

Ballina Bridge Club November 2012

From the President



How the Handicap system works

We've just introduced Handicap results for the Wednesday and Saturday Open sessions. They are a guide to how you have

performed compared to your average over the last six or so months. If you top the Handicap results then you've played above your weight more than the other players in the room. It's a recognition of a good effort, whatever your skill level.

The system works by deriving the average result you have had over the last six months, provided you have played at least five times in the six months. Handicaps are calculated for the individual so if you and your partner, even if they aren't your regular partner, have both played at least five times your partnership will get a handicap which is the average of the two individual handicaps. When the results are produced they show a number of columns:

Position ... Original Handicap Adjusted

1 54.74% -1.83% 56.57%

2 63.58% +7.26% 56.32%

3 52.90% -2.53% 55.43%

The Original column shows your result when scored without handicap (i.e. the outright result), the Handicap column shows the handicap that is to be applied. The Handicap is subtracted from the Original to produce the Adjusted column and your ranking in the Handicap results is based on your Adjusted score.

Would you like to be a Director ?

Ballina Bridge Club has lots of sessions and needs lots of directors. We do pretty well with only one or two NSW bridge clubs having more directors than we do. But we always need more. Directors are often away for a variety of reasons and it leaves gaps in the Directors' Roster which can be difficult to fill without over-burdening one or two directors.



Apart from the assistance you would provide to the club and other directors if you become a director, it has big positives for you too. The enhanced knowledge of the rules you gain by completing the Director's course matters greatly when playing a hand and an infringement has occurred and you need to make decisions about the action you might take. Often the options are confusing when at the table, but once you have learned them, it's far easier to make the decision that is most beneficial to you and your partner.

The training program we use is for 2 x 2-3 hour sessions with Anne Fraser talking through the role of director, principles etc. They will probably be spaced a week apart on a day that suits the participants. Anne will give you a Director's exam to complete; you can get assistance from Anne or any of the other directors at the

club in its completion, but it has still got to be mainly your work.

Finally, when you are confident, you can begin assisting other directors at a pace that suits you including taking calls either by yourself or with support. If you don't want to operate the computer initially, that's fine too. It's a great assistance just to have extra people supporting the director of the day. Please consider if you'd like to contribute to the club this way - just let Anne or Liz know.

Howard Jeffery

From Judy Forsyth Play Committee

Tombola Winner To the person who won the Ozito Power Garden Cordless Pruner - The Manual is on the noticeboard at the Bridge Club. Please collect.

Remember our next congress – A Double Congress, Open & Restricted, **Sunday 18th November**. To play in the Restricted Congress, your team's masterpoints must total under 400 MPs. The cost is \$100 per team. Some may consider this event expensive, but you must realise we have to pay a Director, prizes take a large portion of all money collected, Masterpoints have to be paid for and congress fees for each table must be sent to the NSWBA.

Qld Wide Pairs, Saturday 24th November, \$8.50 per player. (\$5.00 as usual to Ballina, and \$3.50 to QBA) This is a great chance to compete against Queensland players. Your results will be scored across Nth NSW & Qld clubs. Last year there were complaints that the hands were selected and were too outrageous. This year, the hands will be more sensible –ie no preselected hands, all random deals. You will receive a commentary booklet at the end of play.



The Finals of the Grand National Open Teams will be played at Tweed Heads on November 30th and Dec 1st. Our district of Northern Rivers will be represented by **Eric Hurley, Janet Brown, Marjorie Askew** and **Bill Powell**. This team wishes to thank **Horst Utzen**, who substituted for Janet Brown whilst she was in Sydney, and enabled the team to qualify for the finals. Thank you, Horst.



On **Sunday, 2nd December**, there is a **Swiss Pairs event** at Tweed Ultima Resort. The cost is \$5 per person for those who already played at some level of GNOT.

Enter - and you may win Gold Points and a medal for being the best Australian Country pair ! Wow !

2013 Programme Please carefully check your details on NW storeroom door. Your name & selected phone number are required, with your permission, for our annual programme book. The Secretary also requires email, mobile, for club records.

Selection for representative teams.

The Management Committee recently endorsed a decision

by the Play Sub-Committee regarding selection for teams. Previously, only home members could represent Ballina. This did not reflect the true nature of our club, where many associate members play an important role in the daily life of the Ballina Bridge Club.

Judy Forsyth

From Dorothy Brumley

Thank you to all the members who supported me when I was in Ballina Hospital and Rehabilitation. A special thank you to **Jill Allen** who first suggested that I learn to play bridge, and told me of Janet's lessons at her home in Lennox Head. Another special thank you to **Barbara Meaney** who was pre bridge and pre my residency in Lennox Head. But most of all, thank you to everyone who has helped me to move to my new abode. Some family members may ask why I have moved to Ballina and not back to Melbourne. The reason is the Ballina Bridge Club.



Christmas greetings to you all.

Tenterfield Congress Congratulations to **Howard and Liz Jeffery** – winners of the Butler Swiss Pairs. **Eileen Pierce** and **Maureen Baker** were the runners up.



June Orford & Carmel Pollard had a good game. June said she kept wishing they would have a bad round so that they would drop down a bit and stop having to play the good players....

It wasn't all serious stuff at Tenterfield. Many players enjoyed the social scene as much as the bridge. Carmel took this photo which shows **Jim** and **Barbara** on the dance floor.

NSW State Pairs This event was played over three weeks on Thursday nights. The Ballina results were sent to Sydney and then match pointed against all other competitors. Well played, **Eric Hurley and Marjorie Askew** who came 6th in the state. Full results can be viewed at the NSWBA internet site.

David Read Day. Apologies to the winners The results for this annual inter club competition were misreported last month. The outright winner was Surfers Paradise, Byron Bay came 2nd and Ballina was 3rd. The individual Grade sections were won by Tweed Heads, Byron Bay and Surfers Paradise.



From Col Gale Col has the difficult job of being our partner co ordinator. He asks that if you are willing to be called in, please be available until 12.30 on bridge days. It is often at 12.20 he has to find an extra player. So please, stand by until then. Col is also one of our directors (another difficult job). He asks that players show some appreciation to our directors. A polite "Thank you", even if the ruling goes against you, would be welcome.

Never Mind The doctor was checking up on three elderly bridge

players who had head injuries from a car accident. Margaret inquired, "Doctor, will I still be able to play bridge?"

The Doctor asked, "How many high card points in a deck of cards?" "60!" the lady replied.



Worried, the doctor turned to Alan. "How about you? How many high card points in a deck of cards?"

"Em....Uh... Err .. Wednesday!" he shouted.

Even more concerned, the doctor motioned to the other lady.

"Well, what do you say, madam? How many high card points in a deck of cards?"

"40!" Gwen replied.

"Excellent!" the doctor exclaimed. "How did you get that?"

"Oh, it's pretty simple," Gwen explained. "You just subtract 60 from Wednesday!"

Congratulations to Betty Atkinson

who recently celebrated her 90th birthday. There were at least two parties – one for family members, and another at a local restaurant attended by a multitude of bridge players. Betty told me that when she was sixty or seventy, she tended to keep her age a secret. Now that she is ninety, she is pleased to let everyone know, and she wears her years as a badge of honour. Well done, Betty And in case you missed the results ... Betty and Derwyn came 1st last Saturday in a large field.



From Charlotte Harrison, Club Secretary

Players might be interested to contact Greg Quitter at gregquittner@hotmail.com and ask to be placed on his email list. Each week, Greg will send you two hands with commentaries. The hands can also be found at <http://www.gordonbridgecentre.com/index.shtml>.

Charlotte also thought players might like to read the NSWBA eNewsletter, which is published each month. Just google "NSWBA eNewsletter" and the current issue, and back issues pop up.

Christmas Party December 8th for a day of bridge, food and fun.



I THINK I'M
LOSING MY MIND,
BUT NOBODY