



Welcome to the Central Coast Leagues Club Bridge Club

NEWSLETTER

November 2016



Wendy and Lyn set to greet Purple Melbourne Cup Day players

Marion, Kerry & Rhonda looking stunning. Kerry & Rhonda topped the east-west field on the day



TEAMS AND MASTERPOINTS

Club players are often heard to say that they don't like playing in a team competition as they might let down the other pair in their team. On the other hand, many top players will tell you that teams bridge is better than pairs bridge. Why?

Yes, if one pair has an especially bad score, this affects the whole team. However, not all is lost after one bad board – your other pair often balances this out with a good score. Also the strategies in playing teams are different to playing pairs. In pairs competition, players often take risks to earn a 'top'. For example, 3NT making ten for 430 is better than the sure 4H making ten for 420. The scoring system used in teams does not reward such small differences to the same extent, so the best contract is the safe contract and so the best bridge!

Teams Movements

The fairest competition is for each team to play every other team. When the number of teams and the time available allows, as with the Club Teams Championship conducted in November, a *Round Robin* is used. In this case there were 10 teams, so each team had to play 9 others 'head to head' over three weeks/sessions.





For single session teams events, other movements can be used. The *New England Relay* is used for an even number of teams while an *American Whist League* movement will be used if there are an odd number of teams. These two movements allow each team to play every other team (although not 'head to head'), but scoring can only be done and checked with each opposing team at the end of the session.

If it is not necessary or practicable for all teams to play each other a *Swiss* movement is used. This is best suited to a large number of teams. After the first round, teams with similar scores play against each other. This is done for every subsequent round, so teams of similar performance are pitted against each other.

Masterpointing Teams

As with pairs, the difference in weighting between different types of events still applies from club events up to national championships (see table below). In addition, there are outright awards which do depend on the final ranking across the field for multi-session events.

However, masterpoints are issued based on the number of boards played per match (not per session) and the number of matches won or drawn (not on your position in the field). In a two-session teams event, the number of matches can range from four to seven. Your chances of winning some points are very high because your team can finish last and still have earned points because you have won at least one match.

Below is a comparison for **10-board** matches in different events:

A 10-board Teams match in:	Masterpoints per Match Won
Normal session teams (e.g. Thursday Teams)	0.08
Club Championship (e.g. Club Teams)	0.12
Intra-Club Teams	0.16
Congresses, State events, Cruises, Festivals	0.20
Super Congresses (e.g. Brisbane Water Super Congress)	0.30
State selection events (e.g. Country Teams Qualifying)	0.40
National e.g. GNOT Club Qualifying	0.40
Gold Coast Teams, South West Pacific Teams (Canberra)	0.80

The strategies for gaining as many masterpoints as quickly as possible, as listed in the October Newsletter, are valid for teams too. So - find another pair and get involved in teams competitions in 2017!

Tournament Organiser Ronnie Ng
Masterpoint Secretary Wendy Mitchell



**MONTHLY SHIELD REPORT**

from the Masterpoint Secretary

Participation this year was down slightly, but the number of pairs eligible for outright awards was consistent with previous years. The number of pairs who played in only one session (see table right) of this event is quite high – about 45% this year and last. Over the past 3 years the percentage of pairs that played at least 6 sessions with the same partner was only about 15%.

67 different individuals played in 48 different pair combinations. The number of different partners in comparison with other years is shown in table below:

SESSIONS	PAIRS		
	2015	2014	2013
10	1	1	1
9	1	1	2
8	2	3	3
7	3	0	3
6	2	3	1
5	0	5	3
4	3	6	13
3	6	4	5
2	7	10	8
1	26	28	27
TOTAL	57	61	66
ELIGIBLE PAIRS	9	8	10

PARTNERS					Total Individuals	Different Pairs	% Diff Pairs to Total Individuals
	1	2	3	4+			
2013	69	22	5	1	97	66	68
2014	72	17	4	1	94	61	65
2015	52	20	6	1	79	57	72
2016	49	32	5	1	67	48	72

The following table shows the number of individuals who played over the 10 months and number of different partners they had. The proportion of different pairs compared with the total individuals is higher this year than in the past.

	Condition	Av Tables (/Year Av same day)	Eligible Pairs (/Total)	Pairs Receiving Outright MPS
2012	6 out of 10	9.0 (/8.5)	11 (/69)	5
2013		10.0 (/9.0)	10 (/66)	5
2014		8.5 (/8.5)	8 (/61)	4
2015		8.5 (/8.7)	9 (/57)	4
2016		7.9 (/7.8)	11 (/48)	5

What does this mean for next year's Monthly Shield?
Over to you members!

Wendy Mitchell Masterpoint Secretary



Lyn Baber in the Melbourne
Cup Day purple spirit



**RECENT RESULTS**

Congratulations to all

MELBOURNE CUP DAY (42 tables)

1 November

Congratulations to the following players who focussed through the sea of purple.

NORTH-SOUTH FIELD PAIR	Matchpoints	%	MPs
Dorothy Berzins & Anne Grayden	641.00	61.63	0.63
Alan Bustany & Chris Hannan	636.00	61.15	0.44
Adele Mills & Stewart Duxbury	626.00	60.19	0.32

EAST-WEST FIELD PAIR	Matchpoints	%	MPs
Kerry Murray & Rhonda Innes	689.00	66.25	0.63
Hope Tomlinson & Barry Foster	654.00	62.88	0.44
Bev Sivewright & Molly O'Neill	627.00	60.29	0.32

CLUB TEAMS ROUND 9 (10 Teams)

9 November

TEAM	Won	Drew	Loss	Last IMP	IMP	BFwd	Last VP	Total	MPs
Lorraine Lindsay, Nancye Joss Stewart Duxbury, Adele Mills	7	1	1	23.0	89.0	103.72	16.59	120.31	2.03
Margo Brennan, Gwen White, Elaine McGorm, Pam Harris	7	0	2	21.0	99.0	100.94	16.18	117.12	1.63
Marie Purkiss, Diane Nichols, Elizabeth Lawrence, Alfie Nation	6	0	3	-25.0	86.0	107.56	3.03	110.59	1.29

REMEMBRANCE DAY PAIRS (18 pairs)

11 November

PAIR	Matchpoints	%	MPs
Dorothy Berzins & Anne Grayden	275.00	63.66	0.90
Angela Dougall & Kevin Dougall	257.00	59.49	0.63
Adele Mills & Stewart Duxbury	254.00	58.80	0.45

MONTHLY SHIELD

after 10 sessions (eligible pairs' best 6 scores)

Congratulations to Dorothy & Peter Berzins. After 10 months there were 11 pairs who played at least 6 sessions. Of these eligible pairs, the top half (rounded down) earned outright masterpoints. Another 37 different pair combinations played less than 6 sessions.

PAIR	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	TOTAL	MPs Outright	SESSIONS PLAYED
Dorothy & Peter Berzins	18	18	14	10	12	P10	P4	P	16		88	1.79	10
Di Coats & Nancye Joss	14	20	10			18		10	11	P8	83	1.25	7
Adele Mills & Len Pratt	16	12		6	6	6	12	P6	P	P6	53	0.90	9



**SWITCHING SINGLES 2016** after Month 10

Best 5 results with different partners. Three individuals played with ≥ 5 different partners. Outright Masterpoints are awarded to the top half of the eligible field, rounded down.

Matt Raj Mal
bringing
authenticity
to the role
of directing
Melbourne
Cup Day



	TOTAL	ELIGIBLE SESSIONS	OUTRIGHT MPs
Dorothy Berzins	58	6	0.46
Janice Bowyer	36	5	
Yvonne Zammit	30	5	

OTHER EVENTS

Best local players

The results of the State Open Pairs conducted over the weekend of 14-15 November weekend are interesting. Out of a total 63 pairs, 22 were in the Country Pairs category, with 11 of these from the Central Coast. The top 7 pairs from each direction in the Qualifying sessions play in the State Open Final. This included Dorothy Berzins and Gwen White (6th E-W). Out of 14 pairs in the final they finished 11th, one place behind the only other Country Pair to qualify.

Of the 20 remaining pairs, 6 did not continue, leaving 8 Central Coast Pairs in the Country Final. Congratulations to Peter Berzins & Gary Heyting (2nd), Di Coats & Nancye Joss (3rd). Other qualifiers were Jeff Conroy & Roy Cotton, Jaan Oitmaa & Sylvia Foster, Rhonda Innes & Kerry Murray, Dasha Brandt & David Bowerman, Anne Grayden & Trish Dennis (substituting for Julie Sadler) and Hope Tomlinson & Barry Foster.

ARMIDALE SWISS TEAMS CONGRESS (18 teams)

13 November

RANK	PLAYERS	Red Pts
1	Greg Mayo, Michael Johnson, Michael Simes, Sharon Mayo	7.45

PARRAMATTA TEAMS CONGRESS (37 teams)

6 November

RANK	PLAYERS	MPs
5	J Clarke, D Coats, N Crockett, S Crockett	2.13

TAREE TEAMS (16 teams)

5-6 November

RANK	PLAYERS	MPs
2	Greg Mayo, Helena Dawson, David Weston, Sharon Mayo	5.45
9	Martin Johnson, Barry Foster, Hope Tomlinson, David Snow	1.12

SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS OPEN SWISS TEAMS

5-6 November

RANK	PLAYERS	MPs
6	Elizabeth Lawrence, Toni Dixon, Diane Nichols, Marie Purkiss	0.56



**SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS OPEN SWISS PAIRS**

5-6 November

RANK	PLAYERS	MPs
6	Elizabeth Lawrence & Toni Dixon	1.52
21	Diane Nichols & Marie Purkiss	0.64

TOMAREE SWISS TEAMS (32 teams)

30 October

RANK	PLAYERS	MPs
9	Elizabeth Lawrence, Toni Dixon, Diane Nichols, Marie Purkiss	
=10	Kerry Murray, Rhonda Innes, Anne Reilly, Jack Carson	
=10	Hope Tomlinson, Barry Foster, David Snow, Martin Johnson	
14	Gwen White, Margo Brennan, Susan McCall, Pamela Joseph	
22	Sylvia Foster, Jaan Oitmaa, Colin Mitchell, Wendy Mitchell	

COMING EVENTS AT CCLCBC

KEY (C) CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP (E) ECLECTIC (G) GOLD POINT (P) PRE-ENTRY (Q) QUALIFYING SESSION (R) RED POINT

2, 9, 16, 23 & 30 December	Fridays	Dashing December (E – best 3 from 5)
7 December	Wednesday	Christmas Pairs (R)
24 December	Saturday	Christmas Eve – No bridge
31 December	Saturday	New Years Eve – No bridge

MEMBERSHIP FEES FOR 2017

There is no change in the fees for next year: \$31.00 for Home Club members and \$7.00 for Associates. However there is a small change in the process.

If we have your email address, the Reminder Letter will be emailed to you instead of printing it. If you do not have email then the letter will be printed as usual and will be available for you at the club.

Please place your payment (cash or cheque) in one of our envelopes and mark clearly with your name and amount \$31 or \$7. A receipt will be written as soon as possible and made available for you to collect along with any change required.

Fees will be collected from December 1 and are due to be paid by December 31, but will be accepted up to January 31. *Wendy Mitchell* Masterpoint Secretary

CARDS RATINGS**MOST IMPROVED - NOVEMBER**

Paul Unger	1.49	Lyn Lynch	0.80	Helen Gulliver	0.61
Jim Hancox	1.43	David Howells	0.73	Kerry Murray	0.58
Toni Dixon	1.12	Marion Ellis	0.69	Joe Griffin	0.57
Agnes Marsh	0.94	Betty Adler	0.63	Jack Cain	0.55
Theodore Chadwick	0.94	Marea Mears	0.61	Leon Babinski	0.55
Carol Judd	0.92				



**NEW ABF RANKINGS - MAY**

Congratulations to

<i>Gold Life</i>	Adriana Smith	<i>Club</i>	Gina Robertson
<i>Local</i>	Stephen Calcroft, Janice Bowyer, Leon Babinski		

RECORDER CORNER WITH GWEN

Be pleasant, smile and greet others in a friendly way. No matter what your level of experience or standard of play you are an ambassador for the game of bridge and for our Club. You can drive people away or encourage them to love the game and we need more members. It is saddening to hear when a new player has been discouraged and discontinues playing.

Gwen will be taking a break from submitting Recorder Corner messages but will continue in the role of Recorder for our club. Please talk to Gwen if you find yourself in an unpleasant situation. Thank you Gwen for your dispatches over such a long period. I expect all players have given them due consideration.

We are looking for a contributor to fill Gwen's shoes. Maybe a man's perspective to counter Gwen's gentle solutions to confrontation and conflict eg no hitting below the belt, no indiscriminate use of chairs and tables, break apart when the Director calls time. A well-known identity was approached but used a laconic Australian 'impersonation' (doesn't work with that British accent) to say little and remain lukewarm (at this stage).

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

in November to:



Wendy Alford, Mei-Hua Crawford, Helen Ferguson,
Jim Hancox, David Howells, Margaret Moorhouse,
Ronnie Ng, Molly O'Neill, Judy Wulff

HAPPY BIRTHDAY HAPPY**NEW & OLD FRIENDS**

please welcome and add to your Program

Greg Mayo	0408 661 582	Sharon Mayo	0412 676 136
Lynda Ryan	0404 641 821	Cynthia Deane	4369 5497
John Duncan	4342 0877		

CHANGE OF OR ADDITIONAL PHONE NUMBERS

Kath Bromley	0413 700 717	Trish Dennis	4365 5945	0419 020 303
Julie Jessop	4363 5320	Mary Pye	4363 2416	0437 659 164
Leyla Moncelet	4368 6809	Ellen Williams	8376 5169	0408 038 598
Ian Lincoln	0437 431 392	Janice Roughley	4321 0352	0447 865 111



BRIDGE CLUB LAC LEMAN (LAKE GENEVA)

Playing at the Bridge Club du Leman in Vevey, Switzerland, was a little more expensive than CCLCBC, costing a visiting pair 20 francs (currently about \$28AUD) for a session. Food and drinks were purchased from the club bar, although a free drink was provided as part of the session fee.

We contacted the club and committee member Maja Steffan advised calling her a couple of hours before game time, which we did, to confirm our attendance. As far as we could tell Maja then arranged the draw, set up the bridge mates (identical to ours), directed and played in the event. Even so, Maja found time to make us feel welcome and was clearly a 'force majeure' at the club.



The two occasions we played were very pleasant afternoons with friendly participants. The comfortable clubhouse featured a fully stocked bar area, large coat racks (everyone arrives in heavy coats), carpet mats on the playing tables, comfortable chairs and an overhead table numbering system that our club would do well to appropriate. The afternoons were the club's regular weekly events and averaged 18 pairs of Swiss nationals with a significant number of expats.

Several differences emerged in the way the game is played. Firstly, the preferred language was French, with the ace being 'l'ace' (pronounced l'arse), king 'le roi', queen 'la dame' and Jack 'le valet'. Most players understood some English and we got by with some gesticulation and very basic language skills.

No time clock was used, which by our reckoning added about $\frac{3}{4}$ of an hour to the afternoon. No players had system cards. Bidding cards were used during the auction including 'X' and 'XX', 'stop' cards for a skip bid, and 'alert' cards for system specific bids. Bidding cards were removed immediately after the lead.

Underbids, leads out of turn, revokes and trick miscounts were all handled at the table without recourse to the director. This put nervous, non-French speaking visitors, trying to be extremely polite, at a disadvantage on a couple of occasions. Nevertheless, any of our members would quickly feel at home in Bridge Club du Leman and no doubt, in one of the several other clubs in the area.

Rosanne & Tony Ransley

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