jessica Brake

Jessica Brake will restart Bridge Basics online April 10th. Zoom at 9.30am Monday mornings. All enquires to info@learnbridgeinsydney .com.au

Build on the Basics	Thursdays	1:30 PM	Willis
Responder's First Priorities and Opener Rebids	13th April	1:30 PM	Willis
Planning and Entry Management	20th April	1:30 PM	Willis
Opening and 2 Suited Hands	27th April	1:30 PM	Willis
Responder's NT Bids	4th May	1:30 PM	Willis
Defence and Leads	11th May	1:30 PM	Willis



Liz Wilkinson has begun F2F "Bridge Basics", which is on Tuesday mornings at 10am. Players returning to bridge can join in any week.

Bridge Basics FTF with Liz began at EL March 14th. These lessons expand on the basic ideas already learnt, introduce some new concepts, and focus more on card playing skills. Each week there is a practice session that supports the lesson. Lessons are \$20 for members and

\$25 for visitors. Membership forms are available at the club.



Returning to Bridge after a long break?

Liz Wilkinson is teaching "Build on the **Basics**" at the Willis every Thursday at 1.30. These lessons are perfect for people returning to bridge after a long break and for Supervised players wanting to raise their game to the next level. Lessons feature both explanation and play so that you have the chance to put new skills into practice.

Players may come to one or all of the lessons, but please register your initial interest to info@learnbridgeinsydney.com.au \$20 per lesson for members, \$25 for non-members.

The full curriculum is available on our website (very bottom of the page) https://www.northshore.bridgeclub.org/building-your-basic-skills

Please let your friends know it's time to get back into bridge!

Club Admin



End March Club Membership Numbers

End of Year ABF membership rationalisation is over, with 50+ members lapsing & not rejoining removed from our membership numbers.

NSBC Membership Numbers	Home Club Members	Non Home Club Members
2-074 NSBC East Lindfield	310	14
2-120 NSBC - Willis	1101	179
RealBridge (remote members)		125
Total Mar	1411	318
Grand Total Memberships end of Mar	1	729
End Previous Month (Feb)	1	702

We pay ABF & NSWBA affiliation fees per "Home Club" Member.



LG – Website Changes

Website news

We hope you like the new look and feel and should you have any feedback - please let us know by using our feedback form by clicking here.



GB – Online Manager Update



Gary Barwick Online Manager

"Bridge Across the Ditch #2"

Hello Online Bridge Fans,

I am excited to announce the return of "Bridge Across The Ditch #2" at 12:00pm Tuesday 18th April 2023. This is a fun event for all levels of players including our newest Rookies to our most experienced Grand Masters. This is a friendly afternoon competition between North Shore Bridge Club (and our Aussie friends) with Auckland Bridge club (and their NZ friends).

Enter via the "Coming Up..." section on the North Shore Bridge Club Website. Get your entries in early to avoid missing out we can only accept enough entries to balance with the NZ entries, so it will be first come first serve basis. Two sections.

- one for Rookie/Restricted (players < 300 masterpoints and play around 20 boards) and one for
- one for the Open where anyone can choose to play. Regular session fees apply \$13 for members (charged to PPaccount) and \$16 for visitors.

NZ won the first match lets see if we can even the score this time.

Any questions don't hesitate to call Gary Barwick on 0413 884 805



Mentor a Friend



Fiona Lavery

We invite you to mentor a friend in Supervised bridge.

The committee would like members to think about any friends that they may have who are shy, scared or nervous about playing club bridge. Can you think of someone?

Can you think of anyone who would benefit from playing bridge in a relaxed environment, where they can ask questions, won't get into trouble for doing the wrong thing? If so, we are inviting you to bring that friend along to one of our Supervised Sessions. You will partner them and help them develop their skills and confidence to play in a Club duplicate game.

Your friend will pay for their session as per usual, but as their mentor you will not. We just ask that you support, nurture and encourage them. The current **Supervised** session times are.

Face-to-face at East Lindfield:

- Mondays at 9:45 for 10 am, with a short talk
- Mondays at 6:45 for 7 pm, with a short talk
- Wednesdays 10am

Online with RealBridge:

- Tuesdays at 10 am.
- Thursdays at 7 pm.

Costs are the same as a regular club duplicate games \$13 pp online and \$15 pp Face to Face. They go for 2 hours.

If you cannot think of anyone to bring, but you would like to be a mentor - we are always looking for people to help mentor. Please email us at info@learnbridgeinsydney.com.au

if you want to be a mentor.

If you want to bring a friend, please just turn up at a session and let the Director know that you are a mentor.



Club Committee Minutes

The club publishes regular committee minutes https://www.northshore.bridge-club.org/meeting-minutes

History Club Newsletters

https://www.northshore.bridgeclub.org/newsletters





Vale John Wignall (1932-2023)

The ABF Board and the Australian Bridge community send our condolences to Adele and their three children.

John (pictured below with his wife Adele) served the ABF well for 32 years as President of Zone 7. In 2019, the ABF President presented John with a plaque as appreciation of his enormous contribution to bridge in Australia. The WBF also awarded John a Gold Medal for his services to bridge.

John's legacy will live on through the work that he accomplished and the people he impacted.



Allison Stralow ABF President

Australian 2023 Youth Teams

The Australian teams for the 18th World Team Youth Championships, to be held in Veldhoven Netherlands on 31 July – 7 August 2023 are:

<u>U26 team:</u> David Gue – Joshua Tomlin, Sebastian Langdon Macmillan – Tomer Libman, Damon Flicker – Seb Wright, Mike Doecke (NPC)

<u>U21 team:</u> Jack Luke-Paredi – George Bartley, Lara Topper – Jacob Rose, Alex Goss – Bertie Morgan, Rebecca O'Reilly (NPC)

AUTUMN NATIONALS 2023 (4th to 8th May 2023)

Parking Passes:

Four-day parking passes will be available as usual. Instead of the daily parking cost of \$12, you can purchase a four-day pass for \$24. Please contact Barbara Travis if you would like to organise a parking pass (and please elaborate if you require disabled parking access); passes will be available in advance, or on day 1, but pre-payment is required.

We look forward to seeing you in Adelaide in Autumn. Barbara Travis

WBF / BBO Women's Online Bridge Festival

The World Bridge Federation Women's Spring Festival will be held online on the BridgeBase Online platform from 10 – 16 April, 2023.

The WBF hopes as many women players as possible will play. The WBF President, Jan Kamras, will offer free entry to the next WBF Pairs Championship which is planned for 2024 for the overall winner plus a partner of her choice. Please note that this event will be a National Championship, so the partner will need to be eligible to play for the same country.

There will be other BBO prizes to be won and WBF Online Master Points will be awarded to the top 20 players in the final ranking.

All details: www.wbfwomensbridgeclub.org
Brochure



NSW Open Team selected

2023 NSW Open Team for the Interstates.



Open Team: Lavy Libman, Tomer Libman, Warren Lazer, Pauline Gumby, Tony Nunn and Paul Dalley.

NSBC Comp Night –Q1 2023

Current event is underway, no further Entries.





A further 1 week break for the Adelaide Autumn Nationals





♦ NSBC Congress Events −2023









then the NSBC festival congress events start in June

Our Novice & Restricted Congress @ EL







Our MP Swiss Pairs Congress on RB





Our Watermark Swiss Pairs @ EL





Our Teams Congress on RB





Our TBIB Teams Congress @ EL





Beginner Bridge Lessons



Do you know anybody who may be interested in learning to play bridge?

New F2F lessons begin 6th May. info@learnbridgeinsydney.com.au



Major Club Events

♦ 2023 CC Club Championship Events

The 2023 will be determined from results in 28 major club events. After 9 completed events, the remaining events are:

Torrian	2023 Club Champion - Agreed Qualification Events										
		2023 CIUB C	nampion - Ag	reea Qi	ualification Events						
CC Number	CC Max	Event Style	Dates	Venue	CC Event Name						
10	20	5x Comp Nights Mar/Apr	Thu-30-Mar	RB	"MORGANS" Club Swiss Pairs Championship						
11	10	1x Sun Congress Apr	Sun-23-Apr	RB	Autumn Swiss Pairs Congress						
12	20	5x Comp Nights May/Jun	Thu-11-May	RB	GNOT Direct						
13	10	2x Comp Nights in Jun/Jul	Thu-29-Jun	RB	Matchpoint Swiss Pairs						
14	10	1x Thur Congress Jun	Thu-22-Jun	RB	Festival Thursday Matchpoint Swiss Pairs						
15	20	1x Fri Congress Jun	Fri-23-Jun	EL	"WATERMARK" Festival Swiss Pairs						
16	10	1x Sat Congress Jun	Sat-24-Jun	RB	Festival Saturday Swiss Teams						
17	20	1x Sun Congress Jun	Sun-25-Jun	EL	"TBIB" Festival Swiss Teams						
18	10	3x Comp Nights Jul/Aug	Thu-27-Jul	RB	Board a Match						
19	10	1x Sun Congress Jul	Sun-30-Jul	RB	Open Winter Swiss Teams Congress						
20	10	1x Sun Congress Aug	Sun-20-Aug	RB	Online Winter Swiss Pairs Congress						
21	20	5x Comp Nights Aug/Sep	Thu-24-Aug	RB	"WATERMARK" Club Teams Championship						
22	10	1x Sun Congress Aug	Sun-27-Aug	EL	Swiss Teams Congress						
23	10	4xComp Nights Sep/Oct	Thu-28-Sep	RB	Club Open Pairs Championship						
24	10	1x Mon Congress Oct	Mon-02-Oct	EL	Labour Day Pairs Congress						
25	10	4xComp Nights Nov	Thu-09-Nov	RB	Club Mixed Teams						
26	10	2x Comp Nights in Dec/Jan	Thu-14-Dec	RB	Club XMAS Teams						
27	10	1x Sat Congress Dec	Sat-16-Dec	RB	Festive Season Swiss Pairs						
28	10	1x Sun Congress Dec	Sun-17-Dec	RB	Festive Season Swiss Teams						

2023 Monthly Table Statistics





The following table shows the **2023 table numbers** (overall & at each venue)

YTD (end Mar) = 3972 Tables, 588 Player sessions, Likely End of Year= 64,000 player sessions

	2023 Session Table Statistics 20						s 2023 Totals Histo 2022 202					istory 2021	(9	2020	
2023	No Sess	Avr Tables / Session	Cong Tables	RB Tables	EL. Tables	Willis Tables	Comments	Ven Note	Active Tables	Went Note	Tables	Ven Note	Tables	Ven Note	Tables
YTD	588	6.76	302	2,232	1,068	371		YTD-	3,972		17,685		18,852		15,533
Jan-23	217	5.93	124	719	330	115	Congress RB Teams & Pairs events, Comp- Pairs & Teams. ABF F2F Summer Festival, Tables RB=65% F2F=35% Open=68%	RB EL WS	1,287	RB EL WS	1,328	RB	1,140	CW EL	631
Feb-23	205	6.04	68	696	353	123	Congress RB Pairs event, Comp Night- Teams, ABF F2F Surfers, Tables RB=63% F2F=37% Open =66%	RB EL WS	1,239	RIS EL WS	1,317	RB EL	1,188	CW EL	1,648
Mar-23	160	8.90	88	818	386	133	Congress RB Teams, EL Swiss Pairs, Comp Night - Mixed Pairs, ABF F2F Tassie, Tables RB=51% F2F=39% Open =58%	RB EL WS	1,424	RED ELL WS		RID ELL HIR	1,455	CW	826

INVITATION TO HYEGROVE WILLOUGHBY

LUXURY RETIREMENT LIVING - DISPLAY SUITE

As a sponsor of our 2023 **Stratified Pairs Championships** in March, Hyegrove Willoughby invite you to view their display suite at 44 Penshurst Street, Willoughby.

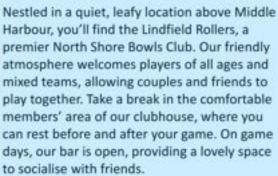
Hyegrove Willoughby will be a luxurious retirement living community located in the new Heart of Willoughby precinct in Crabbes Avenue, Willoughby, on the site of the old Club Willoughby. Construction commenced last year on The Heart of Willoughby lifestyle precinct which includes a new state-of-the-art Club Willoughby, Hyegrove Willoughby which offers luxury retirement living, additionally there will be boutique aged care, open space and retail.

The 1, 2 and 3 bedroom apartments at Hyegrove Willoughby are luxuriously appointed and offer premium finishes, fittings and appliances and are pet friendly. It will be truly world class with a Concierge, Roof Top Entertaining Area, Games Room, Indoor Heated Pool, Private Movie Theatre, Café, Room Service, Day Spa, Gym, Arts and Crafts Studio and much more. Additionally, there is 24/7 onsite care to give you absolute peace of mind

To book your appointment to view the Hyegrove Willoughby display at 44 Penshurst Street, Willoughby please phone Mitsuko on 8045 8694 or email info@hyegrove.com.au or visit www.hyegrove.com.au

Where the community comes together









Weekly schedule for lawn bowls

You'll find us on the greens from 12.30pm to 4pm on Wednesdays and Saturdays, stopping for afternoon tea at 2.15pm. Ring in (0482 533 088) for a game between 10am – 10.45am on the day, and we'll Book you in. Green fees are just \$20 per player.

New to the game or new to the area? Come along to our coaching sessions to meet our local community and try your hand at bowls.



MORGANS FINANCIAL

CALL DANNY DREYFUS ON 02 8116 1717

Morgans Financial, our sponsor of the Morgans Club Swiss Pairs & Restricted Pairs Championships, are offering free initial consultations at their Chatswood offices for financial advice for NSBC members.

- · Are you frustrated at how little interest your savings are earning?
- Are you paying high adviser fees for low service?
- Is Estate Planning on your agenda but constantly deferred?

Email:

DANNY.DREYFUS@MORGANS.COM.AU



A PEOPLE-FIRST PHILOSOPHY



UNPARALLELED DINING, HEALTH & WELLBEING

Residents will have access to the restaurant and bistro, gym, hydrotherapy pool, movie cinema, wellness spaces and the Himalayas putting course. With our resident's health and wellbeing a priority at Watermark Residences, we are providing free and exclusive exercise classes that are tailored to retirees' needs, such as Yoga, Tai Chi and Aqua Aerobics.

CARE CONCIERGE

Your good health, wellbeing and independence are vital to leading a full and happy life. A Vitalis Concierge will be available onsite to residents who wish to address any concerns regarding personal health or home care, no matter how big or small.

DAILY COURTESY BUS

Our residents will enjoy access to a courtesy bus for transportation to local destinations including our local vibrant shopping areas in Chatswood and Lane Cove Village.

NO ELECTRICITY COSTS

Residents will never receive a power bill for their home. Solar power will generate 100% of the electricity for every apartment.

RESIDENTS KEEP 100% OF CAPITAL GAIN & FIXED FEES FOR LIFE

After deducting the deferred management fee, you keep the balance of the capital gain (unlike most other retirement operators). Our deferred management fee is one of the lowest in the industry at 25%. All resident monthly recurrent charges are fixed for life, providing comfort and security in an uncertain economic landscape.



Residences 128 Beaconsfield Rd Chatswood NSW 2067 For Appointments, call Nada & Miranda on 1800 520 168 or visit watermarkresidences.com.au

By Pariter and Watermark Living