

Welcome to the
Central Coast
Leagues Club
Bridge Club



NEWSLETTER

March, 2012

PRESENTATION

DAY - Saturday March 10

9.30am: Bridge - \$5

1pm: Luncheon - \$25

Enter: By writing your name
on the notice-board list

Pay: Director of the day or a
committee member

By: 4pm, Thursday March 8

Our favourite game, a great
meal and good company - don't
miss out!!

NEW MEMBERS

Welcome to our club:

- Pam Bourne
- Ravi Bindiganavale
- Heather Tarrant
- Robyn Jackson

We hope you enjoy playing
with us.

VALE

Sadly, we recently lost two of
our well-liked members:

- Rose Sperling
- Basil McCann

Sincere condolences to the
families and friends of Rose and
Basil who will be greatly
missed. We hope to see Jan
Bowyer back soon.

NEW ABF RANKINGS

Congratulations to the following
who have gained promotions in
February:

Patricia Kull	**National
Bob Mavin	*National
Lynette Beston	**Local

ANOTHER APPEAL

Our Committee is still short one
member. Please approach
Marilyn, Di or Margot if you
can help. Don't be shy!

RECENT RESULTS

Congratulations to all the following winners:

CLUB MIXED PAIRS Saturdays Feb 4 & 11

		17 eligible pairs
1st	Colin & Wendy Mitchell	120.6%
2nd	John & Kathy Mitchell	115.4%
3rd	David Bowerman & Dasha Brandt	113.8%

INTERCLUB TEAMS Thursday February 9 18 teams

1st	Hope Tomlinson, Barry Foster, Martin Johnson, Jenny Buckley	132 VPs
2nd	Peter Johnman, Jan Clarke, Kerrie Johnman, Virginia Dressler	119 VPs
3rd	Nancy Joss, Adele Mills, Lorrain & Jack Lindsay	118 VPs

AUTUMN PAIRS Tuesday February 14 23 pairs

1st	Angela & Kevin Dougall	66.3%
2nd	Bob & Vicky Morris	57.9%
3rd	Bev Moran & Marie Purkiss	57.0%

CONGRESSES

GOLD COAST CONGRESS - Feb 25 - Mar 3

A wonderful sight to see 402 tables of bridge players all in the one room, all trying to earn gold points, and once again, what wonderful organisation! This is the largest bridge congress in the Southern Hemisphere and one of the largest in the world!

By my calculations there were 36 players from the Central Coast battling it out in both pairs and teams events.

There were 5 categories of pairs: Open (264), Seniors (94), Intermediate (37), Restricted (64), Novice (40)

Best placed Central Coast (mostly) players were -

Open Qualifying:	Kaylee Lemon & Wayne Burrows	25th (NS)
	Di & Peter Coats	80th (NS)
	Margo Brennan & Lorraine Carr	87th (EW)
	Phil Morris & Toni Dixon	109th (EW)
	Irma & Gary Heyting	117th (EW)

Finals were run in 8 sections of 14 tables and 2 sections of 10 tables.

Seniors	Colin & Wendy Mitchell	29th (NS)
Qualifying:	Peter & Dorothy Berzins	30th (NS)

Restricted	Martin Johnson & Jenny Buckley	1st (EW)
Qualifying:	Barry Foster & Hope Tomlinson	52nd (NS)

Martin & Jenny finished 14th in Final A, and Barry & Hope finished 2nd in Final D. Congratulations!!

There were also 5 categories of teams: Open (220), Seniors(46), Intermediate (44), Restricted (64) and Novice (30).

Best placed Central Coast (mostly) players were -

Open Qualifying:	Gary & Irma, Phil & Toni	91st
	Kaylee, Wayne, Jack & Lorraine Lindsay	95th
	Sally & Gary Clarke, Janet Clarke, Frances Lyons	106th

Seniors Qualifying:

Virginia Dressler, Ian McKinnon with Sydney pair David Smee and Mischa Solar qualified 2nd to playoff in the Final. In the final they were beaten 132.5 to 83. Very well done!!!!

In the Swiss Butler Pairs there were 2 sections: Open 224 pairs and Restricted 62 pairs.

Open:	Jack & Lorraine Lindsay	21st (NS)
	Janet Clarke & Frances Lyons	35th (EW)
Restricted:	Hope Tomlinson & Barry Foster	24th (NS)

If you have never been to a congress like this, please consider it. As you can see there are events for everyone, as well as educational lectures and interesting hand analyses and articles in the Daily Bulletin. For example, Dorothy Berzins starred in one edition when her unusual Joker collection was the topic of an article.

GREAT LAKES TEAMS CONGRESS 38 teams

The Central Coast clubs were well represented and achieved excellent results. Congratulations:

- 1st Norm Berger, John Redfearn, Angie & Kevin Dougall
3rd Sally & Gary Clarke, Michael Johnson, David Weston
4th David Bowerman, Dasha Brandt, Sylvia Foster, Patricia Kull
5th Jack & Lorraine Lindsay, Ronnie Ng, Kaylee Lemon

CARDS RATINGS - MOST IMPROVED

February

TERESA JENSEN	1.06		JACK LINDSAY	0.60
CAROLE HAMILTON	1.05		JOAN DOMINQUEZ	0.55
PAUL UNGER	0.98		CAROL FARRELL	0.54
BRUCE BRANTHWAITE	0.85		ROBYN HENWOOD	0.51
ELLEN WILLIAMS	0.77		JIM HANCOX	0.50
TED NEILSEN	0.70		PETER BERZINS	0.49
LOUIS KOOLEN	0.69		BEV MORAN	0.48
GWEN WHITE	0.68		DENISE COLLISTER	0.43
NERYL TYRRELL	0.65		JOHN BRANSON	0.42
DAVID DRISCOLL	0.61		ELAINE MCGORM	0.41

BEGINNERS LESSONS

A very small group commenced on Tuesday 7th February, 9.30-11.30am.

IMPROVERS LESSONS

A series of six 2+ hour lessons will be conducted commencing at 9.30am in the Drake Room as follows:

Saturdays: Mar 17, 24, 31, Apr 14, 21, 28

Wednesdays: Mar 21, 28, Apr 4, 11, 18, 25

The cost of \$70, payable at Lesson 1, includes text book, lesson notes, review exercises and hand records.

Individual lessons may be chosen at \$15 per lesson (without text)

Week 1: No Trump openings, deciding the final contract; NT card play
Week 2: The Stayman convention and applications; Leads
Week 3: Raises and rebids; the Blackwood convention; Suit play
Week 4: Shifts by responder and rebids with a fit; Bath Coup; Signals
Week 5: Rebids to show Mini/Midi/Maxi; Unblocking; Stoppers
Week 6: Jacoby Transfers – What, Why, When

To book, or for further information, please contact Wendy Mitchell directly:
4340 4870 or 0423 388 529

ADVANCED WORKSHOPS

Lorraine Lindsay will conduct five workshops on Mondays, 9.30-11.30 am:

16/4 All About Doubles
23/4 Keycard Blackwood
30/4 Shapely Hands
7/5 Trial Bids
14/5 Fourth Suit Forcing

Notes and hand records provided with each lesson.

\$10 per lesson or \$45 for all 5

KNOW YOUR SYSTEM CLASSIFICATION

The regulations of some tournaments permit certain players who use a Green system to claim *Protected Status* when playing against other players who use a Yellow or Red system, or against those who employ Brown Sticker conventions.

At present the regulations of the NSWBA and the ABF differ in the ABF rankings which permit the claim of protection.

Under the current definitions, there are no players at our club using Yellow or Red systems.

From the ABF at

[/www.abf.com.au/events/tournregs/ABFSystemRegs09.pdf](http://www.abf.com.au/events/tournregs/ABFSystemRegs09.pdf)

2.5 Brown Sticker Conventions and Treatments

Certain types of conventional calls or treatments are considered to place demands upon the opponents' defensive preparations. The conventions/ treatments in question are categorized as 'Brown Sticker' (BS).

Any one of the following characteristics qualifies a convention/ treatment as BS if it is a matter of partnership agreement:

a) Any opening bid of two clubs through three spades that: could be weak and does not promise at least four cards in a known suit.

Exceptions:

(i) Where all the weak meanings guarantee at least four cards in one known suit and only the strong options do not.

(ii) A two level opening bid in a minor may show a weak hand with 5+ cards in either major only, or as an option among any number of strong hand types.

b) An overcall of a natural opening bid of one of a suit that does not promise at least four cards in a known suit.

Exceptions:

(i) A natural overcall in no trumps.

(ii) Any cue bid that shows a strong hand.

(iii) A cue bid in an opponent's known suit that asks partner to bid 3NT with a stopper in that suit.

c) Any weak two-suited bid (whether it be an overcall, an opening bid or a response) at the two or three level that may by agreement be made with three cards or fewer in one of the suits.

Make sure that you use a Brown sticker for any of your bids which come under these headings.

ABF: NEW MEMBER'S INFORMATION KIT

This is a new 18 page document.

The following is an extract from the above:

Phew..... finally you finish your beginner's course.....what now? We don't tell you that a bridge course is not actually just 6 lessons, but really you've started on a path for a lifetime that will give you pleasure provided you keep at it. NOW is the time to put all your hard learned facts together and practice. Most clubs offer Help with Play or supervised sessions, where you are able to play hands and ask for help when needed. You will probably stay in these for a few months, and really you should play more than once a week. DON'T let experienced players confuse you if they start telling you too much. You only need what you've learned in beginner's lessons at this stage, and you need to consolidate it. Slowly but surely the fog will lift, and although sometimes you don't feel

you're getting anywhere, you really are. Bridge is a big journey, to be taken in small steps. There will be people at the bridge club to help you along the way, but you and your bridge partner can work together a lot too. Understanding your partner at the bridge table (your best friend during the game) is the key to success.

There are many resources available to help you improve - in bridge club libraries and on the internet, as well as Improvers and Intermediate lessons offered at most clubs. Some people will become addicted to the game and want to play every day, and take as many lessons as possible. Others will be happy to play socially with friends after dinner, and leave it at that.

As you develop and become more confident at the bridge table, you'll need the best system to help you win. There are recommended "conventions" to play for all levels of player, and these have posted on the ABF web site, in the Teachers Section. But here's a warning: don't take extra theory on board until you and your partner feel ready.

There's a lot you can do to improve your card play and defence as well as adding to you system. Sometimes people are so worn out at the end of the bidding of a hand (after using too many complicated conventions), that they don't have enough energy for the card play, when they must make their contract, or defeat the other side's.

The internet is growing as a place to access any information you need about bridge - there are lessons via videos, from beginner's to really advanced, and any amount of literature about bidding and play, as well as sites to play live against people from all over the world. Practicing on the internet is a good way to reinforce learning from lessons.

BRIDGE ODDS: The five most common hand patterns-

4-4-3-2	= 21.55%
5-3-3-2	= 15.52%
5-4-3-1	= 12.93%
5-4-2-2	= 10.58%
4-3-3-3	= 10.53%

COMING EVENTS

MARCH

Monthly Shield (2)			Monday 5
Presentation Day Pairs	(Red)	9.30am	Saturday 10
Grand National Open Teams			Monday 12, 19, 26
(Entries closed - further entries only at discretion of the Director)			
Country Teams	Pre-Entry		Saturday 17, 31
Easter Pairs	(Red)		Wednesday 28

APRIL

Monthly Shield (3)		Monday 2
*** NO BRIDGE ON GOOD FRIDAY 6/4 ***		
Anzac Day Pairs		Wednesday 25

SYSTEM CARDS HOW AND WHY

Thanks to the Gold Coast Congress Bulletin for this extract:

It is important to understand that bridge is a game of disclosure and not obfuscation. The intent is to tell as much to your opponents as you and your partner know about your methods. The place where this begins is the system card.they serve two very good functions:

- provide COMPLETE and MEANINGFUL information to the opponents regarding your methods; and*
- serve as a good reminder of things you and your partner should have agreed on before the tournament.*

SMILE A WHILE

From Eddie Kantar, one of the world's top teachers -

- I asked my friend John Levinson for a tip. He says he never pre-empt against weak players because it takes away all those levels that they could be using to confuse themselves
- Bridge is essentially a social game, but unfortunately it attracts a large number of antisocial people
- If you have the slightest touch of masochism, you'll love this game
- Years ago there were only two acceptable reasons for not leading partner's suit: (1) having no cards in the suit; (2) a death wish.

Wendy Mitchell Editor