

Bridging NSW



Editor: bridging@bridgensw.com.au

September 2026



Hi everyone,

September brings another busy and encouraging month for Bridge NSW, with **new people joining our team**, successful events behind us and several important competitions ahead.

I am pleased to formally welcome Sophie Ashton following her first meeting as a member of the Bridge NSW Board. Sophie brings valuable experience and perspective, and we look forward to her contribution.

I also welcome Josephine Schwarzer, our new Marketing & Communications Officer. Josephine has already begun supporting our newsletter, website, social media and broader communications, and we are de-

lighted to have her working with us.

August provided several excellent examples of the strength and enthusiasm within our bridge community. The **Coffs Coast Gold Congress** again brought players together for a major regional event, demonstrating the important role congresses play in connecting competitors from across NSW and beyond.

We also celebrated the successful inaugural **Bridge NSW Player Development Congress at Peninsula Bridge Club**. Created for players new to tournament bridge, the event welcomed 36 pairs into a friendly and supportive congress environment.

This new initiative was delivered by Peninsula Bridge Club in collaboration with North Shore Bridge Club, Sydney Bridge Club and Trumps Bridge Centre. My sincere thanks go to Sachiko Cathcart for developing and organising the event, and to everyone who helped make the day such a positive experience.

Looking ahead, the **Regional and Metropolitan Finals** of the redesigned NSW State Pairs and Teams Championships will be held across the state on 26 and 27 September. This new format is an important step towards making our State Championships more inclusive and accessible. I wish all participants an enjoyable and successful weekend.

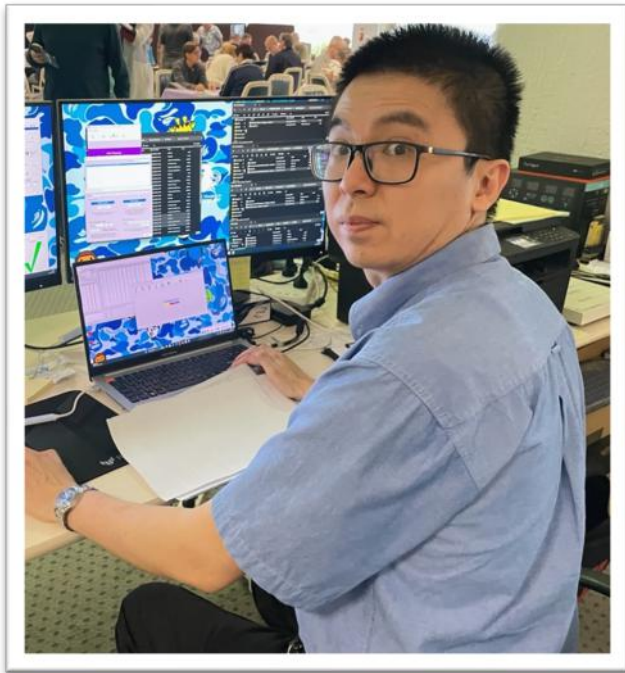
Planning is also well underway for the **Sydney Spring Nationals**, returning to Canterbury Park Racecourse from 17 to 25 October. NSW's flagship national event offers opportunities across Open, Intermediate, Restricted, Novice and Rookie levels, and I encourage members to take part.

Finally, I acknowledge the essential contribution made by directors at club sessions and tournaments across NSW. Skilled and confident directors help ensure our events are fair, welcoming and well run. Bridge NSW remains committed to supporting director development and encouraging more people to take on this vital role.

Thank you to our Board, Council, committees, clubs, staff and volunteers for your continued contribution to bridge throughout NSW.

Michael Green
Acting Chair, Bridge NSW

People of Bridge



Meet **Ronnie Ng**, Chief Tournament Director NSW, whose journey from school bridge in Hong Kong to directing major events across Australia is marked by curiosity, dedication and a calm presence. Ronnie shares how he found his way into tournament directing, what happens behind the scenes at a congress and why good communication is central to the role.

Your bridge journey and background

How did you come to play bridge?

I was born in Hong Kong, where mahjong was far more common than bridge. I first learnt a trick-taking card game while camping as a Cub Scout in primary school. It was called German Bridge and was very similar to what Australians call “Oh Sh***”, although the scoring was different.

In my second year of secondary school, a classmate invited me to join the school’s

Contract Bridge Club because I knew what trumps were and what it meant to follow suit. It was relatively unusual for a Hong Kong school to have a Bridge Club, but there were enough school clubs to hold inter-school competitions on Saturdays, and I began playing in those events.

What do you enjoy most about bridge?

Working out the full layout and where the missing honour cards are.

Do you have a favourite bridge memory?

I was playing in a club congress teams event comprising eight rounds. In the first four rounds, we did not do anything spectacular and were sitting in the middle of the field. However, we scored four consecutive maximum 20-VP wins in the remaining rounds, which carried my team over the line as the winner of the event.

That’s why a certain number of bridge players dislike Swiss movements—and, on that occasion, I benefited from the shortcomings of such a movement!

Your pathway into tournament directing

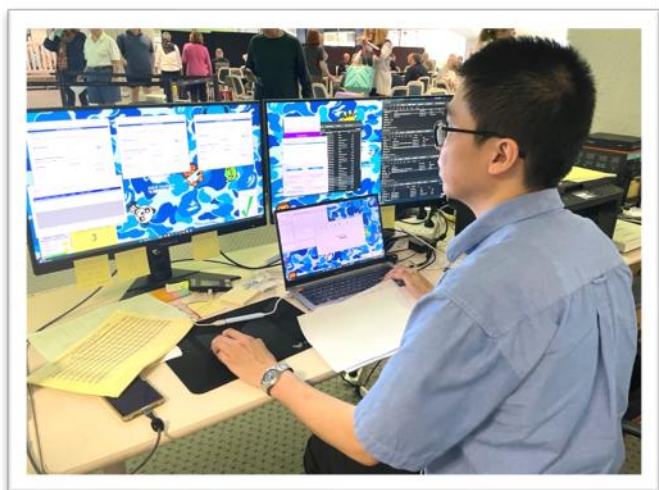
What inspired you to become a tournament director?

During my years as a competitive player, I began directing Monday-night sessions at my local club to help subsidise my bridge “hobby”. I found the role of a tournament director fascinating: the less commonly encountered parts of the Laws, the different

movements that can be used to meet particular requirements and constraints, and setting up scoring programs and Bridgemates for each tournament.

I progressed through the directing ranks relatively quickly and soon moved from playing competitively to directing congresses. Directing bridge sessions and events is now my full-time job, and I enjoy what I do. It gives me great satisfaction when an event runs smoothly and without problems.

I still don't mind playing competitively from time to time, but I'm in no hurry – I've had my fair share of competitive bridge!



What training, examinations and practical experience did you complete to become a director?

I was shown what to do during my first club session after passing the Club Director open-book exam—and I was on my own for my second club session!

Luckily, Colin Mitchell, a senior director at my club and a Life Member of the former NSWBA, now Bridge NSW, became my mentor soon afterwards. He properly taught me what I needed to do—for example, how to

set up the tables and the reasons behind a particular setup. I was very lucky to have him as my mentor so early in my “career”, and I will always be thankful for what he did for me.

I then passed my C-Grade Director exam and worked under Matthew McManus and Laurie Kelso at major congresses and state and national events. This allowed me to hone my skills as I progressed from Congress Director to State Director and then National Director.

How many years did it take to progress to your current role as Chief Tournament Director NSW?

Less than ten years. Matthew McManus resigned from the position before I was asked to fill the role.

What qualities make an excellent tournament director?

Being calm and having good people and communication skills.

Who most influenced your development as a director?

Colin Mitchell, Matthew McManus and Laurie Kelso.

Behind the scenes at a congress

What preparation is required before a typical club congress?

It depends on the event. For club congresses, clubs may ask directors to provide most of the equipment, including boards, Bridgemates and other gear. In these cases,

directors need to prepare everything and bring it to the venue.

For other events, directors communicate with the clubs and organisers about what is required—for example, how many sets of boards are needed, whether deal files need to be sent to the clubs so the boards can be prepared, the likely timing of the lunch break, and requirements for computers and Bridgemates. Directors may also advise on the scoring method and event format.

For events in which entries are restricted by particular requirements, directors need to work with the organisers to ensure that all players meet the eligibility criteria.

For national events, directors may also need to advise on supplementary regulations that do not conflict with ABF rules and seek approval from the ABF Tournament Committee. They also need to ensure that a page is set up to publish the event results.

What does your role involve on the day of a congress, from arrival through to the final result?

On the day, directors liaise with the club and set up the playing area. At the start of play, they explain the format and scoring method and make any housekeeping announcements.

Between rounds, they publish the draw and results so players know where to move for the next round. At the end of the event, they advise the organiser who the winners are.

How do you remain calm and make fair decisions when players disagree or the pressure is high?

It's not easy, which is why there is always a team of directors at national events. All decisions are discussed thoroughly to minimise the number of incorrect rulings.

Sometimes it is very difficult to ascertain the facts. Directors then need to form a view based on the balance of probabilities and the weight of the evidence collected.

What is one thing players or clubs can do to help a congress run smoothly?

Listen to the announcements and follow the instructions.

Clubs, community and the future of bridge

What advice would you give someone interested in becoming a tournament director?

Put up your hand. We want you!

The Bridge NSW Directing Committee would like to get to know you and help you explore what it's like to be a tournament director.

Getting to know you

What do you like to do when you are not playing or directing bridge?

Building plastic model kits.

New Monday night tournaments announced

Bridge NSW is introducing a new program of Monday night tournaments following feedback from players who participated in the Online Teams League and other Monday night competitions.

Delivered in collaboration with Bridge Victoria, Bridge NSW's annual Monday night tournament program will now include:

- State Online Pairs Championship
- State Online Teams Championship
- State Board-a-Match Teams Championship

Each tournament will run over four weeks and be open to all ABF-registered players throughout Australia. Events will continue to be played on RealBridge, providing access for players across NSW and increasingly interstate.

The Bridge NSW tournaments will alternate with similar Bridge Victoria events that are open to NSW players. Together, they will create an extensive Monday night calendar, filling most dates not affected by national tournaments, State Finals or Interstate Team Selection events.

Change to the October schedule

To introduce the new program as soon as possible, the previously advertised fourth season of the Online Teams League,

scheduled to commence on **26 October 2026**, will be replaced by the **State Board-a-Match Teams Championship**.

Also known as Point-a-Board, the Board-a-Match format awards a win, loss or draw on each board. The scoring is thus somewhat similar to matchpoints and offers teams a different strategic challenge.

Further event and entry details will be announced soon.

Online Pairs League continues in 2027

These changes will not affect the highly successful Online Pairs League.

In 2027, the OPL will continue to offer four eight-week seasons on RealBridge on Monday nights.

Your club membership: What affiliation makes possible

Membership of a Bridge NSW-affiliated club connects players and clubs to a much wider network of support.

Benefits of club membership

The services and programs Bridge NSW delivers to support clubs and players

Affiliation helps fund programs and services across NSW, including beginner and

supervised play initiatives, club development resources, director training, webinars, event promotion and the delivery of State and online tournaments. It also helps clubs access important insurance protections through the Australian Bridge Federation.

Another practical benefit is participation in the national masterpoint scheme.

Masterpoints can only be issued through clubs affiliated with their State body. They allow players to follow their progress and achievements while supporting more balanced competitions through masterpoint-based categories.

Behind the scenes, Bridge NSW's State Masterpoint Secretary works with clubs to help ensure eligible events are established correctly, ABF regulations are applied consistently and players receive the points they have earned.

Bridge NSW also provides a practical handbook for Club Masterpoint Secretaries, explaining responsibilities, award calculations and the use of the ABF Masterpoint Centre.

[Explore the benefits of Bridge NSW club membership.](#)

[Find masterpoint information and resources.](#)

For information and resources, visit the **Using Masterpoints page** or contact State Masterpoint Secretary David Weston at masterpoints@bridgensw.com.au

Bridge Events

Sydney Spring Nationals return this October

The Sydney Spring Nationals return to Canterbury Park Racecourse from 17–25 October, bringing nine days of national-level bridge to Sydney.



The graphic features a night view of the Sydney Harbour Bridge with city lights. It includes the Bridge NSW logo, the text 'YOUR NEXT BRIDGE ADVENTURE STARTS IN SYDNEY', the event dates 'Sydney Spring Nationals | 17–25 October 2026', and a circular badge stating 'Something for every player'. Below the main text, it describes the event as a national gold masterpoint event with nine days of bridge for various skill levels. At the bottom, it provides the website 'bridgensw.com.au/sydney-spring-nationals' and the ABE logo.

Bridge NSW

YOUR NEXT BRIDGE ADVENTURE STARTS IN SYDNEY

Sydney Spring Nationals | 17–25 October 2026

Something for every player

A national gold masterpoint event – **The Sydney Spring Nationals** return in 2026 with all your favourite events and some fresh surprises.

Nine days of bridge, with Novice, Restricted, Intermediate and Open events so you can play at your level.

Explore the program and enter via MyABF!

bridgensw.com.au/sydney-spring-nationals

ABE

As NSW's flagship bridge event, the Spring Nationals offer something for players across a broad range of experience levels. The program includes Open, Mixed, Intermediate, Restricted, Novice and Rookie events, including:

- Restricted and Novice Teams
- Mini Monday Red Point event
- Restricted and Novice Butler Swiss Pairs
- Intermediate, Restricted and Novice Swiss Pairs
- Open, Mixed and under-1500 masterpoint events

Free parking is available onsite, and Canterbury Railway Station is approximately a 15-minute walk from the venue.

Enter through [MyABF](#), or visit [the Sydney Spring Nationals webpage](#).

Questions can be directed to Tournament Organiser Shannon Queree at sn@abf.com.au or 0423 122 492.

State Championship Regional and Metropolitan Finals make history

The inaugural Regional and Metropolitan Finals for the redesigned NSW State Pairs and Teams Championships will take place across NSW in September.

The **Pairs Finals will be held on Saturday 26 September**, followed by the **Teams Finals on Sunday 27 September**.

Eleven regions will host events across NSW, making it easier for players throughout the state to participate. The new format also introduces three experience-based categories:

- Under National Master
- Under Grand Master
- Open

Players did not need to participate in or win a Club Selection Event to enter a Regional or Metropolitan Final directly.

Successful pairs and teams from these events will progress to the online State

Finals later this year. Direct entry is not available for the State Finals.

The State Pairs Final will be played online on Monday 30 November and Monday 7 December. The State Teams Final will run online from Friday 4 to Sunday 6 December.

This is the first year Bridge NSW has delivered the championships through multiple regional hosts and experience-based categories, creating a more inclusive pathway from club and regional competition to State honours.

Find regional information, venues and event details on the [State Pairs and Teams Championships webpage](#).

For enquiries, contact David Havyatt at state.champs@bridgensw.com.au or 0414 467 271.

Under-100 Masterpoint Pairs return for 2026

The NSW Under-100 Masterpoint Pairs Championships return this spring, creating an accessible statewide competition for newer and developing players.

More than 70% of registered active players in NSW have fewer than 100 masterpoints, making the UHMP Pairs one of the most relevant events on the Bridge NSW calendar.

The championships are open to players who hold fewer than 100 masterpoints as at 1 September 2026. Competition is offered across four masterpoint divisions:

- 0–9.99 masterpoints
- 10–24.99 masterpoints
- 25–49.99 masterpoints

- 50–99.99 masterpoints

How does the event work?

The championships are played in two independent stages.

The first stage consists of club sessions held throughout September, October and November. Players can ask their local club whether it is participating and which sessions have been selected as UHMP heats.

The second stage consists of Local Finals, held at participating clubs across NSW from **23–29 November 2026**. Every Local Final will play the same boards, with results match-pointed across the state.

Players do not need to participate in a club heat to enter a Local Final.

Red masterpoints will be awarded at Level B4s, with masterpoints calculated separately across each of the four divisions. Prizes will also be awarded in each masterpoint category.

An opportunity for clubs

Clubs are invited to register one or more regular sessions as UHMP heats or apply to host a Local Final during the week of 23–29 November.

Hosting or promoting the championships is a practical way to encourage less experienced players, introduce them to competitive bridge and help them build confidence within a supportive masterpoint field.

Player entries and further information will be added as arrangements are confirmed.

Visit the [2026 NSW Under-100 Masterpoint Pairs webpage](#) for details and club registration.

Victorian Online Teams Championship

Bridge NSW is collaborating with Bridge Victoria to present the Victorian Online Teams Championship, running across four Monday evenings from 7–28 September.

Victoria's premier online teams event will be played on RealBridge, with sessions commencing at 7:00 pm. The championship is a red-point event and offers NSW teams another opportunity to enjoy competitive bridge from home.

[View the details and enter on MyABF.](#)

State Swiss Pairs Championship

North Shore Bridge Club will host the 2026 State Swiss Pairs Championship online over three Tuesday evenings: 8, 15 and 22 September.

The Open championship will be played on RealBridge, with sessions beginning at 7:00 pm. Entry is restricted to members of clubs affiliated with Bridge NSW.

Entries close at 5:00 pm on Monday 7 September.

[View the event and enter on MyABF.](#)

Australian Youth Triathlon heads to Canberra

Young bridge players will come together in Canberra for the Australian Youth Triathlon from 27 September to 1 October.

Open to players aged 30 and under, the program combines training with Pairs, Teams and Individual competitions. Players of all experience levels are welcome, and the most successful player across the three disciplines will receive the Bobby Richman Trophy.

The event begins with a training day on Sunday 27 September, followed by the Youth Triathlon competitions from Monday 28 to Wednesday 30 September.

[View the full program and enter on MyABF.](#)

Find more events

Visit the [Bridge NSW Event Calendar](#) to discover more upcoming bridge throughout NSW.

Look for the coloured dots beside each listing: red identifies Bridge NSW events, while yellow identifies ABF-licensed events.

Event results

Online Teams League: Season 3

Congratulations to Team Butts, winners of Season 3 of the NSW Online Teams League.

Joan Butts, Michael Courtney, Paul Lavings, Avril Zets and David Wiltshire finished the eight-match season with 109.19 victory points and a 6–1–1 record.

Team Burke—Anthony Burke, Phil Gue, Rakesh Kumar and Jake Andrew—finished second, followed by Team Bloom—Malcolm Carter, George Bilski, Martin Bloom and Tony Hutton—in third place.

[View the complete Season 3 results.](#)

NSW youth take on the world

Eight talented NSW players represented Australia at the 2026 World Youth Transnational Championships, held in Hefei, China, from 3–8 August.

Congratulations to Adrian Le, Aadhi Hariharan, Natalie Newman, Ida Andersen, Lara Topper, Yiwei Qi, Gen Hunter and Solcita Lu, who competed against young players from around the world across several age and competition categories.

Natalie Newman and Ida Andersen finished second in the U26 Women's Final B, while Adrian Le and his partner, Fletcher Davey, reached the U26 Pairs Final A, finishing 20th.



Photo: U26 Women's pair Natalie Newman and Ida Andersen

Bridge NSW congratulates all eight players on representing NSW and Australia on the world stage.



Photo: Gen Hunter and Solcita Lu playing in Hefei.

[View the championship results.](#)



A memorable week at the Coffs Coast Gold Congress

The 21st Coffs Coast Gold Congress delivered another successful week of competition, learning and friendship at Opal Cove Resort. Strong fields contested both the Pairs and Teams, with several closely fought results and outstanding performances.

Pairs results

The Open Pairs lived up to their seedings, with the three highest-seeded pairs filling the first three places:

- 1st: Hugh Grosvenor and George Kozakos
- 2nd: Sam Coutts and Justin Williams
- 3rd: Magnus Moren and Justin Mill

The Intermediate Pairs was particularly close, with fewer than two points separating the leading three pairs:

- 1st: Jenny McGowan and Vanessa Brewis
- 2nd: Eric Baker and Brian Glover
- 3rd: Mary Poynten and Tony White

Teams results

The Coutts team of Justin Williams, James Coutts, Sam Coutts and Mike Doecke (photo above) produced a dominant performance to win the Open Teams with 139.73 VPs. Kozakos finished second, followed by Matthews in third place.



George Kozakos and Hugh Grosvenor, winners of the Open Pairs

In the Intermediate Teams, the Bryant team of John Burrows, Julie Bryant, James Parker and Warwick Wilkins claimed first place. An impressive achievement, all four members of the winning team had fewer than 300

masterpoints. Brewis finished second and Kaplan third.

It was especially pleasing to see three teams from Coffs Harbour among the prize recipients, adding a strong local highlight to the week.



John Burrows, Julie Bryant, James Parker, Warwick Wilkins, Intermediate winners

The congress offered more than competition. Joan Butts presented a Friday workshop on competitive bidding, using practical hands to explore redoubles and how players can respond when their opponents show strength.

Congratulations to all the winners and placegetters, and thank you to the organisers, directors, presenters and volunteers who helped make the Coffs Coast Gold Congress another enjoyable and successful event.

Clubs.

Profile: Glenbrook Bridge Club

From six founding members to a thriving community of more than 100, Glenbrook Bridge Club has grown while retaining the relaxed and welcoming atmosphere at its heart. Through regular sessions, flexible learning opportunities and community fundraising, the club brings people together both at and beyond the bridge table.



Tell us about the history of your club – how long has it been running?

Glenbrook is located 70 km west of the Sydney CBD, in the foothills of the World Heritage-listed Blue Mountains. The Club started in 2009 as a social club with six members and became affiliated with the Australian Bridge Federation in March 2010. It currently has 103 members, most of whom play regularly.

How big is your community and what sessions do you run?

Glenbrook is part of the Lower Blue Mountains area, which includes Blaxland,

Warrimoo, Mount Riverview and Lapstone. The current population is approximately 14,000 residents.

GBC regularly runs two weekly sessions: Wednesday evenings and Thursday afternoons at a local church hall, St Finbar's. These sessions currently average eight and 11 tables respectively. However, during some competitions, such as GNOT and State Pairs selection events, numbers can swell to more than 12 tables.

On the third Sunday of each month, we enhance the social flavour of the bridge session with afternoon tea and drinks. These sessions attract eight to 10 tables of players in a relaxed atmosphere. Most members bring a plate of food, and the Club supplies a variety of soft drinks and wine.



Although most Home and Alternate Members live in the Lower Blue Mountains, players living as far afield as Lane Cove and Blackheath commonly attend these sessions.

What makes your club special?

Players of all abilities are welcome to join the Club, which always emphasises playing bridge in a relaxed and friendly atmosphere.

In addition to the weekly and monthly sessions, the Club fully sponsors a Christmas Bridge Party, where members can enjoy nibbles, a two-course banquet, drinks and, of course, a full session of bridge. The attendance list fills quickly, and we always reach our capacity of 60 players.



What other activities do you run?

Lessons are provided by Club members for beginners, as well as for more experienced players. The Education Committee also encourages beginners to participate in frequent practice games to reinforce the lessons and prepare them to participate in regular Club sessions. These beginner lessons are usually conducted over ten weekly two-hour sessions.

How do you appeal to new players?

As featured in the July Bridging NSW newsletter, Glenbrook Bridge Club recently graduated seven new players, with three already joining regular Club sessions.

To accommodate working locals, the Club moved its ten-week beginner course from daytime to evening sessions. The lessons were held in the homes of members of the Training Team, overcoming venue constraints and making the course more accessible to people with busy schedules.



The Club also established a stall at the Glenbrook Rotary Markets. This helped raise the Club's profile and identify local residents interested in learning bridge.

A dedicated training team used Bridge NSW beginner materials to deliver a clear, structured program. By taking bridge into the community, offering flexible evening lessons and using structured learning resources, the Club successfully lowered the barrier to entry for new players.



What is a particularly memorable moment in the club's history?

Not too long ago, the Club arranged several fundraising and bridge-playing events during our monthly Sunday sessions. At one event, held in association with the local Rotary organisation, we provided lunch for 12 tables of players. Each player contributed \$20 for lunch and an enjoyable session of bridge, with the proceeds going towards supporting new mothers and their babies.

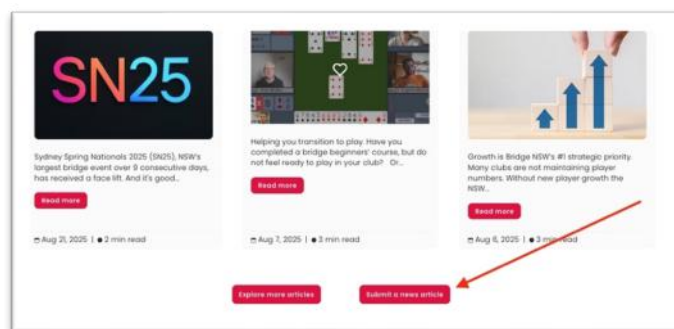
Similar fundraising events have been held to support the Intensive Care Unit at Nepean Hospital.

Future events are being considered and are on the Committee's agenda.

Got a club story to share?

You can now [submit your club story](#) for the newsletter and more **on our website**. Go to the 'Latest bridge news' section on the homepage and under the articles you will see two red buttons. Click on the button on

the right to submit your story or [click here](#). We'd love to hear from you!



And don't forget to join our [Facebook page](#), if you haven't already. Simply **click the 'Like' button to follow us**.

Directing news

Score corrections: check before you leave

Although one side enters the score into the Bridgemate and the other accepts it, incorrect scores can still be recorded.

Law 79 specifies that an incorrect score can be corrected until the end of the correction period set by the Tournament Organiser. If no period has been specified, the correction period expires 30 minutes after the official score has been made available for inspection.

At some events, including Swiss Pairs and Teams competitions, directors distribute a slip showing the results from the previous match. Providing this slip constitutes making the scores available for inspection.

Players sometimes leave without waiting the extra few minutes after the final match to collect and check their result slip. If your journey home takes longer than 30 minutes, you will have forfeited the opportunity to request a score correction by the time you identify the problem.

It is also more difficult for the director to determine whether an error occurred once the other pair has left the venue and must be contacted afterwards.

Before leaving an event, take a moment to review your final scores and raise any possible errors with the director promptly.

Webinar: Selecting and Running Movements

Choosing the right movement is one of the most important decisions when planning a bridge session—and last-minute changes can challenge even experienced directors.

In this free Bridge NSW webinar, John McIlrath, Chair of the Directing Committee, will explore the characteristics of different movements, how to select and run the most appropriate option, and how to manage unexpected problems when they arise.

The session is designed for directors and club committee members who want to build their confidence, strengthen their practical knowledge and help sessions run more smoothly.

Wednesday 9 September 2026

6:00–7:00 pm via Zoom

Presenter: John McIlrath, Chair of the Directing Committee

Cost: Free

If you have questions about movements that you would like addressed during the webinar, please email them to directing@bridgensw.com.au before the session.

[View the full details and register through MyABF.](#)

The final Directing webinar of the year will be held on **15 December** and will cover the use of scoring programs. The session will focus on Compscore 3 unless there are requests to explore another program—and someone available to present it.

Thank you, André Korenhof

Bridge NSW warmly thanks André Korenhof for ten years of dedicated volunteer service on the Tournament Committee.



André's time, knowledge and commitment have made a valuable contribution to tournament bridge in NSW. To recognise his service as he steps down from the Committee, André was presented with a certificate of appreciation and a food hamper.

Thank you, André, for everything you have contributed over the past decade. We wish you all the very best and hope to continue seeing you at the bridge table.

Clubs and community

Helping clubs and players make the most of MyABF

The Bridge NSW Clubs and Community Committee is working with the Australian Bridge Federation to help more clubs and players discover and use MyABF.

MyABF provides a central place for players to find upcoming events, enter competitions, view event information and manage their MyABF credits. For clubs and tournament organisers, it offers practical tools for promoting events, managing entries and communicating important details to participants.

Whether you are looking for your next congress or helping to organise an event, becoming familiar with MyABF can make the process easier.

Visit [MyABF](#) to create an account, explore upcoming events or access your existing profile. Clubs and players can also find guidance through the ABF's MyABF resources.

Starter Congress a great success at Peninsula Bridge Club

Thirty-six pairs came together for Peninsula Bridge Club's inaugural Starter Congress, creating a fun, friendly and welcoming introduction to tournament bridge.

Designed for players taking their first steps into congress play, the event offered a relaxed and supportive environment where

participants could build their confidence without feeling intimidated. Short matches made the format approachable, while a post-event question-and-answer session gave players an opportunity to learn more about congress bridge and ask questions.



Although the day brought a few unexpected technical challenges, the enthusiasm of the participants never wavered. The event ran smoothly overall, and the positive attitude shown by players and organisers made it a memorable occasion.



Feedback was overwhelmingly positive. Many participants said they thoroughly enjoyed the experience, made new friends and felt more confident about entering future tournaments. For many, this was their first

congress—an important milestone in their bridge journey.

The success of the Starter Congress demonstrates the strong interest in events created specifically for players with less tournament experience. Supporting new tournament players is essential to the long-term growth of bridge, and this event showed just how rewarding that investment can be.

Congratulations to all 36 pairs who embraced the challenge and helped make the inaugural Starter Congress such an enjoyable success.



Prize winners

The first- and second-placed pairs in each of the three divisions—Open, Under 20 Masterpoints and Under 10 Masterpoints—will receive prizes of \$80 and \$50 each.

Division	Place	Players	Overall placing
Open	1st	Edith McNally and Ron McNally	4th
Open	2nd	Mary Anne Loveridge and Mandy Dodds	5th

Division	Place	Players	Overall placing
Under 20 MP	1st	Vicki Clitheroe and Kerri Fogg	1st
Under 20 MP	2nd	Lorraine Cowan and Katie Jakes	6th
Under 10 MP	1st	Gina Sutton and Loraine Sladden	2nd
Under 10 MP	2nd	Xin-sheng Zhu and Houlin Liu	3rd

A special congratulations goes to Vicki Clitheroe and Kerri Fogg, who won the Under 20 Masterpoints division and finished first overall, followed by Under 10 Masterpoints winners Gina Sutton and Loraine Sladden in second overall and Xin-sheng Zhu and Houlin Liu in third.

Thank you to Sachiko Cathcart and everyone at Peninsula Bridge Club who helped create such a positive first-congress experience for the players.

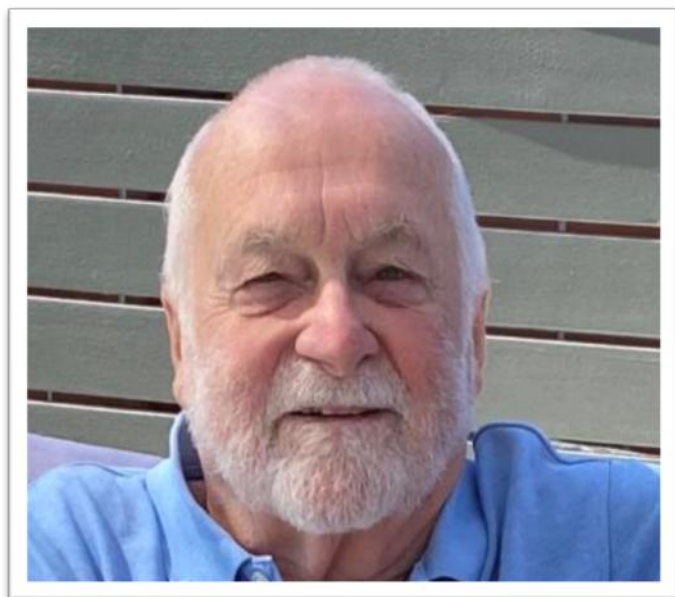
Creating a caring club: defining the welfare officer's role

By Henry Wellsmore

Bridge clubs are communities. When a member becomes ill, experiences a bereavement or needs support, a thoughtful message from their club can provide a meaningful sense of care and connection.

Many clubs appoint a welfare officer to coordinate this support—but how clearly is the role defined?

Henry Wellsmore shares what he learned after volunteering as a welfare officer at one of his local bridge clubs.



A role worth defining

When I volunteered to become the welfare officer at one of my local bridge clubs, I asked what the position involved. I was given a document containing one instruction:

“The Welfare Officer shall buy and send sympathy/get well cards as required.”

This was reasonable, but it did not provide much guidance. I contacted ten other clubs to ask whether they had a written job description for their welfare officer. To my surprise, all ten said no.

Most clubs clearly define the responsibilities of their president, treasurer and secretary in their constitutions or governance documents. However, the welfare officer’s responsibilities are often less clearly established.

The role may appear simple and straightforward, but it can involve important questions about boundaries, privacy and responsibility.

Establishing appropriate boundaries

Without a clear role description, welfare officers may find themselves determining their own responsibilities.

Most people would agree that sending get-well or sympathy cards is an appropriate part of the position. Beyond that, however, the role can become less certain.

What other support should the welfare officer provide? How should they approach a member who is unwell or bereaved? Where does friendly support end and professional assistance begin?

Good intentions are important, but a bridge club is not a counselling service. Welfare officers should not be expected to undertake responsibilities more appropriately handled by qualified social workers, counsellors, doctors or other professionals.

Clearly defined boundaries can help protect the member, the welfare officer and the club.

Respecting confidentiality and privacy

A welfare officer may become aware of highly sensitive information about a club member or their family.

This makes confidentiality an essential part of the role. Personal information shared with a welfare officer should not become general club conversation or be passed on without appropriate permission.

As an experienced counsellor and bridge club member observed, a welfare officer must not become the club's "town crier".

A member who is ill, grieving or otherwise vulnerable should be able to trust that their privacy will be respected.

A practical starting point for clubs

A clear, written role description can help everyone understand the purpose and limits of the position. When developing one, clubs may wish to consider:

- The purpose and scope of the welfare officer's role
- How the welfare officer is notified when a member may need support
- What forms of contact or assistance are appropriate
- How consent, confidentiality and personal information will be managed
- The boundaries between friendly club support and professional assistance
- Who the welfare officer can approach within the club if they need guidance

The role does not need to be complicated. A short and practical description can provide clarity while ensuring the club remains a safe, caring and respectful community.

Care supported by clarity

A bridge club should be a safe and caring place for all its members, and the welfare

officer can play an important part in creating that environment.

Defining the role helps ensure that care is provided thoughtfully, personal information is respected and welfare officers feel supported in carrying out their responsibilities.

Clubs interested in discussing this topic—or hearing how one of Henry's clubs approached the issue—are welcome to contact him at paddy.dog.04@gmail.com.

About the author

Henry Wellsmore worked as an industrial chemist and metallurgist for 16 years before training as a marriage and family counsellor. He worked with NSW Marriage and Family and two fertility clinics in Newcastle. Henry also coordinated and taught a genetic counselling course with Hunter Health and taught ethics at the University of Newcastle Medical School. He holds a master's degree in Ethics and Social Science and regularly plays at three bridge clubs in the Hunter Region.

This contributed article reflects the author's experience and is intended to encourage discussion among clubs. It does not constitute formal Bridge NSW policy or professional advice.

Teaching & Education

Helping club players take the next step into congress bridge

How can clubs help newer players build the confidence to move from lessons and supervised sessions into congress and tournament bridge?

A recent Bridge NSW webinar, chaired by Glenda Parmenter, brought together representatives from several clubs to share practical ideas for creating welcoming pathways into competitive play.

[Watch the complete webinar on YouTube.](#)

Building confidence at Illawarra Bridge Club

Mari Pickering and Jill MacRae emphasised the importance of creating a welcoming, non-judgemental environment and building trust through twice-weekly supervised play sessions led by different teachers.

The club also offers:

- Free partnership workshops, led by Ian Lisle, to strengthen communication and bidding within partnerships
- Quarterly High-Low handicap sessions
- Inclusive social and charity events
- Local Restricted and Novice Teams events

At Illawarra's recent congress, players with fewer than 20 masterpoints participated in both Pairs and Teams events. Local novice and restricted events have provided an important confidence boost for players taking their first steps into congress bridge.

Social Bridge creates a pathway at Orange

Murray Paterson shared Orange Bridge Club's approach to helping players transition from supervised play into regular competition.

The club's Thursday morning Social Bridge session provides a low-stress, non-competitive environment without masterpoints. Players complete approximately 15 boards over three hours while receiving guidance when needed.

The sessions cost \$5, helping cover tea, coffee, dealing and learning materials.

The Central West Festival of Bridge also offers dedicated 12-table Novice sections, with equal prize money across divisions and special Gold Cups for local and winning teams.

A congress designed for first-time players

Sachiko Cathcart presented the concept behind the Peninsula Starter Congress, designed specifically to reduce anxiety for players entering their first tournament.

The format included 45 boards—25 in the morning and 20 in the afternoon—rather than the longer sessions commonly associated with congress play.

Participants were supported through:

- Pre-event information sheets
- Assistance with MyABF registration
- System card options
- Morning briefings about scoring and movements
- A friendly and supportive playing environment

The pilot event went on to welcome 36 pairs and received overwhelmingly positive feedback. Incentives encouraging players to continue their tournament journey included free or discounted entry to future events such as the Sydney Spring Nationals and Peninsula Novice competitions.

Finding the right session length

Directing Committee Chair John McIlrath raised the importance of ensuring newer players are not overwhelmed by long sessions.

Shorter rounds and approximately 24 boards per session—or 45 boards across a full day—can help reduce fatigue and stress while still providing a meaningful tournament experience.

Expanding opportunities across NSW

Participants discussed extending the Starter Congress model into regional areas, including Taree and the Central Coast.

Bridge NSW is also considering a dedicated annual calendar for novice events and opportunities to cross-promote participation through incentives such as free entry to the Online Pairs League.

These initiatives reflect a shared goal: helping players move from lessons and supervised play into congress bridge through encouragement, preparation and positive early experiences.

Join the Bridge NSW teaching community

The Bridge NSW WhatsApp Teaching Community is an active space for teachers to ask questions, exchange ideas and learn from one another.

[Join the WhatsApp Teaching Community.](#)

For teaching and education ideas or enquiries, contact education@bridgensw.com.au.

Player Development

Build confidence with free online supervised play

Players looking to build their confidence can join Bridge NSW's free Online Supervised Play sessions every Sunday from 4:00 pm.

Played on RealBridge at a slower pace, the sessions give developing players an opportunity to practise bidding and card play in a relaxed and supportive environment. Experienced volunteers are available to answer questions and offer guidance as hands are played.

No partner is required, and players can see and speak with others at the table through RealBridge. Teachers can also reserve a table and participate with their learners, providing continuity between lessons and practical play.

The current series runs until **Sunday 27 September**.

[Find information and weekly session links on the Bridge NSW website.](#)

For assistance or to reserve a club table, contact onlinesupervised@bridgensw.com.au.

New to congress bridge?

Bridge NSW's Congress Tips brochure explains what to expect, how to prepare and how to get the most from your first congress.

It is a useful resource for players preparing to move from regular club sessions into

novice, restricted or state-level events—and for clubs and teachers supporting them along the way.

[Access the Congress Tips brochure.](#)

Kate's Way #13

By Kate McCallum

Kate McCallum is an experienced bridge player and teacher who believes a strong partnership is essential for success. Over the years, she has developed 79 General Principles, or 'Meta-Rules', many of which she has shared with her students.



In the interest of maintaining a well-functioning partnership, I like to keep things consistent whenever I can. This means developing principles so that similar auctions always follow the same pattern. Concepts and constructs can be applied to a wide variety of auctions, reducing the need for memorisation.

I have far too many principles to cover in one article, so here are just a few examples:

- Singletons are always shown in steps up the line when partner asks. The steps are No, High, Middle, Low

(NHML). We don't 'name' the singleton, except by coincidence.

- Wherever applicable, 'The more you bid, the more you have.' In a forcing auction, higher bids show better hands or directional hands.
- Aces are normally shown using RKC 1430 steps, even when Blackwood is not RKC. Not having two or more structures to remember helps reduce memory errors.
- Pass is the weakest action when we're in a force. This may not always be ideal, but it's consistent. We don't forget.
- Odd/even order applies whenever we are dealing with odd numbers versus even numbers. For my primary partnerships, this now occurs in only two places:
 - Odd/even first discard: odd encourages.
 - Bidding over Blackwood interference that forces us to act above five of our trump suit: an odd number of Key Cards is shown with the first step and an even number with the second step.
- No/Yes order applies whenever we ask a question that requires a 'yes' or 'no' answer. The first step is always 'No'.
- Whenever we have shown one unknown major—for example, when we've opened a Multi 2D—and are trying to clarify which one it is in competition, we use the 'Always Hearts' principle. This means that doing something other than Pass will show hearts. Pass, arbitrarily designated as the normal thing to do, will show spades.

- Priorities are alphabetical whenever possible. It follows that, if there is any undiscussed conflict in agreements, Ace Asks usually have first priority. If an unusual bid could be a Splinter, Natural or an Ace Ask, the order is 'ANS'—alphabetical. It is therefore an Ace Ask unless that is impossible, in which case it is natural.

Again, in the interest of making agreements easier to remember:

- Exceptions to our rules are clearly listed in our system notes. Even the exceptions follow the same principles whenever possible.
- We keep a list of things we might forget at the top of our system notes.

My principles will not be the same as yours, of course. For example, most top players in Australia prefer FAST ARRIVAL. I don't, but if you do, your principle in a forcing auction might be, 'The more you bid, the less you have.'

In most cases, it won't matter which way you go. The important thing is to have your own rules in place to keep things consistent. You can then adopt and adapt them to different parts of your methods.

Monthly bidding contest

By Philip Glover

What would you bid?

Bridge is full of close decisions—and this month's challenge asks you to consider what partner's action reveals before choosing your next call. Review the auction, weigh

the available clues and decide: what would you bid?

2026 September Bidding Challenge

This month, the hand selection is from the RealBridge competition for December 2024. Thanks to Marc Smith and RealBridge for permission to use the material.

The problem hand has the opponents using a Precision style system.

Some thoughts

Partner competes with a vulnerable 3♦ bid.

- How strong is P?
- P chose to bid rather than X
- Does P have a heart suit?
- Does South hold 4 spades?

Hand 2

EW Vul. Dealer South. IMPs.	West	North	East	South
♠ 9 6 4				2♣
♥ A 8 7 6	Pass	2♠	3♦	Pass
♦ Q 5	?			
♣ K J 9 8				
Precision 2♣ = 11-15, 6+ or 5+ & 4M 2♠ = non-forcing				

ACTION MARKS	PANEL VOTES	Competitors' Entries (%)
3NT	10	12
3♠	8	6
3♥	6	2
Pass	5	2
4♦	0	0
4♣	0	0
5♦	0	0

Competition Entrant Average Score: 6.35

The panel just produces a majority choice, although I wonder whether that is because many do not have the methods to do what the second-largest faction tried to do: i.e. to ask for a spade stopper. In a clear difference of hand evaluation, the experts voted 22–2 in favour of bidding on, whereas just over half of competitors opted to pass partner's 3♦ overcall.

As Marc Smith comments, the panel strongly favoured bidding rather than passing.

You can access all the expert comments through the RealBridge website.

Test your bidding judgement

You too can join the RealBridge competition and make expert bids!

Have a go and compare your bids with those of your partner(s).

Monthly Quiz

by Ernie Newman

Ernie Newman plays bridge in the Blue Mountains and claims that he can count to thirteen. Sometimes. He is a grand master whose quizzes are popular with club players.

WHAT DO PARTNER'S DOUBLES MEAN? (part 3 of 3)

This is the final quiz on doubles before we conclude with penalty doubles next edition.

Your partner Herb is a warlock who makes homicidal opening leads and, even as

dummy, sends viper-like vibes which befuddle the enemy. But his real forte is doubling. His doubles slice to the bone. Herb dreams of IMP donors who make phantom sacrifices that he can double for penalty.

In these five auctions, everyone is vulnerable and Herb doubles. What do his doubles mean?

1/ RHO 1♣, you pass, LHO 1NT [6–9 HCP], Herb X

2/ LHO opens 4♦, Herb X

3/ You open 1♦, LHO overcalls 1NT [15–18], Herb X

4/ Herb 1♠, RHO 2♣, you 2♠, LHO 3♣, Herb X

5/ Herb 1♣, RHO pass, you 1♥, LHO 1♠, Herb X

DOUBLES 3 ANSWERS

Everyone is vulnerable and your perfect partner doubles.

1/ RHO 1♣, you pass, LHO 1NT [6–9 HCP], Herb X

This double is for takeout. Herb has an opening hand with the majors and wants you to choose one.

If you have both majors and a strong hand, cue bid 2♣, asking Herb to bid his longest major. For example:

♠KQJ7
♥AJT2
♦7
♣T532

If Herb rebids 2♥, you can raise to 4♥ (or raise 2♠ to 4♠).

Your stellar partner will appreciate your thoughtfulness. The cue bid guarantees you land in the right fit.

2/ LHO opens 4♦, Herb X

This is a takeout double. Herb has a pretty good hand to make you bid at the four level. Perhaps:

♠AJ962
♥AK54
♦7
♣KQ2

If at all possible, choose a major. Pass only if you can beat 4♦, for example, with this hand:

♠T7
♥987
♦QJT8
♣A632

Herb will take tricks in the majors, and you have a trick in clubs plus two trump winners. Herb will thank you for turning this takeout double into a penalty double with your trump stack. If you take them three off, you get 800. With the hands above, you might take them four off for 1100. Outstanding!

3/ You open 1♦, LHO overcalls 1NT [15–18], Herb X

This is a penalty double. Herb is implying 10+ HCP to go with your 12+, a total of 22+. 1NT is going down. Opener passes unless they have a weak, shapely hand. A second reason to pass the penalty double is that it might be tricky to make game even if you have 15+ HCP because the big hand is sitting over you. Take the money and run.

4/ Herb 1♠, RHO 2♣, you 2♠, LHO 3♣, Herb X

This is a penalty double. You have announced a fit by responding 2♠, so the double can't be seeking a major fit. All doubles after you have found a major-suit fit are for penalty. Herb has a stack of clubs. Perhaps:

♠AT982
♥AT
♦7
♣KJT93

Herb prayed that the enemy forces would overcall 3♣. He worked out that you are almost certainly void in clubs, as he has five and the opposition probably has eight. Now he is silently imploring you to pass. It would be unethical to look at his face at this point, but if you did, you couldn't fail to read an unspoken entreaty: "Pass, pass, please pass!!!!!"

5/ Herb 1♣, RHO pass, you 1♥, LHO 1♠, Herb X

Most pairs play this as a 'support double', showing three-card support for responder's major. It doesn't promise the unbid suit, diamonds. Herb's hand could look like this:

♠84
♥AT8
♦A65
♣KJ654

Support doubles help unearth a 5-3 major-suit fit. You often come out on top even if you only have a 4-3 fit because the opponents have to guess what to do and might get too high. Making support doubles with completely balanced hands when vulnerable can backfire (-200). They tend to work out best if you have a doubleton or singleton (ruffing value).

It isn't easy to enjoy bridge (or to win) unless you and your partner understand each other's doubles. Next edition will include a clear set of bullet points on which doubles are for penalty.

Upcoming events

The following pages are flyers for forthcoming events and courses. The deadline for flyers to be received is the **second last Friday of each month**. Flyers must be a single A4 page and should be for events and courses in the following two months. To have your flyer included in the next issue, please send it to bridging@bridgensw.com.au.

Fathers Day

SWISS PAIRS

**Rookie, Restricted
Intermediate & Open**

Sunday 6th September

2 x Sessions starting at 10am

Online

NORTH SHORE
since  1962
BRIDGE CLUB



NORTH SHORE BRIDGE CLUB

TUESDAY NIGHTS 7 PM

State Swiss Pairs Championship

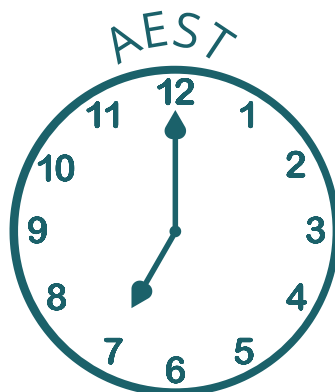


NSBC

Great Prizes

Club Teams Championship

Thursday
nights





The SBC Spring Swiss Teams

Saturday 19th September, 10.00am

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

Entry fee: \$65 per player (lunch & end of congress refreshment included)

Director: Ronnie Ng | RED Masterpoints

Programmes

Play commences at 10.00am sharp on Saturday 19th 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 \$16 for whole day parking on weekends and public holidays.

For enquiries / assistance, please email office@sydneybridgeclub.org.au

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

No yellow system allowed.

Organiser: Wing Roberts

Phone: 0487 350 160 **Email:** office@sydneybridgeclub.org.au

Website: www.sydneybridgecentre.com

SBC SPRING TEAMS

WWW.SYDNEYBRIDGECENTRE.COM

Turramurra Bridge Club



Competitive Bidding and Defensive Play

Improvers bridge lessons with Libby Birdsall

9.30am to 12 noon Tuesdays 15, 22 and 29 September 2026

These easy intermediate lessons are suitable for players who would like to improve their bidding strategies in competitive auctions and their card play skills when defending.

\$25 per lesson members, \$30 per lesson non-members includes comprehensive notes.

Lesson 1 Overcalls and opening leads

15 September

Weak and strong suit overcalls, the INT overcall, jump overcalls and balancing overcalls; the best opening leads and continuing the defence.

Lesson 2

22 September

Takeout doubles and card combinations in defence

Takeout doubles, power doubles, double rebids and balancing doubles; when to play a low, middle or high card in defence.

Lesson 3

29 September

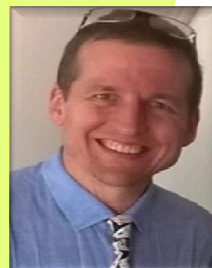
Doubles in response, discards and signals

Negative doubles, penalty doubles and the penalty pass; which suit to discard, the doubleton signal and attitude signals.

Please book all three lessons at www.bridgetoday.com.au/lessons, or email admin@bridgeaway.com.au or phone 9979 9099 to make bookings for single lessons.

Develop your Bridge Skill

*Main teacher **Derrick Browne***



Weekly schedule

- 10 for 10.30 Mondays
- 10am Wednesdays
- 10.30am Wednesdays (easier)
- 7pm Thursdays
- 10am Fridays
- Other sessions available

Walk-ins welcome | All levels welcome

- Learn with set hands
- Improve bidding
- Sharpen play
- Master defence

\$19 (\$15 members)



Trumps Bridge Centre

58 Spit Road

Mosman NSW 2088

trumps@trumps.net.au

(02) 9969 5959 | 0412 947 279



PENNANT HILLS BRIDGE CLUB

**GREAT
VENUE**

TEAMS CONGRESS 2026

Thornleigh Community Centre
Cnr Phyllis & Central Av Thornleigh

Sunday 11th October 2026

Two Sessions – commencing at 10:00am

Conducted under the auspices of BridgeNSW.

Players subject to BridgeNSW's Congress Disciplinary Regulations.

**The ABF has approved the issue of RED master points
at Level B4**

Yellow Systems not permitted

Tournament Director
John McILRATH

PRIZES

Tournament Convenor
VINCE CARIOLA

All Teams

1st Place \$ 300.00
2nd Place \$ 200.00



**Best restricted – lower
1/3 of field** \$ 180.00.

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



PARRAMATTA BRIDGE CLUB

FOUNDATION DAY TEAMS CONGRESS

to be held at

ERMINGTON COMMUNITY CENTRE

SUNDAY 1st NOVEMBER 2026

Commencing at 10.00 A.M.

Conducted under the auspices of Bridge NSW

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

All players are subject to Bridge NSW's Congress Disciplinary Regulations

Tournament Director: Ronnie Ng

Convener: Margaret East 0416 513 295

PRIZES: 1st \$500 2nd: \$300

1st Parramatta Team: \$300

2nd Parramatta Team: \$200

Restricted: \$100

(only one prize per team)

ENTRY FEE \$180.00 per team

Bring your own lunch or
buy from local shops

Refreshments provided during the day





GREAT BARRIER REEF CRUISE

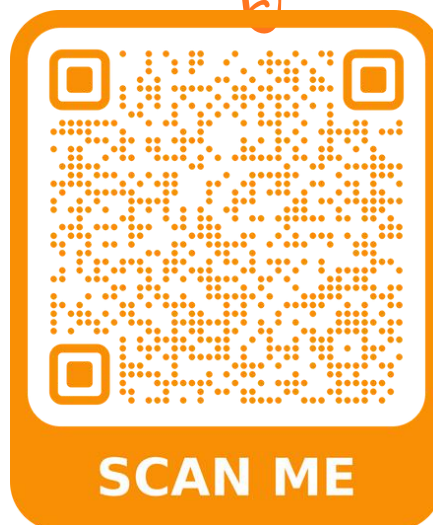
with Will Jenner-O'Shea

9-19 November 2026

Sydney to Sydney

EXPERIENCE BRIDGE
like **NEVER BEFORE**

SCAN HERE TO FIND OUT
MORE AND BOOK



CHARLESTOWN BRIDGE CLUB

Celebrates

50TH ANNIVERSARY

You are invited to a

Celebration and Casual Lunch

followed by Bridge

20th November, 2026

At 1pm

*At Biala Centre, 17 James Street,
Charlestown*

DRESS CODE something GOLD

For catering purposes please **RSVP** by 15.10.26

charlestownbridge@gmail.com

If playing bridge please register online or need a
partner ring Janice on **0402 032 265**



Trumps Bridge Holidays bridge break in the Blue Mountains



Leura Gardens Resort

20-28 Fitzroy Street, Leura

Sunday 22 to Wednesday 25 Nov 2026

Hosted by

Derrick Browne

Your Leura Gardens Resort Holiday Inclusions

- ✓ A Blue Mountains holiday at the best time of year in a **4-star** resort
- ✓ Four-day program with 3 nights accommodation in recently **refurbished spacious** suites (many with balconies)
- ✓ 4½ acres of **landscaped gardens**
- ✓ Pet friendly rooms and lots of walks for furry family members
- ✓ **Dinners** and buffet **breakfasts** daily (lunch not included)
- ✓ Coffee, Tea and Biscuits available during sessions
- ✓ **Bridge with Red Points**, Expert Clinics and Competitions
- ✓ **Prizes** for all sessions with special awards for developers
- ✓ No need to come with a partner, and teams can be arranged
- ✓ Non bridge players welcome (deduct \$250); bridge only \$250



Beautifully light and bright playing area and lovely spacious and modern suites

Your Holiday Bridge Program (subject to minor changes)

Sunday

Arrive at the Leura Gardens Resort
1.30pm Clinic
2.30pm Welcome Pairs
6.00pm Dinner
Then trivia, Oh Hell game

Tuesday

7.30-9am Breakfast
9am Leura Teams Champ. 1
2.30pm Leura Teams Champ. 2
6.00pm Presentation dinner

Monday

7.30-9am Breakfast
9am Leura Pairs Champ. 1
4.30pm Clinic
6.00pm Dinner
Then Leura Pairs Champ. 2

Wednesday

7.30-9am Breakfast
9am Q&A; 9.15 Farewell Pairs
12.30pm Prize Presentation & depart

Holiday price is \$839pp (+ \$195 single) less early bird discount of \$10 for those who pay in full before 22 Oct (otherwise full payment due by 15 Nov).

Trumps members \$60 off; others free sub. Play only rates available.

Rooms will be allocated on a first-in first-served basis upon receipt of the form below plus \$100 per person deposit.

Direct transfer: *BSB 633000, Account 149823767, Description <your name> Leura*
Then email remittance advise to **trumps@trumps.net.au**

Leura Resort November 2026 bridge break entry form

Name:.....Partner:.....

ABF Numbers (if known):.....Contact Address:.....

.....Post Code:.....

Phone:..... Email:.....

Enclosed is \$.....being my/our deposit/full fees for single/twin/double accommodation

How did you find out about this? (e.g. club/friend name)

HELANE K TOURS

New Zealand Bridge Cruise 18 Feb-02 Mar 2027

Thu 18Feb2027	Sydney, Australia	4:30 PM	Departs
Fri 19Feb2027	Cruising	1.15 PM 4.30 PM	Bridge
Sat 20Feb2027	Cruising	1.15 PM 4.30 PM	Bridge
Sun 21Feb2027	Milford Sound, New Zealand	1: 15 PM 4:30 PM	Bridge
Sun 21Feb2027	Doubtful Sound	1: 15 PM 4:30 PM	Bridge
Sun 21Feb2027	Dusky Sound	1: 15 PM 5:15 PM	Bridge
Mon 22Feb2027	Dunedin, New Zealand	7:00 AM 4:00 PM	Docked
Tue 23Feb2027	Cruising	1.15 PM 4.30 PM	Bridge
Wed 24Feb2027	Napier, New Zealand	7:00 AM 2:30 PM	Docked
Thu 25Feb2027	Tauranga, New Zealand	7:45 AM 7:00 PM	Docked
Fri 26Feb2027	Auckland, New Zealand	6:00 AM 7:00 PM	Docked
Sat 27Feb2027	Bay Of Islands, New Zealand	7:00 AM 4:30 PM	Tendered
Sun 28Feb2027	Cruising	1.15 PM 4.30 PM	Bridge
Mon 01Mar2027	Cruising	1.15 PM 4.30 PM	Bridge
Tue 02Mar2027	Sydney, Australia	6:30 AM	Departure

PORT DAYS BRIDGE AT 2.00 PM FOR THOSE THAT RETURN IN TIME.

Enjoy exceptional value with all meals, onboard activities, and a full bridge program included. Join us for **duplicate sessions, expert lessons, hands on workshops, and Green/Red Point events**. We sail on the beautiful **Celebrity Edge**, with the bridge program led by respected **A3 ABF Director Ian Lisle**. Expect improvement, inspiration, and plenty of fun along the way



From \$3699.00 per person TWIN/DOUBLE includes all food, taxes and bridge
www.helanektours.com.au ABN: 55294079115 Email: helanektours@gmail.com Ph: 0404083913

HELANE K TOURS



Great Barrier Reef Bridge Cruise 02 Mar —13 Mar 2027

Tue 02Mar2027	Sydney, Australia	-	4:30 PM	Boarding
Wed 03Mar2027	Cruising	1.15 PM	4.30 PM	Bridge
Thu 04Mar2027	Cruising	1.15 PM	4.30 PM	Bridge
Fri 05Mar2027	Airlie Beach,	7:00 AM	4:00 PM	Tendered
Sat 06Mar2027	Cairns, Yorkey's Knob	9:00 AM		Tendered
Sun 07Mar2027	Cairns, Yorkey's Knob		6:00 PM	Tendered
Mon 08Mar2027	Port Douglas, Australia	8:00 AM	6:00 PM	Tendered
Tue 09Mar2027	Willis Island (Cruising),	1.15 PM	4.30 PM	Bridge
Wed 10Mar2027	Cruising	1.15 PM	4.30 PM	Bridge
Thu 11Mar2027	Cruising	1.15 PM	4.30 PM	Bridge
Fri 12Mar2027	Newcastle, Australia	8:00 AM	6:00 PM	Docked
Sat 13Mar2027	Sydney, Australia		6:30 AM	Departure

Enjoy exceptional value with all meals, onboard activities, and a full bridge program included. Join us for duplicate sessions, lessons, hand on workshops, and **Green/Red Point** events. We sail on the beautiful **Celebrity Edge**, with exclusive bridge sessions with dedicated director. Expect improvement, inspiration, and plenty of fun along the way.

For more details call **0404 083 913** .

Prices from \$3199.00 pp TWIN/DOUBLE includes all food, service fees port charges and all bridge on board . Prices are subject to availability and conditions

www.helanektours.com.au ABN: 55294079115 Email: helanektours@gmail.com Ph: 0404083913



Wine & Bridge Cruise Adelaide 07 - 16 April 2027

Wed 07Apr2027	Sydney, Australia		4:30 PM	Boarding
Thu 08Apr2027	Cruising	1.15PM	4.30 PM	Bridge
Fri 09Apr2027	Hobart,	8:00 AM	5:00 PM	Docked
Sat 10Apr2027	Cruising	1.15 PM	4.30 PM	Bridge
Sun 11Apr2027	Kangaroo Is	8:00 AM	7:00 PM	Tendered
Mon 12Apr2027	Adelaide	8:00 AM	8:00 PM	Docked
Tue 13Apr2027	Cruising	1.15 PM	4.30 PM	Bridge
Wed 14Apr2027	Melbourne	8:00 AM	6:00 PM	Docked
Thu 15Apr2027	Cruising	1.15 PM	4.30 PM	Bridge
Fri 16Apr2027	Sydney, Australia	6:30 AM		Departure

Enjoy exceptional value with all meals, onboard activities, and a full bridge program included. Join us for duplicate sessions, lessons, hand on workshops, and **Green Red Point** events. We sail on the beautiful **Celebrity Edge**, with exclusive bridge sessions with dedicated directors **Nick Hughes and Nicoleta Giura** . Expect improvement, inspiration, and plenty of fun along the way.

For more details call **0404 083 913** .



From \$3300.00 per person TWIN/DOUBLE includes all food, taxes and bridge .
Prices are subject to availability and conditions apply.

www.helanektours.com.au ABN: 55294079115 Email: helanektours@gmail.com Ph: 0404083913