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Tournament Organiser's Report 2026

Program: The Club is now running six face to face sessions a week. Following the demise of Tuesday's RealBridge, we introduced a Thursday afternoon session for rookies, and moved our all day and qualifying events to Tuesdays, Ronnie had advised us he was no longer available on most Thursdays. Our 2026 Program was planned on that basis and after a number of proof readings by the committee, Julie and Wendy, it was ready to be sent to the printers.

But now BridgeNSW threw a spanner in the works. It abolished the Country Teams and State Open Pairs and introduced three new State Pairs and three new State Teams Championships. With much effort, these new qualifying events were fitted in the program, but after it had been printed. Our Club will be hosting the State Regional Finals.

Directors: A number of directors retired or resigned and I like to thank Alan Bustany, Chris Hannan, Leon Babinski, Pauline Caust and Ros Dey for their contributions over the years. Welcome to our new directors, Kevin Hughes, Julieanne Perceval and Raema Nash, who are all qualified. And let us not forget our existing directors: Julie Sadler, Marg Regan and David Bowerman (now our Chief Director), thank you for your continued service. Anyone interested in becoming a director, please see David.

Externally Published Events: Congress seems stable, with 52 to 56 Pairs and 22 to 24 teams, we are doing better than a lot of other congresses. We have been running this since 2019, with 2 years on Stepbridge during COVID.

Inter Club Teams is making a slow recovery from COVID, with only 14 teams participating. Just as well, as the Leagues Club cancelled the Parkview Room. Kevin, after talking with John McIlrath, has come up with some suggestions for the incoming Committee.

Bridge Holiday attracted 8 tables. We had four people from Ipswich, who enjoyed themselves immensely, and are coming again. The venue has been booked for next year.

State Seniors' Championships' numbers were down. We have run this for six years and have applied to run it 2027. BridgeNSW has declined our application on the basis that other clubs may want to apply.

Louis Koolen

Tournament Organiser