



NORTHERN SUBURBS BRIDGE CLUB

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April 2024 Newsletter

Presidents Report

Greetings All

Thank you for your trust to allow me to be your President for another year.

As I said in my report, I want to establish a voluntary Professions and Trade Register to harness all the varied experience, knowledge and talent in our Club to be able to be consulted if situations arise.

I also want to pursue with the Brisbane City Council for the Freehold title of our Clubhouse.

We have invested over \$1,000,000.00 to date.

I am now seeking the help of a Graphic Artist to produce a poster proclaiming the benefits of Bridge, and especially our Club, to distribute at locations that will help boost our numbers.

I look forward to working with the new Members on the Management Committee which will meet for the first time in May.

Happy Bridging

Graham Killoran

President, Northern Suburbs Bridge Club



HUGE CONGRATULATIONS TO MARGARET PLUNKETT !

MARGARET IS OUR NEWEST & 17TH GRAND MASTER FROM
NSBC. A LOVELY ARTICLE FROM HER LONG TERM PARTNER
FOLLOWS IN THIS NEWSLETTER.

Well Done Margaret !

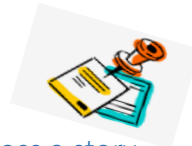
Our Club wishes to thank retiring Management Committee Secretary Kate O'Donnell for her service to the club. Kate has been a member of the Management Committee for many years, the last 4 as Secretary. She has always fulfilled her duties with a ready smile, calm attitude, and a genuine willingness to help. Kate will be continuing in the role of Partner Arranger - an initiative of hers, which I'm sure many of us have used to great benefit.



NOTICE BOARD

Table Fee Increase

It seems you can't open a newspaper or watch the evening news without coming across a story about rising costs and how these are impacting our lives. Well unfortunately the bridge club is not immune to increased cost pressures either. Accordingly, it was announced at the AGM that all table fees would go up to \$8.00 from 1st May.



Bridge Lessons

4 x Lessons for INTERMEDIATE PLAYERS

Tuesdays 10am – 12pm

30.4.24 14.5.24 28.5.24 11.6.24

Elizabeth Gibson Centre

- No Registration Needed – free for NSBC Members.

Check Club Website for more details.

UPCOMING COMPETITIONS

NSBC Jill Wilson Championship Pairs - Saturday 11 May *9am for 9.30 Start

NSBC Monday Shield - NSBC Members only Event

2 Mondays - 13 & 20 May *6.45pm for a 7.15 Start

Australia Wide Novice Pairs - Tues 28 May ^12.45pm for 1.15pm start

Closing date for registration is Monday 27 May.

Annual General Meeting – Sat 13 April 2024

Close to 50 members attended our Clubs AGM. The minutes of the meeting are available on the clubs' website. Many Thanks to our out-going Management Committee for ensuring the ongoing success of our Club. Welcome and Congratulations to our new committee for 2024/25.

Competition winners for last season

Mixed Pairs- David Lehmann & Gayle McCarthy
Monday Shield- Sunil Makherjee & Eugene Pereira
Friday Rosebowl- Sunil Makherjee & Bert Luchjenbroers
NSBC Championships Teams - Cancelled
Jill Wilson Pairs Championship- Cancelled
President's Tray- Greg Gosney & Margaret Plunkett
Thursday Pairs- Bert Luchjenbroers & Yolande Coroneo
Leita Leiper Award- Jacqui Dudurovic
Newstead Novice Shield- Kerry Barridge & Peter Fagan
Tuesday Pairs- Annette Hyland & Peter Stride
Hoffman Tray- Andrea Parkins & Helen Baran



2024/25 Committee

Barry Whitham, Greg Gosney, John Bagster (Secretary), Graham Killoran (President), Lee Horner, Jacqui Dudurovic (Vice President), Andrea Parkins (Treasurer), and (inset) Daina Geise.

Denise Taylor (not pictured) Sheena De jager Miles (not pictured)

LIBRARY NEWS

It has been quite a while since the bookworm has read a bridge book. As a beginner on the learning curve, I confess to reading several publications but as knowledge was gained, interest waned until I reached the stage where reading any bridge publication was guaranteed to put me to sleep. You know the feeling – you’ve read half a page and then realise you have no recall of what you just read!

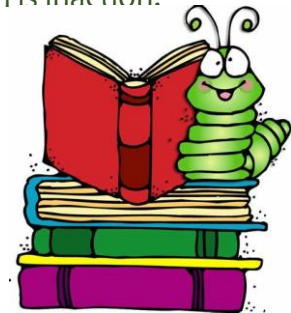
Of late I’ve been scrolling through the library catalogue hoping to find a gem to recommend to our beginners and emerging players and have hit the jackpot.

The bookworm has always been a big fan of Ron Klinger and we have several of his works in the library, all worthy of borrowing, but his “When to Bid, When to Pass” is a real find.

He goes into great detail in hand evaluations for opening bids with sound arguments against Bergen’s “Rule of 20” and an alternative method in valuing distributional hands. Without going into too much detail, there is a wealth of helpful information for all bidding situations from overcalls, pre-empts and in the competitive auction. As he states in the introduction, the aim of the book is to guide you in those situations where the best action is inaction.

I got a lot out of this book, and even managed to stay awake.
If only I could get one of my partners to read it!

We have 2 copies in the library. Highly recommended – Try it.
The Bookworm



Masterpoints Promotions March 2024

| NORTHERN SUBURBS BRIDGE CLUB INC | | | | |
|----------------------------------|--------------|-----------|----------|-----------|
| NAME | RANK | TOTAL MPs | 2024 MPs | 2024 RANK |
| March 2024 PROMOTIONS | | | | |
| Plunkett, Margaret | Grand | 1004.11 | 28.64 | 337 |
| Wills, Sheila | Gold Life | 757.7 | 27.69 | 365 |
| Manly, Ian | Bronze State | 102.98 | 2.7 | 6,150 |
| Crowley, Althea | Bronze State | 100.09 | 7.58 | 2,157 |
| Maher, Budi | Silver Local | 35.63 | 2.48 | 6,645 |
| Peek, Lesley | Silver Local | 35.23 | 1.97 | 7,921 |
| Amos, Karen | Bronze Local | 26.45 | 3.71 | 4,587 |
| Carfrae, Judith | Bronze Local | 25.97 | 1.9 | 8,137 |
| Taylor, Gary | Local | 15.7 | 0.99 | 12,045 |
| McPhie, Grigor | Club | 5.26 | 0.87 | 12,812 |
| Cunningham, Belinda | Graduate | 2.08 | 0.47 | 16,342 |
| | | | | |

Our Newest Grand Master – Margaret Plunkett

By Greg Gosney

In early 2013, I had been playing bridge almost entirely at QCBC and Toowong bridge clubs, and rarely at Northern Suburbs. I mentioned to Lorraine Collins, a long-time member of this club, that I would prefer to play at Northern Suburbs. Even though I was a member at the other clubs, Northern Suburbs was my home club and closer to where I live. I just needed a partner.

Lorraine had someone in mind. She said a lady by the name of Margaret Plunkett may be interested in partnering me at Northern Suburbs. Marg was the club's Secretary. I contacted Marg and we agreed to play together. We didn't do all that well bridge-wise the first few times, but we both wanted to continue the partnership.

There was a Butler Pairs Congress coming up at the Gold Coast club in June that year so I asked Marg if she would like to go with me to play in that event. She said she would have to think about it. Really? What was there to think about? She asked Lorraine and Elizabeth Gibson if she should play in the congress with me. Elizabeth was the club's President then. From my understanding, they both said "Yes! Yes! Go! Go!" or words to that effect. Marg agreed to play with me in the Gold Coast club's 2013 Butler Pairs Congress. Thus began Marg's journey to ABF Grand Master.

I picked Marg up on the way as we drove down to the Gold Coast club to play in the Butler Pairs Congress. We were ranked 43rd out of the 52 pairs entered. In the first round we got smashed by the opposition, dropping to 49th position, however during the day we gradually worked our way back up the field to finished 12th overall. We thought we had lost the last round and headed back home before the presentations. In the car on the way back I came to the view that we had won the last round. Yes, we had. We discovered later that we had won a C Category prize for our efforts. It was our first congress together and we did well enough to win a small amount of prizemoney. Marg was hooked. She was keen to play in more congresses.

In 2015, Margaret paired up with Albert Loh to play in the Restricted Pairs at the Gold Coast Congress. In a field of 108 pairs, they came 6th overall in the final. As a Queensland pair, the Queensland Bridge Association offered them the opportunity to play in the Restricted Butler Pairs of the Australian National Championships being held in Fremantle. As sponsor, the QBA paid their entry fee and some additional costs. They played and finished 7th overall.

Marg and I played in the Intermediate division of the Bobby Richman Pairs Championship at the 2017 Gold Coast Congress. In the Qualifying rounds, playing East-West, we just snuck into the top fourteen by 0.02 matchpoints. The top fourteen pairs in both directions played in the A final. Everyone else played in the B, C or D finals. There were three rounds in the A final. At the end of the first round, we were running 14th out of 28 pairs. We came 3rd in both the second and third rounds. When the three rounds were totalled, we were placed 2nd overall in the A final, just 0.38 matchpoints behind first place – probably the difference of just one trick. So close. We were very happy with the result and how well we played.

One of the country club congresses we have often played in is the Lockyer Pairs. It is held in July, so it was always very cold early in the morning and there was no heating at the venue. At lunchtime they offered a variety of delicious hot soups. Eventually they moved to another venue which wasn't as cold, but no more hot soups. In 2019, Marg and I won the Lockyer Pairs congress.

Marg and I have been regular bridge partners for almost eleven years. We have won some NSBC competitions and played in a multitude of competitions at Brisbane clubs and many congresses in and around South-East Queensland. We have travelled to Canberra, Coffs Harbour, Mackay, Cairns, and Gold Coast to play at gold point congresses. It has been a great adventure, enjoyable, rewarding and satisfying.

It is a long journey to reach ABF Grand Master ranking. For the rank of Grand you need a total of 1,000 masterpoints of which 200 must be gold and 700 must be a combination of red and gold. Marg crossed the 1,000 masterpoints threshold in March this year having already accumulated sufficient red and gold masterpoints. Marg is ecstatic having finally reached that milestone. Since joining our club some eighteen or so years ago, Marg has been a very dedicated member and hard-working volunteer of our club, performing the roles of Secretary, committee member on several occasions, and now Masterpoints Secretary for the past several years. Congratulations Marg, it is a well-deserved achievement.

NSBC Members – Recent Congress Successes



QCBC Graded Teams 2024 – Toowong Sunday April 14

C Grade - 1st Place

Althea Crowley, Peter Fagan, Jacqui Dudurovic & Kerry Barridge

Old Graded Teams - C Grade (April 2024)

Results after 5 of 5 matches

| Place | Team (click here to show names) | Imps | VPs | W-D-L |
|-------|---------------------------------|------|-------|-------|
| 1 | DUDUROVIC (5) | 72 | 68.90 | 4-1-0 |
| 2 | WILSON (1) | 64 | 66.24 | 4-0-1 |
| 3 | BENNETT (8) | 17 | 55.51 | 3-0-2 |
| 4 | DOUGLAS (6) | 12 | 54.93 | 3-0-2 |
| 5 | DOBSON (2) | -2 | 48.70 | 2-0-3 |
| 6 | CHIPPINDALL (4) | -8 | 47.47 | 2-1-2 |
| 7 | MCCONAGHY (7) | 24 | 46.28 | 2-0-3 |
| 8 | HEMPHILL (3) | -25 | 41.85 | 1-1-3 |
| 9 | KOMEN (10) | -92 | 38.62 | 2-0-3 |
| 10 | KELLY (9) | -62 | 31.50 | 0-1-4 |



Congratulations to the Triumphant NSBC Team Members !



**TONY BEMROSE
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