

Connecting the NSW bridge community

Editor: {Is this you?} office@bridgensw.com.au

Two Down

We've made it to the second issue of Bridge NSW's (unnamed) newsletter.

We've received a host of entries for the naming competition. The Board will be choosing a name at its October meeting.

We are still looking for more people to add to the editorial team. Just email office@bridgensw.com.au.

In this issue, we have news from two of our Standing Committees. We have news from the Events Committee on their strategy to grow participation and inclusivity and substantially contribute to building the bridge community. The Clubs & Community Committee outlines the support they aim to provide to clubs.

Our new column, The NSW Bridge Hall of Fame, will be a series of short biographies of some outstanding NSW players by Paul Lavings (pictured below).



The series starts with Johnny Griffiths, a member of the first official NSW representative team.



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Bridge NSW Events Strategy

The separation of the State peak body functions from the club at the Sydney Bridge Centre has at its core the creation of an entity (Bridge NSW) to advance the playing and enjoyment of bridge in the State.

While bridge is mostly played in club sessions, the other events on the calendar also contribute to the enjoyment of bridge for many players.

Organising that entire calendar, including authorising the many congresses run by clubs, is the responsibility of the Events Committee of Bridge NSW.

Since the final formation of Bridge NSW in June, the committee has been developing a strategy for events in NSW to cover three years.

A summary of this strategy appears in the graphic below.

The strategy has been developed to achieve five objectives:

The Events Committee will **organise and promote events** that:

- grow **participation**
- improve **inclusivity**
- deliver **continuous improvement**
- make a **substantial community contribution**

Several events previously organised by the NSWBA played on Monday nights at Goulburn St (mostly by "elite" players) are not core events for the State peak body and will be discontinued.

As part of a desire to grow the Online Pairs League (OPL), it will move in 2025 to Monday nights instead of Tuesday. We will have more on the OPL in the November issue.

Much of the rest of the strategy relates to initiatives still taking shape (for example, the Monthly NSW Pairs). More information will be available as they develop.

The Events Committee welcomes comments sent to office@bridgensw.com.au.

Bridge NSW Events Strategy (2024-2026)

OBJECTIVES	Organise and promote events	Grow participation	Improve inclusivity	Deliver continuous improvement	Make a substantial community contribution
FOCUS	Organise core events, while supporting club events	Increase attendance numbers and pathways to play	Improve player access to events, including geographic and level	Work with stakeholders to improve event offering and promotion	Revitalise the NSW events community, and contribute to Bridge NSW
THEMES & INITIATIVES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review 2025 events calendar • Offer only core events, stop/reduce other events • Support growth and promotion of club events • Improve event promotion • Assess use of online events • Future: Evolve events offered 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve event promotion • Refine & grow OPL • New initiative: Monthly NSW Pairs • New initiative: State Open Teams test case • Design new events, and further evolve existing events in line with Bridge NSW strategic objectives 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Run events online where appropriate • Improve offering and promotion of Novice & Restricted events, including Spring Nats • Grow Central West Festival • New initiative: State Open Teams test case • Design new events, and further evolve existing events in line with objectives 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Define events process best practice • Improve event promotion and event formats • Surveys and other stakeholder feedback to inform strategy and future initiatives 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contribute substantially to Bridge NSW net revenue • Increase event profitability through player volume growth • Improve financial discipline • Deliver a profit from the 2024 Spring Nats • New initiative: Monthly NSW Pairs • Targeted events that support strategic goals

NSW Bridge Hall of Fame

Believing that the outstanding players from the past in NSW don't get enough acknowledgement, Paul Lavings has volunteered to write a column for our newsletter, which we are calling the NSW Bridge Hall of Fame. Some great players are immortalised in the names of competitions, but not all. We hope you enjoy these necessarily short biographies.

Johnny Griffiths (1901-1981)

By Paul Lavings

When NSW won a friendly match between NSW and Victoria in 1933, John "Johnny" Nils Rhys Griffith's name went into bridge history. The unofficial match created such interest that the first ANC was played in Melbourne in both Open and Women's in 1934.

In the 1934 and 1935 ANC against Victoria, Johnny partnered Colin Cadwallader. By 1937 Cadwallader had succumbed to family pressure and given up the game played with "The Devil's Tickets".

In those days, every second hand included a psyche of some sort; there was little science:

♠ KQJ

♥ AQT

♦ JT73

♣ AQT

Mrs SH Harston

♠ A9874

♥ J972

♦ 5

♣ J82

♠ T653

♥ 8643

♦ 9

♣ 9543

♠ 2

♥ K5

♦ AKQ8642

♣ K76

Mr JNR Griffiths

<u>WEST</u>	<u>NORTH</u>	<u>EAST</u>	<u>SOUTH</u>
	INT	Pass	7D
Dble	Pass	Pass	7NT
Dble	Pass	Pass	Redble
All Pass			

There was no asking for aces or similar subtleties in the 1930s, so Johnny wasted no time trying to find the optimum result. Running from the double to 7NT was brilliant as it put East on lead. From Cathy Chua's *The History of Australian Bridge* "The diamond lead being unthinkable, East had to find the winner from one of the other three suits. But, being a conventional and unimaginative player who knew his rules, he did not even hesitate. Out came the fourth highest of his longest and strongest suit – the three of spades!". Which, as Johnny Griffiths remarked ruefully afterwards, "was just over the odds".

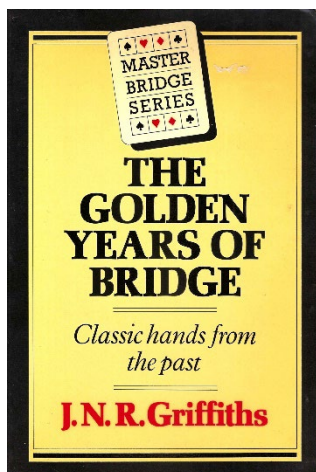
Victoria won the first five Open ANCs from 1934 to 1938, and then there was a break for WW2 from 1939 to 1945. Johnny gave up bridge at the end of the 1930s and started again in 1960. I'm pretty sure he married a non-bridge player, though that wouldn't stop some of us from playing.

I played with Johnny in the late 1960s. For 16 months, I worked in his office, the Life Insurance Department, at the Government Insurance Office. The department consisted of around 40 clerks working at their desks. There were 60+ tables at NSWBA on Monday and Wednesday nights. On Tuesday and Thursday mornings, Johnny would come out of his office and call across the room for Mr. Lavings to come into his office. We would then discuss the hands from the previous night's game.

In 1970, Johnny again made the NSW team, which won the 30th ANC in Perth. The team was Richard Cummings (c)-Tim Seres,

Julian Fahrer-Bruce Meares, and John Griffiths-Graham Westcott. In the 60-board final, NSW comfortably defeated Victoria, J Rothfield (npc), J Borin-N Borin, R Marks – W Scott, A de Goey-G Niewoher, 126-72.

Johnny wrote a column for *Australian Bridge* from December 1981, mostly about deals from world championships that Johnny found interesting in some way. These were published as a book, *The Golden Years of Bridge: Classic hands from the past*.



Johnny won the NSW Mixed Pairs in 1971 and the NSW Open Pairs in 1972 with Ruth Eaton. Ruth was the regular partner of Mary McMahon, considered Australia's best-ever woman player. In 1981 Johnny won the Mixed Pairs with Coleen Leary, who looked after Johnny in his failing years.

In 1981, Johnny was awarded NSWBA Life Membership in recognition of his long service to bridge as a player. He had never been on the NSWBA Committee and had no interest in bridge administration.

Johnny was a joy to play with, tall and thin, a gentleman from a far-gone era. Sometimes he would open his favourite short club, I would respond a major and he would raise to 2. When he put dummy down, he would say, "I've only got 2 for you, but they're good ones", and he would put down AK or KQ doubleton as his trump support. I bet you've never seen that.

I recently reread Alfred Sheinwold's *Pocket Book of Bridge Puzzles Number 3*. I was near the end of the book when this hand came up:

♠ T62	
♥ AJ	
♦ A6	
♣ KJ9763	
♠ 95	♠ QJ7
♥ KT963	♥ Q872
♦ QT52	♦ J8
♣ 82	♣ AQT4
	♠ AK843
	♥ 54
	♦ K9743
	♣ 5

South was declarer in 4♠ on the ♥10 lead. Declarer won ♥A, cashed ♦A-K and ruffed a ♦ with ♠10. East overruffed, led a heart to the K and overruffed dummy again. East then returned his last trump and sat tight until he got the setting trick with the ♣A.

Sheinwold commented that declarer would have made his contract if, when they led their 3rd diamond, they discarded dummy's ♥J instead of ruffing. If West leads another diamond, East can overruff dummy, but this costs them their sure trump trick. At this stage, defenders have taken 1 diamond and 1 trump, and they will eventually get their ♣A but nothing else.

I noticed some hand-written notes at the bottom of the page and instantly recognised Johnny's handwriting. Johnny wrote that when West is allowed to win the third round of diamonds as dummy throws ♥J, the winning defence is for West to switch to a club. East takes the ♣Q and plays the ♣A, which South ruffs. When declarer ruffs a diamond, East overruffs and plays a third club, and the defence gets another trick because of West's ♠9. Did I mention Johnny was also a brilliant analyst?

Clubs & Community

The Constitution of Bridge NSW specifies that the Company's sole purpose is to foster a vibrant and inclusive bridge-playing community across New South Wales by providing leadership, advocacy and support.

The first three objectives in the Constitution are to:

- Advance the playing and enjoyment of Bridge
- Drive the development of Bridge skills
- Support Bridge Clubs to be successful

The Clubs & Community Committee has addressed what support Bridge NSW can practically provide to our Clubs.

The Clubs & Community Committee has adopted the statement below as their guide as they develop more means to support clubs.

This support includes the creation of the Clubs and Community Engagement Team and the Club Support Team. More information on these teams will be provided in the next Newsletter.

What Bridge NSW Offers Clubs

- Bridge NSW aims to offer all our clubs **support** to:
 - Attract and retain **club members**
 - Recruit **teachers** and provide them with training and development resources
 - **Develop players** through a pathway of accessible competitive events and courses
 - Promote and deliver successful **congresses**
 - **Communicate and collaborate** with members, other clubs, and the bridge community
 - **Manage clubs** through support and technical help (club constitution, directing, software, club templates, etc.)
- Our clubs will have access to the support of:
 - Bridge NSW **Executive Officer** - who runs the operations of Bridge NSW
 - Bridge NSW **Marketing and Communications Officer** - to promote bridge and activities
- Our clubs also receive, through the Australian Bridge Federation:
 - Award of **Masterpoints** and scheme management
 - Coverage under ABF's public liability and volunteer workers' **insurance** policies
 - Access to ABF **travel insurance**
 - Access to services provided on the **MyABF platform**

Glenda Parmenter, Chair

Clubs & Community Committee

community@bridgensw.com.au

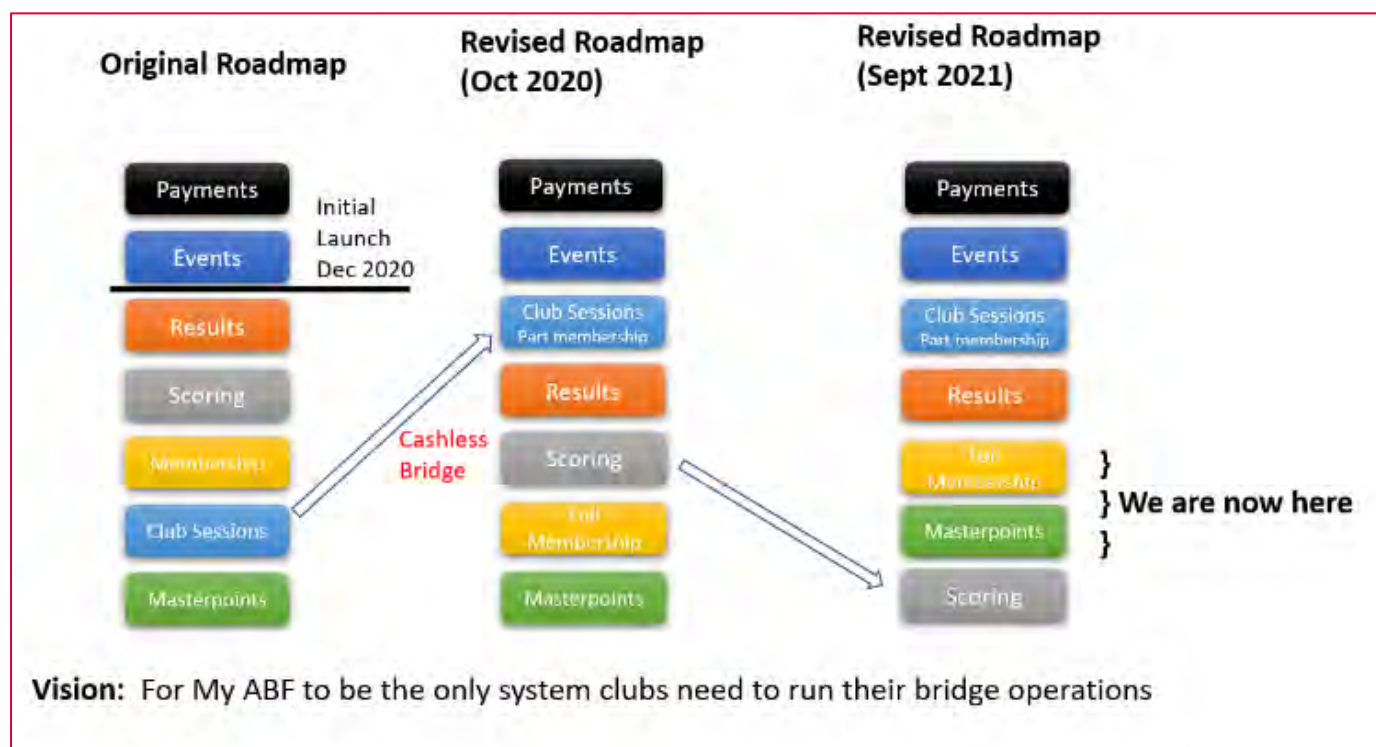
Note: The Constitution and By-Laws of Bridge NSW are unchanged from the last version posted to the NSWBA website. If you are trying to find them while we finalise the new website, you can access them here

<https://www.nswba.com.au/news/news.asp?2024BridgeNSWDraftConstitutionNoticeMay>

MyABF Webinar

Bridge NSW hosted a webinar on MyABF for NSW clubs in August. The entire webinar was recorded and is available to watch at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s0RySD5QIFQ>.

The webinar began with a reminder of the roadmap for MyABF development, shown in the picture below. Many clubs and players are familiar with the events component and use it successfully to manage and enter congresses and major events.



The option to use MyABF to run Club Sessions is not well utilised in NSW. Siobhan Davies provided details of how Caloundra Bridge Club uses this functionality. Most clubs use some form of session prepayment, most of which entails someone manually extracting details of who played each session and debiting their table fees account.

The full membership module is planned to be released in October. Once again, this will eliminate the need to match bank transfers with membership renewals. The 2% fee MyABF charges to cover the credit card fees is small compared to the volunteer time currently involved and potential savings from retiring other subscriptions.

The next module for release is masterpointing, which should simplify the process.

The use of MyABF is entirely optional; it is, however, backed by the ABF and supported locally. Clubs should be having an informed conversation about their technology strategy.

The Clubs & Community Committee is looking for people to join their Support Team who are interested in receiving additional MyABF training to be able to support clubs in their adoption of MyABF. Please email community@bridgensw.com.au to volunteer.

State Wide Pairs – August 2024

The 2024 State Wide Pairs was played on 1–7 August. Full results have been published on the [NSWBA website](#). Paul and Helen Lavings were the outright winners with a big lead on the rest of the field, while 1% separated the next five pairs. We invited Paul to review one of the hands from the event.

The 2024 State Wide Pairs was played at 26 clubs with 452 pairs competing, fractionally below the pre-pandemic maximum of 464. Interesting that the average attendance per club was 17.5 tables. Bridge is doing well.

At our club, Illawarra Bridge Association, we scored 70.83%. A few commented that we might have a chance of being overall winners, but I replied, "little chance; some pair will score 76%, and others will score 74% and 72%".

Not so. When the event was scored overall, our 70.83% had grown to 73.33%, and no other pair had made it to 70%:

Rank	Pair	Club Score
1	Paul Lavings Helen Lavings	Illawarra 73.33%
2	Barbara Green Maureen Wright	Mudgee 69.89%
3	Lucian Aliberti Thomas Coogan	Nowra 69.78%
4	Marelle Irvine Sandra Capper	Mudgee 69.46%
5	John Friesen Richard Harman	CC Albury 69.27%
6	Carol Sheldrake Kitty Biro	Hunters Hill 69.00%

Matchpoint Pairs is a scientific game where the secret is in the detail. I am surprised IMP pairs aren't played much more often. With far less emphasis on overtricks, the field is brought much closer.

On this deal, we scored 96% at our club for +650 and 82.8% when re-scored across the 26 clubs.

Board 18

Dealer: E ♠ A109652

Vul: NS ♥ J62

♦ 86

♣ A9

♠ Q43

♥ AT84

♦ JT2

♣ Q73

♠ AKJ87

♥ 9

♦ Q97754

♣ 542

♠ (void)

♥ KQ753

♦ AK3

♣ KJT86

<u>WEST</u>	<u>NORTH</u>	<u>EAST</u>	<u>SOUTH</u>
<i>Peter</i>	<i>Paul</i>	<i>Steve</i>	<i>Helen</i>
<i>Graham</i>		<i>Dynan</i>	
		Pass	1H
Pass	1S	Pass	2C
Pass	3H	Pass	4C
Pass	4H	All Pass	

My 3H was a strong preference, and it had invitational values only. West lead ♦J and Helen played well by not touching trumps and playing the side suit, clubs, first. After the third-round club ruff, Helen discarded the losing diamond on ♠A and played ♥J for 11 tricks, only losing 2 hearts. Making 10 tricks was worth 57.5% at IBA and 49.3% overall.

Contract	Tricks	Score	Freq
4♥ by NS	10	620	70
4♥ by NS	11	650	58
4♥ by NS	9	-100	14
6♥ by NS	11	-100	14
6♥ by NS	10	-200	8
3NT by NS	10	630	6
3NT by NS	9	600	5

We Are
HIRING



Come Join Our Team

IT Project Manager

Join the ABF as Our IT Project Manager – Perfect for Retired Bridge Enthusiasts!

Are you an experienced IT Project Manager with a passion for bridge? The Australian Bridge Federation (ABF) is excited to offer a unique opportunity for you to bring your expertise to the MyABF development project and make a significant impact on the bridge community.

About the Role:

We're looking for a skilled IT Project Manager to lead the development and enhancement of our MyABF platform. This part-time role requires approximately 2 to 2.5 days per week, allowing you to continue enjoying your bridge games while contributing to the growth and improvement of our software.

Key Responsibilities:

- Oversee the end-to-end delivery of planned enhancements to MyABF, including integrating the Masterpoint Centre and a new scoring program.
- Manage stakeholder activities to ensure high-quality software delivery to the Australian Bridge Community (including ABF, states/territories, clubs, and players) within agreed scope, budget, and timeline.

Why This Role is Perfect for You:

- **Blend Passion and Profession:** Combine your love for bridge with your IT project management skills.
- **Flexible Schedule:** Work part-time and continue to enjoy other activities in your life including playing bridge.
- **Impactful Work:** Play a key role in delivering valuable enhancements to the bridge community.

Requirements:

- At least 5 years of experience in managing IT projects.
- You don't have to be a champion bridge player but a good understanding of the game itself and familiarity with how bridge clubs operate is essential.

Interested?

For more details or to view the full job description, please reach out to David Fryda, Executive Director of the ABF, at david.fryda@abf.com.au.

Apply now and be a part of our exciting journey to enhance the MyABF platform!

Is 1 November 2025 the Centenary of Contract Bridge?

That Harold Stirling (Mike) Vanderbilt sailed on the SS Finland in late October and early November 1925 is an established fact. It is also a fact that when the ship was in (or near) the Panama Canal on the night of 31 October, Vanderbilt persuaded three auction bridge-playing friends to try something new. Whether his version of bridge with his scoring table was a new game that he called Contract Bridge is more disputed.

In Vanderbilt's telling, this incorporated "Not only the best features of Auction and Plafond, but also a number of new and exciting features; premiums for slams bid and made, vulnerability, and the decimal system of scoring which by increasing both trick and game values and all premiums and penalties was destined to add enormously to the popularity of Contract Bridge." [1] Vanderbilt advises that the term "vulnerable" for being one game in was suggested by a young lady on board.

The claim to have invented a new game called Contract Bridge is simply wrong. The term Contract Bridge appeared in Australia in a newspaper in 1920.[2] Under the heading *Contract Bridge: Have You Played It Yet*, the Border Morning Mail and Riverina Times of Saturday, 21 February 1920, ran a column by A E Manning Foster that described contract as an American invention. The scoring system included in the article includes slam bonuses, but not the decimal system of scoring and certainly not the concept of vulnerability.

This timing of the Manning Foster statement appears odd. In *The Walk of Oysters*, Rex Mackey notes that in 1919, a "half-baked form of Plafond came over from France with the returning officers, but it fizzled out." He then notes that Manning Foster established the

Auction Bridge Magazine in May 1926, adding Contract to the cover in 1929, but placed second.[3]

R.F.Foster in his *Foster's Contract Bridge of 1927*, starts the introduction by observing, "As far back as 1917, and again in 1920, when the revision of the laws of auction bridge was under consideration, an effort was made to have contract bridge recognised and legislated for in connection with the parent game. The rather illogical reason for its rejection, as stated by the then chairman of the committee, was, 'that contract would almost legislate the poor bidder out of the game.'"

However, the scoring system Foster describes is the same as that in the Australian newspaper article.

The first international *Laws of Contract Bridge* were agreed to in 1932 by the Portland Club, London, The Whist Club, New York and the Commission Française du Bridge, Paris. The American Preface notes that the Whist Club promulgated the first laws of Contract Bridge in 1927. For the laws of 1932, the three clubs worked in detail on the laws, saying, "As to matters of substance, every section, every line and every word of previously existing Laws have been weighed carefully. These three Committees have cooperated in attempting to do what was best for the game rather than to compromise upon any disputed points."

Importantly, it also notes that on matters of scoring, they were guided by Mr. Vanderbilt's suggestions. The Laws were adopted by the Whist Club on 19 October 1932.[4]

The preface to the English edition of the Laws observed that few players knew how widely the English, French and American laws had differed. In comparing the English and American laws, at least 36 differences could have

reversed the result of a rubber, with that being 50 in a French-American comparison.[5]

Contract Bridge as a concept certainly existed before 1925 and wasn't established under one set of Laws until 1933. Vanderbilt does appear to be able to claim the credit for the scoring system that made the balance between reward and risk when bidding to game just right.[6]

In search of publicity and special occasions, the Australian bridge community should claim 1 November 2025 as the centenary and celebrate it!

[1] Source <http://db.worldbridge.org/Repository/tourn/Estoril.05/Bulletin/Bul0906.htm>

[2] <https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/120587947?browse=ndp%3Abrowse%2Ftitle%2FB%2Ftitle%2F445%2F1920%2F02%2F21%2Fpage%2F12248918%2Farticle%2F120587947#>

[3] Rex Mackey The Walk of Oysters: the curious history of Contract Bridge. 1964

[4] Ely Culbertson Contract Bridge: Blue Book 1933.

[5] Myra A. Millingen Contract Kernels 1933 (Ms Millingen was named as the Hon. Secretary pro tem. in the November 1933 advertisement calling the inaugural meeting of the New South Wales Bridge Association. In this volume, she is titled the Hon. Secretary, Sydney Branch, British Bridge League)

[6] Though the scoring of doubled not-vulnerable undertricks is another story for another day.

In coming issues, we will have more on the early days of Contract Bridge featuring Ely Culbertson and Myrtle Bennett.

The Directing Committee

The Bridge NSW Board has created a fifth standing committee responsible for all aspects of directing.

The Committee is responsible for establishing criteria for the state levels of directors (B, C and D) and assessment. More significantly, the Board has charged the Committee with developing programs to provide pathways for directors and to assist clubs with all facets of directing.

The Committee has been given a specific goal of developing two new National A1 directors in this state in five years. This ambitious goal starts with clubs encouraging members, especially their younger members, to take up directing.

We will have more from the Committee in future newsletters, but if you would like more information in the meantime, please get in touch with the Committee Chair, John McIlrath, at directing@bridgensw.com.au

Club Directors Course

The next course will run on 15 November at the Lindfield rooms of the North Shore Bridge Club. Further details are available on MyABF and in the brochure at the end of this newsletter.

Laws for Players

Players don't need to know the rulings a Director should make when called to the table; they do need to understand enough to know to call the Director and to make choices when these occur as part of the ruling.

If you would like to see any of these discussed in the Newsletter, please email office@bridgensw.com.au

Getting Off The Bottom

Kirsten Hartley and Simon Elderfield have taught bridge beginners and improvers for six years. Based at Southern Highlands Bridge Club, where continuing education has proved very successful, they teach face-to-face groups twice weekly and offer more online classes.

"People love to be successful, and sometimes just tweaking the bidding or the play can make all the difference between getting another thumping and earning some masterpoints", said Kirsten. "That's why we have developed our *Getting Off The Bottom* workshops, which are designed to help improving players gain more confidence in their communication with their partner to lift players up the leaderboard."

A recent weekend workshop featuring INT and Responses was successfully held at Canowindra. Convenor Anne Ward wrote, "Everyone enjoyed the way (the classes) were presented and how at ease you both made them feel. We've been wondering how to progress and improve our little social club for a while, and you both were the perfect solution."

"We would love to visit other clubs," said Kirsten. "When speaking with people from regional areas, we have found that the resources are not always available to make teaching easy to present. We can offer workshops on various subjects where people tend to get into a knot, so we ensure lots of practical play."

Kirsten and Simon say they are self-sufficient with technology and are keen to organise a tour around NSW. If you would like to learn more, they can be contacted at kirsten@playbridgeinternational.com

Congratulations to Sartaj Hans

Sartaj Hans counts Hunters Hill Bridge Club as his home club, but he is clearly just as comfortable on the world stage.

Together with Andy Hung (from WA) and Matt Brown and Michael Whibley (both from New Zealand), he has just won the 2024 HCL Teams of Four Gold in Delhi.

With a total prize purse of ~ USD 325,000, the HCL International has become one of bridge's most valuable tournaments. First place in the Open Teams attracted ~USD 52,000.

This was a warm-up event for Matt and Michael for the 16th World Bridge Games, which will be played in Buenos Aires starting 22 October.

GNOT Qualifying

Congratulations to the NSW teams that qualified for the GNOT National Final and the National Non-Metropolitan Final.

The National Final qualifying teams are Sydney 1 (David Wiltshire, Jessica Brake, Shane Harrison, Liam Milne, Sophie Ashton, and James Coutts) and Sydney 3 (Fraser Rew, Matt Smith, Ella Jacob, and Jamie Thompson). Liam and James are on the Australian Open Team for the World Games, and Ella and Jenny are on the Women's Team.

The Non-Metropolitan qualifying teams are Northern Rivers (Marjorie Askew, Bill Powell, Paul Smith, and Winston Guymer) and Hunter 1 (Michael Seldon, Chris Dibley, Ken Berry, Roger Yandle).

We wish them all well for the Final to be played in Sydney on 23 and 24 November.

2024 NSW Under 100 Masterpoints Pairs Championship (UHMP)

Over 70% of the registered active players in the state have fewer than 100 masterpoints. The Under 100 Masterpoint Pairs Championships (UHMP) are restricted to those players with fewer than 100 masterpoints. See <https://www.nswba.com.au/tourn/state/se.asp?Y=2024&E=uhmp>

Club qualifying events are just ordinary club sessions that earn masterpoints at the B4 rate. It is not necessary to have played in a club qualifying event to play in a UHMP Final. These are held at clubs that have volunteered to run the event. So far, the following local finals have been scheduled:

Club	Date	Time	Address
Armidale Bridge Club	27/11/2024	1:00	Armidale Bridge Club, Rockvale Rd, Armidale
Ballina Bridge Club	28/11/2024	1:00	13 North Creek Road, Ballina NSW 2478
Brisbane Water Bridge Club	27/11/2024	12:30	93 McMasters Rd Woy Woy
Cowra Bridge Club	26/11/2024	12:45	Club Cowra, Brisbane St, Cowra
Georges River Bridge Club	26/11/2024	10:00	2 Carrington St, Penshurst
Great Lakes Bridge Club	28/11/2024	9:00	34C Lake Street, Forster
Illawarra Bridge Association	01/12/2024	13:30	11 Princes Hwy, Figtree
Peninsula Bridge Club	29/11/2024	1:15	9/5 Vuko Pl, Warriewood
Port Macquarie-Hastings Bridge Assoc	29/11/2024	1:00	Hamilton Green, 176 Hastings River Drive, Port Macquarie
The Sapphire Coast Bridge Club Inc	27/11/2024	1:00	Shop 9/13 Tura Beach Drive, Tura Beach
Sydney Bridge Centre	25/11/2024	1:30	Level 1, 162 Goulburn Street, Surry Hills

Ask if your club is holding a qualifying event. The full details are on the NSWBA website.

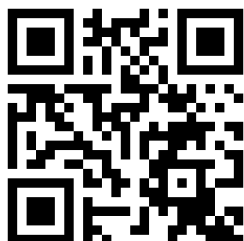
State Open Pairs Championship

The final of the State Open Pairs (incorporating Country Pairs) Championship will be played at the Sydney Bridge Centre on 16 and 17 November.

Pairs can enter the final directly for an entry fee of \$200. Clubs pay a discount of only \$160 for representative pairs chosen through a club qualifying event. Has your club scheduled a qualifier? It is not too late to include one in your scheduled sessions.

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of the{Title Goes Here}?

To get your own, scan the QR code.



If you are reading an electronic copy, you
can click on this link.

Subscribe

Special offer from Ron Klinger – he is looking to reduce stock and is offering the books below when sent in boxes with the discounts indicated. These books are ideal for boosting your club's funds, as prizes, or for use in teaching bridge:

Offers, less 50% per box:

- **Bridge Basics** – \$15 each (60 per box) – Ideal for classes
- **Guide To Better Bridge** – \$28 each (16 per box) – Excellent for classes
- **Guide To Better Card Play** – \$30 each (17 per box) – Ideal for classes (limited stock)
- **Guide To Better Duplicate** – \$28 each (18 per box) – Excellent for classes
- **The Modern Losing Trick Count** – \$24 each (44 per box)
- **Bridge For Children** – \$12 each (40 per box)
- **The Bridge Player Who Laughed** – \$12 each (40 per box)

Offers, less 65% per box:

- **5-Card Major Stayman** – \$24 each (30 per box)
- **The Power System** – \$20 each (20 per box)
- **Keith McNeil: Match Your Bidding Against The Masters** – \$16 each (30 per box)
- **Bridge Made Easy** – \$8 each (40 per box) – Excellent for beginner classes

He is also happy to cover half the postage or freight costs. Contact ron@ronklingerbridge.com

The following pages are a compendium of flyers for forthcoming events and courses sent to the Newsletter. The extra reminder will not be sent next month. The deadline for flyers to be received is the 20th of the month. Flyers must be a single A4 page and cannot advertise club sessions. Only provide flyers for events and courses in the following two months.

To have your flyer included in the next issue, please send it to office@bridgensw.com.au

Any other contributions are welcome.

We want to share your stories of how you are advancing the playing and enjoyment of bridge at your club or at congresses.

Many thanks to Paul Lavings for his contributions.

Sydney Spring Nationals



19-27 OCTOBER 2024

Featuring a range of events for all players:

**Open, Mixed, Seniors, Women,
Intermediate, Restricted and Novice**

Gold Masterpoints & Playoff Qualifying Points

**Venue: Level 2, Canterbury Park Racecourse
96 King St, Ashbury with free onsite parking**

Chief Tournament Director: Simon Edler

Tournament Organiser: Gary Barwick (0413 884 805)

<http://myabf.com.au/go/SpringNats24>

email: sn@abf.com.au



*Run under license from
The Australian Bridge
Federation Limited
ABN: 70 053 651 666*



Entry and payment methods, accommodation options and the full brochure are all available on the MYABF website.

Note that an early bird discount applies for **team events** if full payment is received by 1 October 2024.

State Novice and Restricted Teams 2024



Bridge
NSW

Illawarra Bridge Association Hall
11 Princes Highway Figtree
9-10 November 2024



Teams of Novice and Restricted players are all invited to the Illawarra to play in the 2024 State Novice & Restricted Teams.

Eligibility cut-off is the 1 October Masterpoint Centre update.

All players in a Novice team must have less than 100 Masterpoints.

All players in a Restricted team must have less than 300 masterpoints.

Red masterpoints are awarded at the State Championship (B) level for this event. Medals are also awarded to the winners.

Tea and instant coffee will be available throughout the event. Lunch will be provided.

Players must be seated at 9:30 for a 10:00 am start.

Tournament Organiser: Jill MacRae
Phone: 0414 900 239
Email: jill.macrae54@bigpond.com

Director: Alan Bustany

Entries via MyABF: <https://www.myabf.com.au/events/congress/view/1767>

The Management Committee and members of the Illawarra Bridge Association look forward to your participation in this event.

Bridge NSW

invites you to a
Club Directors Course
Presented by Ian Lisle



Bridge
NSW

Friday 15 November 2024

North Shore Bridge Club
2B Carlyle Rd, East Linfield

Commencing 9 for 9.30 am and concluding at 3:30 pm

This course is suitable for those wishing to learn more about the laws of bridge and those wishing to become Club Directors.

It will provide:

- Required skills and knowledge for a Club Director
- Knowledge of the laws related to the most common calls for the Director
- An understanding of the basics of movements and matchpoint scoring

Completion of this course will equip you well to sit the D level exam required to direct red point sessions at club level.

There is no charge for this course and course notes are provided. Copies of three books recommended for Directors will be for sale. The NSBC have kindly provided their premises and complimentary tea and coffee. A lunch of sandwiches and snacks will be provided.

If you have ever been mildly curious about what it takes to be a Director, we encourage you to come to this course.

Enquiries to:

David Havyatt Ph: 0477 52 52 52

Email: eo@bridgensw.com.au

Bookings by MyABF

<https://www.myabf.com.au/events/congress/view/1889>

Spring TEAMS

Saturday 28th September 2024

at Level 1, 162 Goulburn Street, Surry Hills, Sydney

Entry Fee: \$60 (member) / \$65 (visitor) per person (lunch included)

Enter via MyABF

The SBC Spring Swiss Teams

Saturday 28th September, 10.00am

at the SBC clubrooms on Level 1, 162 Goulburn Street, Surry Hills

Entry fee: \$60 member / \$65 visitor (lunch included)

RED Masterpoints

Programmes

Play commences at 10.00am sharp on Saturday 28th September for two sessions: three matches in the morning, break for lunch, then another three matches in the afternoon. Please form a team with 4 players. Entry in advance on MyABF required.

Prize money will depend on the number of entries.

Entry and Payment method

Please enter online via MyABF. It is free to become a registered MyABF user, as long as you have an active ABF number.

For SBC members who have a Pre-pay account, entry fee will be deducted from your PP account on the day if no other payment methods are specified.

For visitors, please pay your entry fee via MyABF.

The Venue

The venue can be easily accessed by train, light rail, and bus. Please use the NSW Trip Planner to find the most suitable route. Secure Parking, at the corner of Elizabeth and Goulburn Street offers special parking rate \$15 for whole day parking on weekends and public holidays.

For enquiries / assistance, please email office@sydneybridgecentre.com.

Conduct under the auspices of the NSWBA. The ABF has approved the issue of RED Masterpoints at B4 level.

No yellow system allowed.

Organiser: Wing Roberts

Phone: (02) 9264 6884 / 0487 350 160

Email: office@sydneybridgecentre.com **Website:** www.sydneybridgecentre.com





Friday Workshop

Getting To The Right Contract, How To Make That Extra Trick

With Will Jenner-O'Shea

Friday September 27th, 10am – 3:30pm

@Goulburn Street

Each hand has an interesting Play or Defence Tip.

Topics

Deciding When To Bid No-Trumps.

How To Get To No-Trumps When You Are Not Sure.

Play Tips And Tricks To Get The Extra Tricks.

Play Trumps Suits and No-Trumps With A Clearer Plan.

Intermediate / Open / Advanced

Play Regularly to Reinforce

For Open players: (City) Monday – Thursday mornings (10.00am), Tuesday night (7.15pm) / (Canada Bay) Monday and Thursday (10.00am) / (Henley) Saturday (1.30pm).

For Supervised players: (City) Monday & Wednesday morning (10.00am) and Tuesday evening (6.30pm) / (Canada Bay) Thursday morning (10.00am).

All are Welcome: (City) Sunday Funday (1.30pm) every two weeks, please check website for dates.

*Book online
via SBC
website*



You do not need a partner.

Book online on www.SydneyBridgeCentre.com,

or contact the office – Level 1, 162 Goulburn St.

office@sydneybridgecentre.com or 9264 6884

Costs: \$60 for Members, \$65 for Non-Members.

A delicious morning tea and light lunch will be provided.



Labour Day Congress

MATCHPOINT PAIRS

at East Lindfield

10 am Start, 2 x Sessions

Includes Snacks and Lunch



Book via Upcoming
events or



SCAN ME

Saturday, 12th October

Swiss Pairs

Start Time: 10:00am

Entry Fee: \$50. per person

Sunday, 13th October

Swiss Teams

Start time: 10:00am

Entry Fee: \$50. per person

- * Prizes awarded to 1st & 2nd
- * Novice categories U300MP's per person
- * Best Local Pair & Team
- * Hot lunch served each day

Please let us know of any dietary requirements

- * Snacks, Beverages available all day
- * Bar operating from lunchtime daily

Maximum Tables: 20

First entries in and paid get preference
Entries close on Wednesday 9th October

Congress entries via MY ABF,
and NSW Bridge sites, OR
by contacting the organiser.

Payment Options:

- * Via the MyABF platform, OR
- * By direct deposit to:
Monaro Bridge Club
BSB: 633 000
A/c# 203702691

Provide ABF no as reference, OR

- * **Pay at the door by cash (no EFT)**

For enquiries please contact:

John Chapman Ph: 0428431676

OR

monarobridgeclub@gmail.com



BACK TO COOMA CONGRESS 12th & 13th October 2024

Director: Sebastian Yuen

To be held at Cooma Car Club
Bolaro Street COOMA

Plenty of parking available at the venue



Accommodation:

There are plenty of options nearby, but the following offer discounts for Bridge Players

Nebula Motel: 42 Bombala Street, Cooma NSW 2630
Call Susie or Frank on 64524133

MUSWELLBROOK BRIDGE CLUB Inc



Invite applications to attend our

32nd CONGRESS – 12th and 13th OCTOBER 2024

Saturday 12th Pairs – Registration 10:00 am Play 10:30 am
Sunday 13th Swiss Teams – Registration 9:00 am Play 9:30 am

Director Nick Hughes

Under the auspices of the NSW Bridge association
The ABF has approved the issue of RED Masterpoints at the B4 Level



St James Primary school MPC – Skellatar Stock Route

Convenor – Emil Battista ebattist@bigpond.net.au
Phone 0448928919

President – Barbara Hunter Phone 0265431228



Proudly Sponsored by

NOWRA BRIDGE CLUB

SWISS TEAMS CONGRESS



SUNDAY 13th October 2024

COMMENCING AT 10.00 am (Registration From 9.30 am)

Prize Money Per Team Of:

1st \$400 ... 2nd \$200 ... 3rd \$100

Six rounds of 8 board matches

Director: Jeff Carberry

A local prize of \$100 for the best Nowra team (after the first three winners) to be awarded

Subject to entries (two minimum) a small non-monetary prize will be awarded to the best Nowra Club team with less than ten Masterpoints per person

In both cases all team members must be a Home or Associate Member of Nowra Bridge Club

With a limit of 14 tables early entry is recommended

Cost per player is \$50

Pre-payment is requested - please make direct deposit to:

**Nowra Bridge Club Inc
BSB 062-585 ... Account No. 00912249**

Please make sure your name and ABF number is entered
Cash/Card Reader can also be used by Convenor or Treasurer prior to date

Light lunch and all-day delicious refreshments will be provided
If there is a dietary requirement, please contact Convenor

**Online entry is by MyABF - myabf.com.au - Upcoming Events then scroll to October
Alternatively contact Convenor**

Entries close 6pm Wednesday 9th October 2024. Late entries at Director's discretion

Convenor & Information: janet.willis8@bigpond.com or 040 531 6508

Nowra Bridge Club
North Nowra Community Hall
Hood Close (off Page Avenue) North Nowra

When coming towards Nowra from the north on the highway turn right into Illaroo Road which is immediately before the big bridge. At first roundabout go straight on and at next roundabout take the second turning and then first left into Page Avenue and then first left into Hood Close.

When coming from the south, after going through Nowra on the highway, keep left and take the dedicated turn left lane going across the bridge. Turn left into Illaroo Road. At first roundabout go straight on and at next roundabout take the second turning and then first left into Page Avenue and then first left into Hood Close.

**NEW
VENUE**

PENNANT HILLS BRIDGE CLUB

TEAMS CONGRESS 2024

Thornleigh Community Centre
Cnr Phyllis & Central Av. Thornleigh



...Sunday 13th October 2024...



Two Sessions – commencing at 10:00am

Conducted under the auspices of the NSWBA

Players subject to the BNSW Congress Disciplinary Regulations

ABF approved issue of RED master points (twice the rate of congresses)

Yellow Systems not permitted.

Tournament Director
RONNIE NG

PRIZES

Tournament Convenor
Vince Cariola

All Teams

1st Place	\$400.00
2nd Place	\$240.00
3rd Place	\$160.00
Best restricted- lower 1/3 of field	\$160.00



This event qualifies two teams*
to the finals of John Arkinstall
State Teams to be played online
on Real Bridge on 29th
November – 1st December 2024
* One of the qualifying teams
must be a metropolitan club
representative team

We reserve the right to deem players ineligible for restricted
classification and adjust Prize Money according to player numbers

ENTRY FEE \$ 160.00 PER TEAM (Paid at the Table)

(Numbers restricted to 40 tables)

Bring your lunch.

Food can be purchased at nearby venues.

Refreshments are provided throughout the day.

ENQUIRIES: Vince Cariola **Mob: 0419 016 414**
congress@pennanthillsbridge.au

PARKING: **Ample street parking available near venue**
Enter venue via Central Avenue Thornleigh

ENTER ONLINE
www.pennanthillsbridge.au



Workshop with Will Jenner-O'Shea

10am – 3:30pm

@Level 1, 162 Goulburn Street, Surry Hills

The SBC Workshop runs approximately once a month, usually on a Friday or Saturday. It is a combination of lessons and practice hands – a fun learning for all levels of players.

The next Workshops are now open for booking:

Friday 27 September	Getting To The Right Contract, How To Make That Extra Trick. Deciding When To Bid No-Trumps. How To Get To No-Trumps When You Are Not Sure. Play Tips And Tricks To Get The Extra Tricks. Play Trumps Suits and No-Trumps With A Clearer Plan.
Friday 18 October	Things You Should Know (But May Have Forgotten) Which Auctions Are Forcing, And Which Are Not. How Many Cards You Need To Make Certain Bids. Commonly Mistaken Auctions. When High-Low Shows A Doubleton, And When Not. More Tips On Play And Defence.
Saturday 09 November	Michaels Cue Bids, The Unusual 2NT and Power Doubles How to use these competitive bidding tools. Competing and finding your best fits as quickly as possible. The Michaels Cue Bid to show the Majors. The Unusual 2NT (and Unusual 4NT) to compete in minors. Power Doubles, and how to show very strong hands as the overcaller. Interesting Play and Defence topics.
Saturday 14 December	A Summary, Review and Practice, of this year's Workshops Practice Cue Raises, Checkback, and Doubling 1NT. Plenty of Bidding and Defence Tips. A Summary Of All the Suggested Conventions We looked at in 2024. Improved Judgment and Evaluation. <i>This Workshop is suitable for players of all levels, from Supervised to Open. Tips for Players at all levels. It doesn't matter if you didn't attend any, or all, of the previous workshops.</i>

You don't need a partner. Please book online on www.SydneyBridgeCentre.com, or contact us on office@SydneyBridgeCentre.com / 9264 6884.

\$60 for members / \$65 for non-members. A delicious morning tea and a light lunch will be provided. We are centrally located with easy access to public transportation. For those who prefer to drive, parking is available at Secure Parking (corner of Elizabeth & Goulburn Streets), validation tickets can be purchased at cost price \$17 (Weekend Special \$15 is offered by the Parking station, please check signs).

THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW BUT MAY HAVE FORGOTTEN...

with Will Jenner-O'Shea

1st November at East Lindfield Bowling Club 10am - 3PM



WHICH
AUCTIONS ARE
FORCING?



WHAT IS NOT
FORCING?



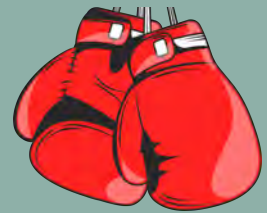
HOW MANY
CARDS
REQUIRED?

ooPs

COMMONLY
MISTAKEN
AUCTIONS



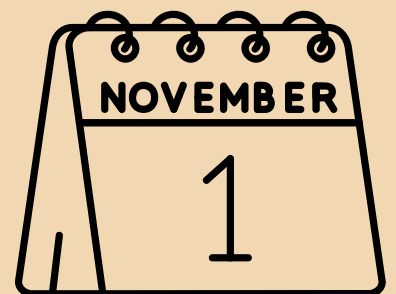
WHEN HIGH-
LOW SHOWS A
DOUBLETON



TIPS ON PLAY
AND DEFENCE



SCAN ME



10AM - 3PM

Book via Upcoming events on our Website
\$60 per person includes Morning Tea & Lunch

www.northshore.bridge-club.org

SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS BRIDGE CLUB
31st ANNUAL CONGRESS
2nd & 3rd November 2024

Saturday Swiss Pairs
(Open & Restricted)
& Sunday Swiss Teams

Venue: The Highlands School of Performing Arts
73 Kirkham Road (Cnr Willow Road)
Bowral NSW 2576
(Drop off point for Disabled, Street Parking Only)

Director: Jeff Carberry
Convenors: Stephen Brabyn & Tony Lye
Email: shbc2251@outlook.com
Web: www.shbcbridgeaustralia.org

Please Enter Online Via myABF
Red masterpoints will be awarded at Level B4
Red & yellow systems are not permitted

Entry Fees: \$110 per Pair | \$220 per Team
Includes morning tea & lunch on Saturday
and lunch & refreshments on Sunday

Completing Your Online Entry
Saturday Swiss Pairs Open or Restricted with
< 200 MP's as at 1st August 2024

Closing Date for Entries: 15th October 2024

How to Pay: Bridge Credits via myABF

Or Direct Deposit to:
Southern Highlands Bridge Club Inc
BDCU Bendigo Bank
BSB: 633 000
Acc: 200103737
Please include your name as a reference.

For Enquiries or Assistance:
Email: shbc2251@outlook.com

Final Date for Payment: 15th October 2024
(Places will not be confirmed until payment is made)



ITINERARY

Saturday 2nd November

9:45am for a 10:00am Start
Swiss Pairs Championship
Restricted (less than 200mp)
and Open Sections

Prize money for open and restricted pairs for
1st, 2nd & 3rd placegetters
A Special Perpetual / Regional Pairs
Trophy donated by NSWBA

Sunday 3rd November

9:30am for a 9:45am
Start Swiss Teams Championship

Prize money for 1st, 2nd & 3rd placegetters
A Special Perpetual / Regional Pairs
Trophy donated by NSWBA



Dress Code

Neat Casual, Appropriate Footwear
(No Thongs)

This congress is conducted under the auspices of
BNSW. All players are subject to BNSW's Congress
Disciplinary Regulations.



Parramatta Bridge Club Foundation Day Teams Congress

to be held at
Ermington Community CENTRE

10 River Road, Ermington

SUNDAY 3RD NOVEMBER 2024

Commencing at 10.00 a.m.

Conducted under the auspices of the NSWBA

The ABF has approved the issue of RED MASTERPOINTS at level B4

All players are subject to NSWBA's Congress Disciplinary Regulations.

Tournament Director : Ronnie Ng.

Convener : Margaret East 0416 513 295

ENTER via MyABF

PRIZES: 1st \$480 2nd \$240

1st Parramatta Team \$120

2nd Parramatta Team \$100

Restricted. \$100.

(Only one prize per Team)

Entry Fee \$160.00 Team

Bring your own lunch or buy from
local shops

Refreshments provided during the day.



MUDGEE BRIDGE CLUB



Annual Congress 9th and 10th November, 2024

Main Pavilion, AREC,

267 Ulan Road Bombira NSW 2850

(located 2.5 kms north of Mudgee township)

Important for those using GPS to use the locality of Bombira rather than Mudgee

Saturday Nov. 9th

Swiss Pairs

9.30am for 10.00am

\$55 pp

Sunday Nov. 10th

Swiss Teams

8.30am for 9.00am

\$55 pp

- Cash prizes awarded
- Coffee and tea available throughout
- Lunch included both days
- Entry form: [Australian Bridge Federation \(myabf.com.au\)](http://myabf.com.au)
- Payment by direct debit to BSB 082-726 A/c no. 87-313-3080 using your name as the reference – or with bridge credits on myabf

Director: Ian Lisle

Convener: Marelle Irvine

Email: mudgeebridgeclub@gmail.com

Phone: 0407 730 996

PO Box 536, Mudgee 2850 NSW

All players are subject to the NSWBA's Congress Disciplinary Regulations.

This event is conducted under the auspices of the NSW Bridge Association.

The ABF has approved the issue of Red Masterpoints at level B4.



invites you to play in the

UNDER 100 MASTERPOINTS PAIRS CHAMPIONSHIP

on Sunday 24th November 2024

1.30pm - 4.30pm

Level 1, 162 Goulburn Street, Surry Hills

\$20 member (\$17 concession) / \$24 visitors

Snack and drinks included

Divisions for

ALL are welcome.

You don't need to have played in any club qualifying event.

Each player must be below the threshold for that category.



Please ENTER DIRECTLY as a Pair via MyABF:

<https://myabf.com.au/events/congress/view/1939>

This event is for any player who had <100 MPs as of 1st September 2024. No need to have played in Qualifying Event! The only pre-requisite is the masterpoint limit, i.e. you and partner MUST each have under 100 MPs. If you and your partner are in 2 different categories, you will qualify under the higher category.

Need a partner? Tell us via the entry form!



For those who have more than 100 MPs, a Sunday ARVO game will be held parallel to the UHMP Finals. Join us for a social Sunday game with drinks and munchies! Walk-ins are welcome. Same entry fee.

PRIZES & MASTERPOINTS are awarded within each division. **RED Masterpoints** at State Championship level. Pre-dealt boards with hand records.

Conducted under the auspices of BridgeNSW

