

Tweed Heads Bridge Club Newsletter

Hi all TBC members,

This will be our last newsletter for 2019 and what a good year it has been for our club. This can be seen in increased membership, increased table numbers, more people from Paul's lessons staying on to join our competitions and developing our VAM club. Take a moment to reflect on the great celebration days we have held including Australia Day, ANZAC day, the Birthday Congress, State of Origin Teams and Melbourne Cup Day I'm sure will be another. Soon our Christmas party will be here which is always a fantastic day for all.

The AGM

We'd like to congratulate all those who won events throughout the year and received their awards at the AGM. This list of winners and place getters was spread throughout our membership amongst many different names and it's great to see the prizes and acknowledgement being shared by so many. This list included: Sharon Asser, Andy Braithwaite, Susie Braithwaite, Shirley Brandham, Val Brown, Graeme Carson, June Churcher, Brett Crabtree, Margaret Crowley, Ian Dickison, Chris Fraser, Julie Firmstone, Lorraine Hardy, Ginny Hewlett, John Kable, Jill Kirchner, Sue Lee, Marilyn Marchwicki, Patricia McGrath, Susanne Rada, Mary Rawson, Paul Rose, Jill Smith, Doreen Sullivan, Lou Tillotson, Roger Weathered, Lyndel Watson, Pauline Watson and Rexon Wolnowic-Wolny. A special congratulation goes to Graeme Carson who received prizes in two major events: The Presidents Cup and 2nd in the Championship pairs, incorporating the Trudy Gaha trophy.

Maintenance

The new carpet has been selected and will be laid early in the new year by Solomans Carpets. This will require the club to be shut for 4 days. As the time approaches we will clarify the days the club will be closed.

Welfare

It was sad to hear of Mary Wardrop's passing. Other members who have passed on over the last years include Enid Maxwell, Hazel Monk and John Mullen. It is always sad to lose members. Our time here is only short so it is most important to make the most of each day. Let us make T.B.C. a happy place to come to.

Etiquette

While we know bridge needs to be played to a strict protocol some rule infringements are minor or done without intention to cause concern. If you feel the need to tell dummy about not touching the cards, want to ask about alerted bids, reminding players of bids that need alerting, requesting to see a player's card or any other situation arising during play a friendly, polite tone should be used at all times. It is not what is said but how it is said that causes upsets. I have received a recent complaint about how rudely a member was spoken to on several occasions. This member has not returned to the club since. Also, I was made aware by letter that the word 'cheat' was muttered when a director's decision was not liked. If you do not agree with the director's decision then an appeal can be made at the completion of play. This allows differences of opinions to be handled without undue hostilities. Name calling or rudeness will not be accepted. We want our club to be a friendly place where our behaviour is above reproach.

Housekeeping

Please keep in mind that all work at the club is voluntary (except for the cleaners). When you leave something behind someone else has to pick it up, clean and put away. For all new players unaware of the protocol it is North-Souths' responsibility to set up the table and work the bridgemate and East-Wests' job to put away. This includes returning pencils, bidding pads, coasters to the station. Also, bins, lunch scraps, cups, glasses and rubbish needs to be disposed of. The kitchen needs help every day so please volunteer your help if possible. It will be greatly appreciated.

A thank you goes to Bernie Neal for trimming back the pathway and to Trevor Cameron for gluing bidding pads together.

Wednesday Bridge

Our 2 sections on Wednesday are working successfully and helping to encourage the newer players to compete. Please be aware this is difficult to run, often having different time periods, table numbers and status requirements. Although not always perfect due to these constraints our directors do the best they can given the circumstances and should be congratulated for conducting this difficult task.

New Member: Please make our new member Kim Reeding feel welcome.

VAM Club

By now everyone should have noticed our VAM Club is in the ABF newsletter. Sorry Eddie and Bruce for the name mix-up. This was an ABF error.

Email Addresses

Kathy Marles, who has considerable computer knowledge has offered to work with Ros in setting up a mailing list for newsletters and other relevant information we could send by email. However, to do this firstly we need to collect everyones' email address. Please enter your email address on the green clipboard provided. Sometimes our data about members is incorrect, as recently noted when compiling our birthday list for October. If anyone notices mistakes/omissions could they please let us know. These incidents are not deliberate or meant to cause offence to anyone and we would like to correct them asap.

Coming Events

The Christmas party is on Saturday 7th December and is a great day. Start getting ready by organising your partner and saving this date as Christmas becomes a very busy time of year when occasions can clash.

Please note Australia Day falls on a Sunday next year and so will be held that day.

We wish you all a very happy and safe festive season and look forward to 2020 with enthusiasm.

Cheers from your committee