From: **North Shore Bridge Club Inc** manager@northshorebridgeclub.com.au
Subject: November Newsletter
Date: 4 November 2024 at 12:05 pm
To: Sharon Thompson president@northshorebridgeclub.com.au

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NORTH SHORE since 1962 BRIDGE CLUB

Monthly Newsletter

November 2024 | Editor: Russell Spear

Dear Sharon,
To see all our latest news and events, please visit our website which is updated daily. Click he to visit the website.

In This Issue

Club Notices
From the President
Directors' Course
Masters of Bridge
Extend your Knowledge
Major Results
Upcoming Events
Lessons
Dear Director
Monthly Winners
Masterpoint Promotions
New Members

CLUB NOTICES

Melbourne Cup - Bridge, Lunch, Sweeps and Race

Join us at East Lindfield for Bridge starting at 10am then we will have lunch (please bring a pl of food or dessert - the Club will provide the drinks). We will have Lunch, watch the race and hopefully pick the winner. Cost $25pp includes drinks and bridge game.

Melbourne Cup Tuesday at the Willis - normal session is still on

The 12:30pm Open session at The Willis be on as per usual.

Christmas Lunch on 6th December

Good news and bad news! The bad news is that this event has fully sold out. The good news that a few spots are still available for the **Christmas Lunch on 29th November**. To book you place, please click the button below

Click here to book in for the Christmas Lunch

Click here to book in for the Christmas Lunch

Membership Renewals
Your NSBC annual membership will expire on 31st December 2024. To continue as a membe
simply ensure that your PP Account has enough funds in the last week of December to cover
Membership Fee and your regular games.

Membership Fees for 2025
Full Member - $70.00 (this includes affiliate members who live within Sydney Metro)
Online Member - $45.00 (must reside outside of Sydney Metro area)

Important: If you do not wish to renew, you must let us know. If we do not receive a cancellation request, we will automatically renew your membership on your behalf and char
your PP Account. To cancel, please click the button below

Fill out the attached form to cancel your membership as of 31st December 2024

DIRECTORS COURSE

All Club Members are invited to a Club Directors Course Presented by Ian Lisle

To Be held on Friday 15 November 2024 at North Shore Bridge Club 2B Carlyle Rd, East Lindf

Commencing 9 for 9.30 am and concluding at 3:30 pm
This course is suitable for those wishing to learn more about the laws of bridge and those wishing to become Club Directors.
It will provide:

- Required skills and knowledge for a Club Director
- Knowledge of the laws related to the most common calls for the Director
- An understanding of the basics of movements and matchpoint scoring.

Completion of this course will equip you well to sit the D level exam required to direct red pc
sessions at club level.

There is no charge for this course and course notes are provided.

Copies of three books recommended for Directors will be for sale.

We have loaned BNSW our premises. A lunch of sandwiches and snacks will be provided.

Book into the free Directors Course to be held at East Lindfield on 15th Nov @ 9:30am

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FROM THE PRESIDENT

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Shock, horror – the festive season is upon us again! I'm back from my grand adventure, and I must say, the Staff and various Sub-Committees have been working tirelessly in my absence. huge thank you to everyone!

What an amazing performance by our NSBC members at the Spring Nationals. Well done to the place getters - we are very proud.

With Jo and me back in the same time zone, we're finalising the budget for 2025. As many of know, we've seen a double whammy in ABF Capitation and BNSW affiliation fees, along with hikes, wage increases, increases in cost of masterpoints and good old inflation. The good ne We've found a few places to trim the budget, and I am pleased to report that we will be keep both Membership Fees and Table Fees at their 2024 rates, which is $70 for Sydney Metro members and Home Club members and $45 for our online members who reside outside the Sydney metro area.

I have had a few enquiries as to why the increase from the ABF and BNSW. The ABF explain strategy and the need to increase Capitation Fees and Masterpoint fees in this article from D Fryda - please click here to read.

The NSWBA (New South Wales Bridge Association) was previously the state body for bridge i NSW, but only members of the Sydney Bridge Centre (SBC) could vote under its structure. Th arrangement left affiliated clubs, including ours, paying fees without having a direct voice in organisation. Recently, however, SBC and the Bridge Network of NSW (BNSW) have separate with assets divided between the two. Unfortunately, this split has left BNSW with limited wor capital.

To address this, BNSW has increased fees to build up its resources, enabling it to better supp bridge clubs across the state. While this fee hike is frustrating, it should ultimately benefit cl like ours. As one of NSW's "Big Four" bridge clubs, we now have a direct role in decision-mak at BNSW, allowing us to represent our members' interests effectively.

This change is still very recent, and we need to give BNSW some time to establish itself and s delivering on its goals.

Terry, with Jo's help, has been meeting with local councils to scout out opportunities and potential support for a permanent club home. We're also exploring options for the Reserve Fund. Special thanks to Peter Marshall for his invaluable assistance in this area – thank you, Peter!

Our Christmas parties are shaping up nicely! The Christmas Lunch on Friday, 6 December is There are still a few spots available for lunch on Friday 29th November, to book please click here. We'd love to see you there!

Meanwhile, Mike and Gary have been hard at work putting the finishing touches on the 2025 Calendar. Mike is also in the middle of designing a teaching calendar aimed at helping our Supervised and Rookies step confidently into the Restricted and Open sections.

And now, for some exciting news – we have a new Newsletter Editor! Russell Spear, a membe since 2017 and publishing aficionado, has volunteered to take the helm. Thank you, Russell, stepping up to keep us all informed! If you have any news articles, please contact Russell at news@northshorebridgeclub.com.au.

That's all from me for now. Until next time, stay safe, and remember – with summer around corner, **the best way to dodge the heat is to play more bridge!** Hopefully see you at Melbourne Cup or either of the Christmas Lunches.

Kind regards
Shaz

MASTERS OF BRIDGE

Interviews with leading Bridge Players

Mike Prescott	
How Long have you been Playing Bridge	Learnt at age 16. Started playing at a Bridge Club when I was 18 - played for just on 40 years.
How Many Master Points have you earned	Total of 5,480.89 Gold 4148.52, Red 1246.47, Green 85.90 Played professionally for many Years at Grand Slam with clients. Only occasionally play now in major ABF Gold Po events.
What tournaments have you won and tournaments where you have represented Club/State/Australia	Played on New Zealand youth team with partner Michae Ware during the 90's. Won many events with the biggest being the Blue-Ribbon Matchpoint Pairs, in Canberra. Ca to Australia to play professional bridge in 1999. Joined professional team with Barry Noble, travelled Australia and world attending major events. Won severa National events and the playoff in 2002 to represent Australia in the world championship in Paris. Also represented Australia in two Far East Championships. Part of the Oz 1 team. Oz 1, sent teams to American nationals trying to improve the standard of our top play Since joining NSBC I only play with a client partner, Marl Watts. Marlene and I have won two national pairs events the recent past.
What is your advice to be a good Bridge Player	Try to keep things simple so you never confuse your partner. Have good agreements and always make time t discuss different things that come up in each session yo play. We all learn new things almost every time we play.
Which do you think are the most effective Bidding Protocols for a. Rookies b. Restricted Players	Rookie players should be looking at adding new things t their system as they progress. Restricted players much the same but adding in more advanced tools to their system as they are getting ready

	try out Open sessions.
What Protocols do you use for Defence/How do you approach defence	It doesn't matter what you use as long as you and your partner have firm agreements and stick to them.
For New, Rookie and Restricted Players what errors do you most commonly see and what alternatives should be applied	The way to become a better Bridge player is to reduce y mistakes. Always review your poor performance boards Pianola and see what you personally could have done better. Suggest your partner does the same and then yo can discuss together. Never list partners mistakes as thi could upset them and the partnership will not last. Let t look at the scores just as you do and then compare note
What do you see as the best ways for players to improve their game	Study, we have fantastic transition lessons, Face to Face and Online and read good Bridge books.
Do you try to work out what cards your opponents have a. During Bidding b. After the first lead How do you do that	What you should do is listen to the bidding. Has declare bid two suits, have they showed a balanced hand extra. Once you see the dummy add your points to dummy an give declarer what you think they will average and how many points will this leave for your partner. Then paint picture of declarers shape - you may not get this always exact but you can get pretty close.

EXTEND YOUR BRIDGE KNOWLEDGE

EXTENDING ON THE FIVE ESSENTIAL CONVENTIONS - Stayman, Transfers, Strong 2 Clubs, Blackwood and Pre-Empts

BERGEN CONVENTION – Developed by Marty Bergen, a tennis champion while at college, Be was a 10 time National Champion and American Contract Bridge League Grand Life Master.

The Bergen Convention recognises having 4 card support for Partners major suit opening. Simply (and there are variations) when partner opens with a major (H's or S's), promising 5 c of that suit then the Bergen convention tells partner, at least at the 3 level, having 4 card sup and can lead to bidding game with less than 25 points.

The Bergen Convention is a pre-emptive bid forcing opponents to gamble – Openers partner bidding at a high level on potentially a weak hand and challenging opponents to bid at a high level without clear knowledge of each others hand.

Partner Opens 1H.
You then respond: 2H - 3 Card support with 6 - 9 points
3C - 4 Card support with 6 - 9 points
3D - 4 card support with 10 –12 points
3H - 4 Card support with 2 - 5 points
4S – 4 Card support with 12+ points

The same system applies if partner opens 1S but where 3H's is 4 Card support with 12+ poin and 3S's is 4 card support with 2-6 points

and 3S's is 4 card support with 2-6 points

Your opening partner now has a decision to make (unless you have bid 4 of Openers suit)– whether to bid for game or stay at the three level. Partner now has a clearer view of your ha and combined point total and a clear knowledge, between you have 8 cards of Openers suit the case of a 2 bid) and 9 cards (all 3 bids) in Openers suit, and also a clearer understanding the total points in your 2 hands.
The choice remains for Opener to pass the decision to partner but the above system leaves decision making in Openers Hand.
At this point it is important for you and your partner to have agreed your options in bidding. may be simpler to sign off on the above system or delve into slightly more complex options i Slam bidding can be seen as a potential outcome, particularly if Opener has 18 or 19 points.
For further information refer to lessons which may be organised or review good bridge book conventions from the NSBC Library (or purchase same)

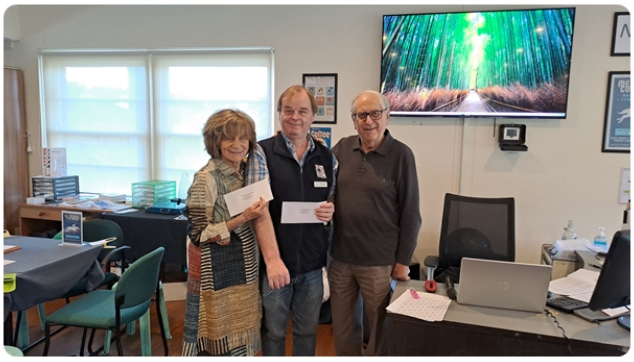
MAJOR RESULTS

Labour Day Results

Congratulations to all the participants in the Labour Day Congress where there was almost 1 attendees

Winners of North-South were **John Scotford and Liz Wilkinson**

Winners of East - West were **Catherine Zh and Cevat Emul**



Runners Up North - South were **Eva Shand**

Runners Up East - West were **Lavy Libma**

Runners Up North - South were **Eva Shand and Les Varadi**

Runners Up East - West were **Lavy Libman and Tomer Libman**

NSBC Open Pairs Championship

We have just concluded a three week online championship to identify two pairs that we spor for the Bridge NSW State Open Pairs final. The finals will be held at the Sydney Bridge club rooms in Goulburn Street on November 16-17
The top two place-getters have qualified for the finals and will be offered sponsored entry by NSBC

The winners were: **Giselle Mundell and Andrew Peake** and the Runners Up were: **Patrick J and Wieslaw Przewozniak**

2024 Spring Nationals

Quite a number of NSBC members recently competed in th 2024 Spring Nationals held at the Canterbury Racecourse ir late October

The Penline OPEN Swiss Pairs event was won by Patrick Jiar and Wieslaw Przewozniak while Yumin Lee and Peter Jeffer came second

Other great performances were achieved by:

Mary Carter and Felix Shteyman who came second in the Penline Intermediate Swiss pairs while **Lydia Gibbs and Kevin Murray** came third

Kathryn Stewart and Susan Feeney won the Penline Restricted and Novice Swiss Pairs

Giselle Mundell and Andrew Peake won the Gerda Stern Mixed Pairs

The Mundell Team - Giselle Mundell, Andrew Peake, Michael Courtney, Loan Butts mac the TBIB Open Teams final but were beaten into second place by the Haffer team which inclu **Sophie Ashton** who is an NSBC member

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Christmas Lunch @ East Lindfield
Friday 29th November
Member Function | Pairs | East Lindfield | Red Masterpoints
Click here to Register

Christmas OPEN Teams Championship
Thursday , 05 December 2024 19:00
3 week Team Event 5th, 12th, 19th December 2024 | Teams | Online

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LESSONS

Lessons to be held between and Christmas are limited to the final two sessions of the Five Essential Conventions being run by Liz Wilkinson from 0930 - 1130, on the 6th and 13th November at The Willis - 325A, Eastern Valley Way, Middle Cove 2069.

In addition Will is running a Summary and Review of Workshops this year on Friday 13th December from 10:00. Practice cue raises, Checkback, and Doubling 1NT. Plenty of bidding a defence tips. A summary of all conventions we have looked at 2024, improved judgement ar evaluation. This workshop is suitable for players of all levels, from Supervised to Open. Tips f players of all Levels. It doesn't matter if you didn't attend any, or all, of the previous worksho To book your spot - click here

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FROM THE DIRECTOR

I often get asked - how do my partner and I get better at bridge?

Bridge is a challenging and rewarding game and it is really difficult. What I find best is to hav look at the boards you didn't do so well on.

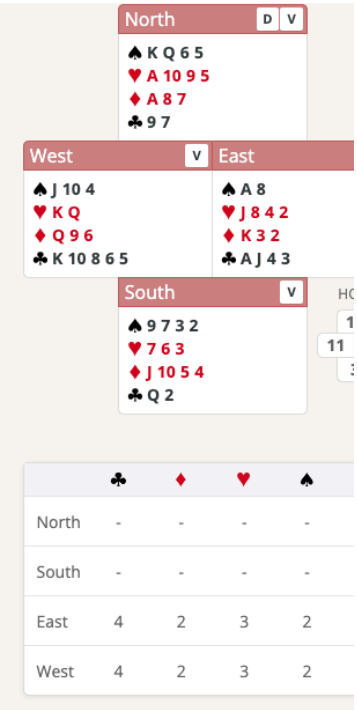
Sometimes it's just bad luck that the Opposition bid a slam against you. Other times there is often a theme. Are you being too timid in the bidding or are you being too aggressive in the bidding? Are the opponents making game when they shouldn't?

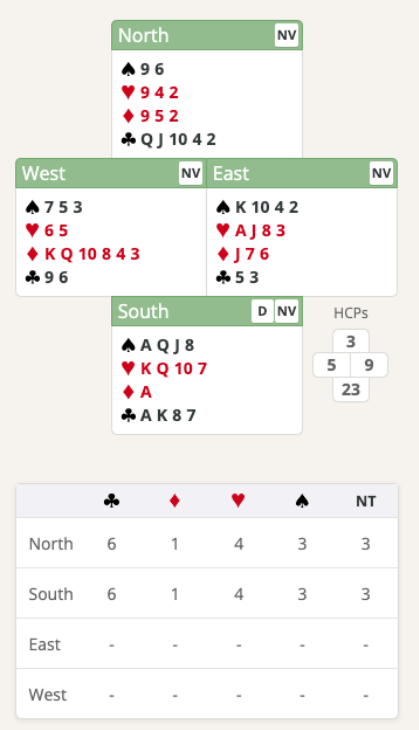
When you see there is a theme you can work on this and it will help with your bridge scores. and of course attending lessons is a great way to improve your bridge too

Board 13 Rookie 2nd October Online 2.00pm

On this hand North Opens 1 Diamond. You don't want to make a Take-Out Double here, as you don't have at least 3 cards in all the other suits. South will pass. Now as West in the pass out seat you need to bid 1NT (this is by partnership agreement needs to be alerted). It shows a stopper in the suit bid and 11-14 HCP not 15-18 HCP. If you had 15-18 you need to (Take-Out) Double first and then bid. Now partner knows how many points you have and with 13 HCP and you know where all the others points are you should raise to game.

No one got to game on this hand. So this is something to discuss with partner





Board 11 Rookie Monday 30th September F2F East Lind

On this hand you have 23 HCP. You don't need much from partner to make game. So you should open 2C. This should alerted by Partner. Partner will respond 2D (also needs to b alerted). Now you have a very difficult bid. I like to think of i - what is the best description of my hand. 2 Spades and 2 Hearts are definitely not an option. As this promises 5 card the suit. I could bid 3C. But what I think is best on the hand 2NT. Partner should respond 3NT. If the opponents interfe with 2 Diamonds still bid 2NT. Nothing is certain but it is a h where you want to be in game.

You will get a diamond lead. Then play the Ace and King of Clubs. Then play a low club to the Queen. You can't lose the lead so you just hope that the spade finesse works. It does you try it again.

MONTHLY WINNERS

Congratulations to the following players who were the overall Monthly Winners for their sess

East Lindfield Monday 10.00 AM Rookie - Pam Ward / Jill Johnson
East Lindfield Monday 1.00 PM Open - Roslyn Howes / Tony Howes
East Lindfield Monday 7.00 PM Supervised - Jenny Clarke / Alison Maine
East Lindfield Tuesday 1.30 PM Rookie - Jenny Burchfield / Marie Westgarth
East Lindfield Wednesday 10.00 AM Open - Peter Taylor / Anne Taylor

East Lindfield Thursday 10.00 AM Rookie - Virginia Sutherland / Margaret Goodrick
East Lindfield Thursday 1.00 PM Open - Brett Slater / Tony Halse
East Lindfield Saturday 1.00 PM Open - Marlaine Gahan / Helen Stewart
East Lindfield Saturday 1.00 PM Supervised - Julian Walter / Janet Burton
The Willis Monday 1.15 PM Rookie - Suzanne Kluver / John Leathart
The Willis Tuesday 12.30 PM Open - Gwen Cordingly / Lidia Punturiero
The Willis Wednesday 12.30 PM Open - Paul Swinhoe / Anthony Asher
Online Mon 10.00 am Open - Susan Feeney/ Felix Shteyman
Online Mon 1.30 pm Open - Peter Livesey / Tom Kiss
Online Mon 2.00 pm Rookie - Penny Boyd / John Boyd
Online Tue 1.30 pm Open - Barry Shine / Keith Walker
Online Tue 2.00 pm Rookie - Margaret Parker / Peter Cassin
Online Tue 7.00 pm Restricted - Wendy Milston / John Milston
Online Wed 1.30 pm Open - Phil Gue / Anthony Burke
Online Wed 2.00 pm Rookie - Noni Glew / Judy Chapple
Online Wed 7.00 pm Open - Judy Osie / David Osie
Online Thu 1.30 pm Open - Barbara Abraham / Keith Walker
Online Thu 1.30 pm Restricted - Jan Osborne / Hazel Walshaw
Online Fri 1.30 pm Open - Tom Kiss / Alasdair Beck
Online Sat 1.30 pm Open - Phil Gue / Anthony Burke

MASTERPOINT PROMOTIONS

Congratulations to the following members on their promotions.

Colin Thomas to Grand Master
Henrietta Hohnen to Gold Life Master
Fiona Fawcett to Life Master
Kathryn Stewart to National Master
Denise Dinte to Silver Local Master
John Boyd to Silver Local Master
Keith Fryirs to Silver Local Master
Leesa Adams to Silver Local Master
Marie Westgarth to Silver Local Master
Maryann Russett to Silver Local Master
Ann Poulos to Bronze Local Master
Robyn Byrnes to Bronze Local Master
Suzanne Kluver to Bronze Local Master
Gen Yan-Colebourn to Local Master
Julia Young to Local Master
Virginia Sutherland to Local Master
Aaron Minney to Club Master
Gayle Macready to Club Master
Ling Xu to Club Master
Oonagh Roles Club Master
Anne Carter to Graduate Master
David Rieser to Graduate Master
Hilary Chimes to Graduate Master
James Robinson to Graduate Master
Jennie Jones Graduate Master
Michael Richards to Graduate Master

Paula Schrieber to Graduate Master

NEW MEMBERS

A warm welcome to our new members this month. Say "Hello" if you play against them.

Darryl Almeida - Seven Hills
Peter Aubusson - Epping
Ian Caddy - Cheltenham
Myra Katz - Neutral Bay
Karen Macdonald - Wollstonecraft
Bernadette Norton - Bowral

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Smart tools for bridge clubs

This message was sent using Pianola

North Shore Bridge Club Inc, 2B Carlyle Rd, East Lindfield NSW 2070, 325A Eastern Valley Way, Middle Cove NSW 2068, NSW

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