



StepBridge

the Australian
Internet bridge club

Newsletter

July 2021

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Sarah Anwar (SarahAn)

Hello friends,

Once again we have been and in some cases are still facing Covid lockdowns. These times always see an upsurge in player numbers in our club. We have hosted more than 14,000 players over the past 5 weeks.

One of our dearly loved TDs, TDSharon, is back in hospital again. We send our love and best wishes to her and I thank the TD Team for their contribution in covering Sharon's shifts. Last month Carol Daniel one of our WA players and wife of TDNoel passed away after a sudden short illness, we are very sad at her passing and wish TDNoel our Deepest Sympathy at this difficult time.

As previously discussed, we have been actively following up on partnerships identified to be using Unauthorised Information and the first pair identified have been expelled from our Club. This purge will continue and there are several other partnerships undergoing examination, who if also found to be guilty will also face expulsion.

Next month we are holding our inaugural Club Championships. Please support and play at least 3 sessions with the same partner to qualify.

September is as you know the month for our AGM, we look forward to nominations to join the Management Committee of our club. Please be involved, our club is special and it takes dedicated capable committee members to run our club efficiently.

Happy Bridging

Sarah

Jasper (Assistant TD)



President & Head TD
Sarah Anwar (SarahAn)

Secretary
Chris Larter (ChrisLar)

Treasurer
Stephen Pringle (Steve)

Chief Technical Officer
Mark Hetherington
(Markhet)

Masterpoint Secretary
Antonina Hayles
(Antonina)

Public Officer
Eric Taylor (EricTay)

Committee Members
Mardi Hogarth (MardiHo)
Brenda McClean (Brenda)
Rita Pringle (RitaPr)

**Netherlands
Representative:**
Epko Steinmetz (Epko)

Email Address

support@stepbridge.com.au



NEWS FROM THE SECRETARY'S DESK

The financial year for StepBridge AU concluded on 30 June AU.

This means that we are in the process of planning our AGM (Annual General Meeting).

The 2021 StepBridge Australia AGM will be held on *Sunday 26 September at 10am* (Australian Eastern Standard Time) via Skype.

As this is the main meeting of the club, all members are welcome to attend and participate.

Further information regarding the AGM will be distributed in due course, and this will include the agenda, minutes from the last AGM and reports from the various positions.

We also welcome anyone who would like to nominate for a position on our Committee or for submitting any agenda items. If you have anything to contribute, please advise via email to support@stepbridge.com.au.

Chris Larter (ChrisLar)



Session Fees

Account name: StepBridge Australia Bridge Club
BSB: 012 013 Account number: 3025 38455

Reference

The Unique Reference Number you will receive via email once you have purchased the participation points through the StepBridge Club (playing platform)

500 Participation Points	\$33.00	1000 Participation Points	\$65.00
2500 Participation Point	\$137.50	5000 Participation Points	\$247.50



StepBridge will be holding its inaugural Club Pairs Championship during the month of August. Red masterpoints will be awarded to the top half of each session as well as the top third for those who qualify for the championship. There will be the three categories of Open, Restricted (under 300 masterpoints) and Novice (100 masterpoints) players at the following times:

- Open - Thursday 8:00pm session
- Restricted (under 300 masterpoints) - Thursday 1:15pm session
- Novice (under 100 masterpoints) - Thursday 7:45 pm session
- Individual Open - Sunday 9:50am session

For the Restricted and Novice categories, the cut-off for eligibility is as of 31 July 2021. The cost will be 100 PPs per person, per session.

To qualify for a category, you need to play at least 3 out of the 4 sessions. For the pairs session, you need to play with the same partner to qualify. Your best 3 results will be combined and averaged. The championship in each category will be awarded to the pair/individual with the highest average.

Prizes will be awarded to 1st, 2nd, and 3rd in each category:

- 1st = 2,500 PPs
- 2nd = 1,000 PPs
- 3rd = 500 PPs

If you have any questions, please email support@stepbridge.com.au.

Good luck everyone!

STICKY TOFFEE APPLE BREAD AND BUTTER PUDDING

Thank you Megan for this recipe

INGREDIENTS

7- 8 slices of fruit brioche
60 gm butter at room temperature
900gm tub custard
125ml milk
1 tablespoon sugar
1.5 medium green apple, sliced very thinly
Icing sugar to dust
160ml caramel sauce (I use Barkers from Coles)
Thickened cream to serve



METHOD

1. Preheat oven to 180°.
2. Grease and line base and sides of a 20x30 baking dish. Lightly spread the slices of brioche with butter Cut each slice into 4 triangles and arrange half of the bread in the prepared dish.
3. Combine the custard and the milk and pour over the bread. Arrange half the apple on top and then top with the remaining bread. Arrange the remainder of the apple on top and sprinkle with sugar.
4. Bake for 40-45 mins until the top is golden and the custard is set.
5. Dust with icing sugar and drizzle with the caramel sauce. Serve with cream on the side

If you have a favourite recipe, please email it to

support@stepbridge.com.au for inclusion in next month's newsletter

INDIVIDUAL TOURNAMENTS: CONVENTION CARD & MORE

For our Individual Tournaments on StepBridge, we ask that everyone plays the same Convention Card so everyone is on the same page.

On the PC & Mac version of the StepBridge program, go to the top left-hand corner and select CLUB, followed by IDENTITY. Then a new box will appear with your current system card. You can then click CHOOSE and select the Individual Tournament System Card.

On the Tablet, iPad & Web version of the StepBridge program, click on your username in the top right-hand corner. Then a new box will appear with your current system card. You can then click CHOOSE and select the Individual Tournament System Card.

The Convention card currently looks like the image below.

Convention card Identity

Standard American (Green System)

Opening	Answer
1♣	3+♣, 11+
1♦	3+♦, 11+
1♥/♠	5+♠♥, 11+
1NT	15-17hcp, balanced
2♣	21+ or 8.5 playing tricks
2♦	6-10hcp, 6♦
2♥/♠	6-10hcp, 6♠♥
2NT	20-21 hcp balanced
3♣/♦	pre-emptive, 7♣♦
3♥/♠	pre-emptive, 7♠♥
3NT	Gambling
4♣	pre-emptive, 8♣
4♦/♥/♠	pre-emptive, 8♦♥♠

Overcalls
Weak jump overcalls
1NT = 15-17hcp with stopper in openers suit

Slam conventions
Gerber 4♣ after NT opening
Blackwood (not Roman Key Card)

Leads
Standard leads

After interference
Negative double to 2♣

Other conventions
Simple Stayman
Transfers (♦->♥, ♥->♠, ♠->♣, NT->♦)

Signals
Low Encourage

Choose... Edit... OK

For our Individual Tournaments we ask that you still alert your bids etc. Just because everyone is playing the same system does not mean alert rules go out the door.

At this point of time, we would encourage more players to come and play in an Individual Tournament, which is held every morning at 9.50am.



Hi Team

I just want to say thank you on behalf of myself and the many other people who live alone and are affected by covid especially in NSW where I am and Victoria.

Having the wonderful website of StepBridge to play has saved many of us for total isolation and very lonely times. I for one do not know what I would have done without it.

So sincerely a big thank you to you and your staff for all the work that goes into providing us with a lovely club site to play in.

Regards Judy Payne

This email was received from one of our members. If you wish to voice a comment, a concern or a valid criticism please email:

support@stepbridge.com.au

STEPBRIDGE SHIRTS

We now are ready to accept StepBridge Shirt orders.

We ask you to go to www.stepbridge.com.au/stepbridge-shirt-order-form/ and follow the instructions to order your shirt in the colour, size, and design that you want.

In the images below, we have Chris (ChrisLar / TDChris) modelling a StepBridge Polo Shirt.

Each product comes with the embroidered StepBridge Logo.

T-Shirts are \$25 and Polo Shirts are \$40. The price includes delivery. We will be in contact with you, once you have placed your order, regarding payment.

Please email support@stepbridge.com.au to inquire about the price of other items or if you have any questions.



RESULTS & MASTERPOINTS

In the last couple of weeks, our masterpoints for StepBridge has moved across to our new system at StepBridge. This means that the masterpoints & results are displayed on the one page when you view your results.

Also for our Novice & Restricted Red Point session, what is displayed on the screen for Masterpoints is what you will now receive going forward. We no longer need to do manual factoring and readjustments for Red Point sessions in these two categories.

Below we have an example of what the new display now looks like.

Tournament	
Date:	Wed 05/05/2021 at 20:00
Tournament:	OPEN Wed 8pm
Club:	StepBridge
Boards:	24 (12 x 2)
Scoring:	Match Points
Masterpoints:	Green
Category:	Open

Results

place	pair	result	mp	place	pair	result	mp
1.	DeanaWil - DaveMunr	64.80%	1.12	23.	CeliaMcK - JaneSil	49.39%	0.00
2.	GayleK - RobynP	62.05%	0.78	24.	JohnSar - Michele	49.38%	0.00
3.	ChrisJoh - Ricky	61.22%	0.56	25.	JingG - PatSh	48.89%	0.00
4.	GaleSp - NimalW	58.63%	0.37	26.	RobS - ClaireS	48.56%	0.00
5.	SarahAn - MavisK	58.02%	0.28	27.	AliColla - KevinWic	48.47%	0.00
6.	GaryLynn - AnneRil	57.02%	0.22	28.	AlisonMc - WendyBu	48.05%	0.00
7.	KenHu - FrankH	55.78%	0.19	29.	LaraineD - DelmaCa	47.92%	0.00
8.	BelindaT - MarkDou	54.90%	0.16	30.	MardiHo - LynnneB	47.81%	0.00
9.	Mardi - JohnBail	54.63%	0.14	31.	RichardG - CarolHo	47.42%	0.00
10.	Gwyneira - Stella	54.40%	0.12	32.	SueHap - RayDo	46.89%	0.00
11.	JudithCr - JanetBro	54.06%	0.11	33.	EugeneM - JayW	46.12%	0.00
12.	HerbNeu - RichArn	52.91%	0.10	34.	MatthewG - SandiPir	45.74%	0.00
13.	MargDy - HansVanW	52.76%	0.09	35.	DerekP - DeborahM	43.48%	0.00
14.	RexLiv - QuentinV	52.42%	0.08	36.	MariaRu - NickA	43.16%	0.00
14.	ClareFR - CassMi	52.42%	0.08	37.	Jay - Manda	42.61%	0.00
16.	DianneD - LynRed	52.19%	0.07	38.	EveT - HowardB	42.52%	0.00
17.	KittyG - AngelaR	51.87%	0.07	39.	Penelope - ElizC	41.61%	0.00
18.	RitaPr - HelenF	50.77%	0.07	40.	TerrenDa - JanelleC	40.36%	0.00
19.	PeterWes - WendyH	50.73%	0.06	41.	ChrisRai - MikeMcG	40.11%	0.00
20.	DavidMa - JohnC	50.62%	0.06	42.	TerryBuc - KevinKen	37.22%	0.00
21.	JoannT - KerryBar	50.25%	0.06	43.	DeniseM - AnnieW	36.50%	0.00
22.	Brenda - JenKroon	50.21%	0.00				

JULY 2021

What is happening in July 2021?

NATIONAL HOLIDAYS

July contains two of the most famous National Holidays - Independence Day on 4 July in the USA and Bastille Day on 14 July in France. On 4 July 1776 the Declaration of Independence from Great Britain was passed by the Continental Congress. Just a few years later, on 14 July 1789, a mob of angry Frenchmen stormed the Bastille to get weapons and free prisoners, starting the French Revolution.



IN AUSTRALIA

We have passed the Winter Equinox (22 July) and so the days are getting longer and warmer. We are in the middle of the winter school holidays but sadly (again) COVID has ruined the plans of many.

RED POINTS

Every month StepBridge has **RED POINT** sessions. Upcoming sessions:

Wednesday 14 July, 1.00pm Open & 1.15pm Restricted

Sunday 18 July, 8.00pm Open

Friday 23 July, 1.00pm Open & 1.15pm Restricted

Monday 26 July, 4.00pm Open

Saturday 31 July, 9.50am Open Individual & 10.00am Novice



NEW PROCESS FOR PURCHASING PARTICIPATION POINTS

StepBridge has introduced a new process for purchasing participation points. This new process will mean that you will never be short of enough Participation Points to play in a StepBridge tournament.

Below are step by step instructions of how to purchase your Participation Points with this new process. You have two options of where you purchase your Participation Points

1. Login to the StepBridge Club (playing platform) as if you were going to play in a tournament. Select a session and then click on the Shopping Cart image.

The screenshot shows the StepBridge Club interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the following items: Club, Hosting, Location, Playing, View, Help. Below this is a window titled "Tourney Info" for a tournament named "Tourney OPEN Fri 8pm (id: 9857)". The tournament details are as follows:

Setup:	Pairs - Match Points Scoring
Level:	1 - 40
Director:	TDChris
No. of Boards:	24 (8 rounds x 3 boards)
Duration:	2:24:00
Start Time:	Fri 12-02-2021 at 20:00
Participation points:	50
Participants:	0 pairs
Notice:	

A shopping cart icon is circled in red in the "Participants" section. Below the tournament information is a "Registration" section with the following text:

You have not yet registered for this tournament!

Please provide the name of your partner, and click on [Register] to register. Your partner has to do the same to finish the registration.
If you register without a partner, you will be matched with a partner close to your level.

Username partner: Invite partner
 Pay for partner

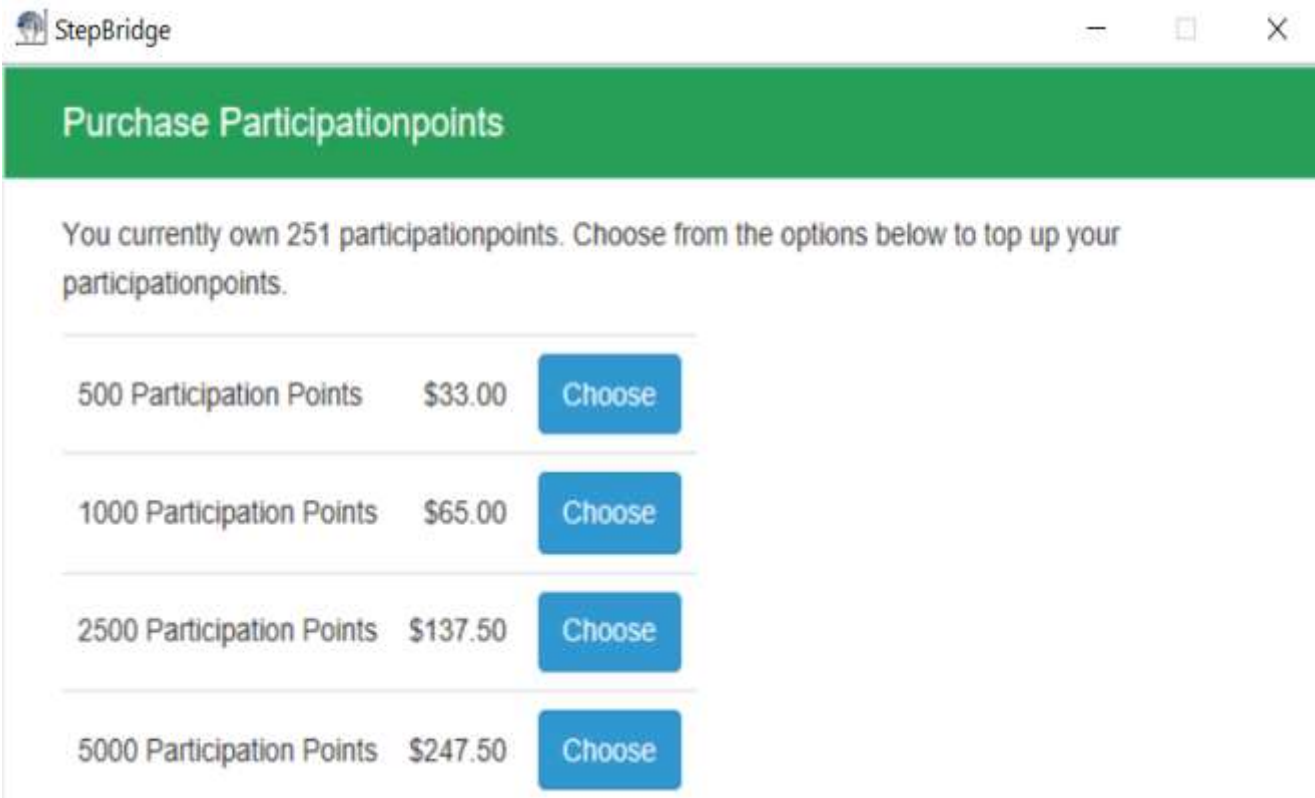
At the bottom of the window, there are buttons for "Join tournament lobby", "Close", and "Register".

Message:

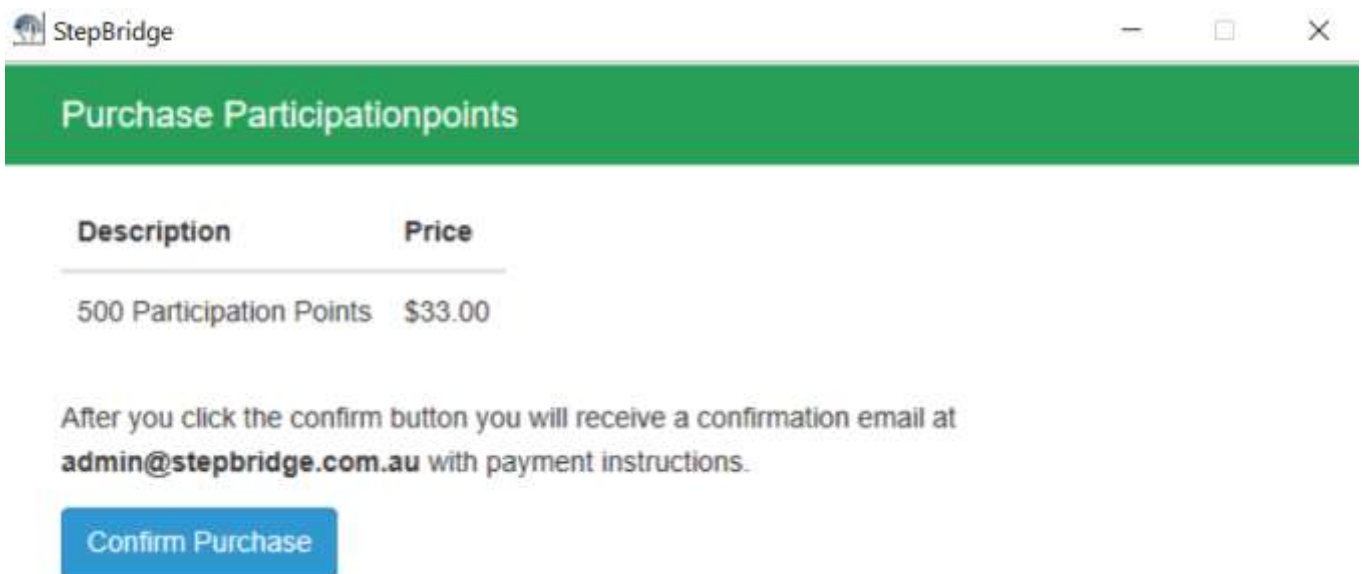
Server version: 60495
You have joined the activity Tourney OPEN Fri 8pm.
The tournament hasn't started yet.

NEW PROCESS FOR PURCHASING PARTICIPATION POINTS (cont)

2. The following screen will then pop up. You have the option of choosing the amount of Participation Points you wish to purchase and the amount it will cost.



3. The pop up screen will then change the following, in which you are asked to confirm you purchase of Participation Points. Once you please confirm on this screen, you will receive a confirmation email to the email address we have on our database. This confirmation email will have payment instructions, including a unique reference number.



MONTHLY AWARDS FOR JUNE 2021



**Congratulations to all those wonderful players who have earned
a mention here!**



Award	Class	Rank	Score	Tourns	Players
<i>Highest Player Average in June 2021</i>	Overall	1	60.1	11	Victor Taran (VictorT)
		=2	59.96	6	Wence Vahala (WenceV)
		=2	59.96	6	Marleen Medhat (MarleenM)
	Open	=1	59.96	6	Wence Vahala (WenceV)
		=1	59.96	6	Marleen Medhat (MarleenM)
		3	59.65	9	Sarjit Gregg (SarjitG)
	Restricted	1	58.19	6	Irina Taran (IrinaT)
		=2	57.82	19	John Grosvenor (JohnG)
		=2	57.82	19	Mardi Grosvenor (Mardi)
	Novice	=1	56.19	6	David Hancock (DavidHan)
		2	56.17	9	Kathy McDonell (KathyMcD)
		3	56.09	19	Ann Sauer (AnnSauer)
	Open	1	8	7	Hans Van Weeren (HansVanW)
	IMPs	2	6	6	Margaret Dyer (MargDy)
		3	-2	6	Denise Strain (DeniseSt)
Open	1	57.88	6	Deana Wilson (DeanaWil)	
Individual	2	55.61	6	Mavis Koay (MavisK)	
	3	54.76	9	Margaret Boniface (MargBo)	
<i>Highest Pairs Average in June 2021</i>	Overall	1	60.1	11	Irina Taran (IrinaT), Victor Taran (VictorT)
		2	59.96	6	Marleen Medhat (MarleenM), Wence Vahala (WenceV)
		3	59.65	9	Murray Booth (MurrayB), Sarjit Gregg (SarjitG)
	Open	1	59.96	6	Marleen Medhat (MarleenM), Wence Vahala (WenceV)
		2	59.65	9	Murray Booth (MurrayB), Sarjit Gregg (SarjitG)
		3	59.28	7	Manda Labuschagne (Manda), Dariusz Drozd (Dariusz)
	Restricted	1	57.82	19	John Grosvenor (JohnG), Mardi Grosvenor (Mardi)
		2	54.3	11	Herb Neumeister (HerbNeu), Roger Dennison (RogerDen)
		3	54.19	6	Kathie Smith (KathieS), Erica Camarri (EricaCa)
	Novice	1	56.19	6	Penny Cory (PennyCoy), David Hancock (DavidHan)
		2	55.64	17	Libby Heyward (LibHeywa), Ann Sauer (AnnSauer)
		3	55.28	6	Richard McLain (RichMcL), Mahendra Parekh (Mahendra)

As an incentive for the player / pair who has most sessions in the month and the most improved player / pair in the month, a prize will be awarded to the person / pair that comes first in each category. The prize is 100 participation points per player. The players who have received the June prizes are marked in red text below. Congratulations!

Award	Class	Rank	Score	Tourns	Players
<i>Player Who Has Played the Most Tournaments in June 2021</i>	Overall	=1		68	Kay Anderson (KayA)
		=1		68	Elizabeth McNeill (ElizaMc)
		3		65	Libby Heyward (LibHeywa)
	Open	=1		68	Elizabeth McNeill (ElizaMc)
		2		52	Sarah Anwar (SarahAn)
		3		50	Hans Van Weeren (HansVanW)
	Restricted	=1		26	Don Saunders (DonS)
		=1		26	Sandi Pirozzo (SandiPir)
		3		24	Rosemary Porter (RoseP)
	Novice	1		27	Libby Heyward (LibHeywa)
		2		25	Dot Slattery (DotS)
		3		23	Tammy Hubbard (TammyHu)
<i>Pair Who Has Played the Most Tournaments in June 2021</i>	Overall	1		31	Robert Stammel (RobS), Claire Stammel (ClaireS)
		2		29	Matthew Geeve (MatthewG), Sandi Pirozzo (SandiPir)
		3		27	John Grosvenor (JohnG), Mardi Grosvenor (Mardi)
	Open	1		25	Rez Karim (MeemKar), Elizabeth McNeill (ElizaMc)
		2		23	John Bailey (JohnBail), Mardi Grosvenor (Mardi)
		3		22	Margaret Dyer (MargDy), Hans Van Weeren (HansVanW)
	Restricted	1		19	John Grosvenor (JohnG), Mardi Grosvenor (Mardi)
		2		18	Thais Morgan-Pertus (ThaisMP), Sean Quinn (SeanQ)
		3		13	Peter Webb (PeterWeb), Peter Westmoreland (PeterWes)
	Novice	1		17	Libby Heyward (LibHeywa), Ann Sauer (AnnSauer)
		2		14	Cath Morrison (CathMor), Vera Boston (VeraB)
		3		13	Susie Fraser (SusieF), Sandy Fraser (SandyFra)

Well done everyone! Congratulations !

Award	Class	Rank	Score	Tourns	Players
<i>Most Improved Player in June 2021</i>	Overall	1	7.45	6	Marleen Medhat (MarleenM)
		=2	7.38	9	Pauline Caust (PaulineC)
		=3	7.27	6	Wence Vahala (WenceV)
	Open	1	9.2	6	Barbara Bell (BarbaraR)
		2	7.45	6	Marleen Medhat (MarleenM)
		3	7.31	9	Margaret Boniface (MargBo)
	Restricted	1	6.95	6	Pauline Caust (PaulineC)
		2	4.9	11	Pam Leahy (PamL)
		3	4.61	8	Patrick Rasmussen (PatRasmu)
	Novice	1	5.43	7	Joan Eccleshare (JoanEccl)
		2	4.18	7	Kay Bennetts (KayBenn)
		3	3.67	6	Julie Coates (JulieCot)
	Open	1	9.2	6	Barbara Bell (BarbaraR)
	Individual	2	7.45	6	Marleen Medhat (MarleenM)
	3	7.31	9	Margaret Boniface (MargBo)	
<i>Most Improved Pair in June 2021</i>	Overall	1	7.48	6	Barbara Williams (BarbWill), Margaret Boniface
		2	7.44	6	Marleen Medhat (MarleenM), Wence Vahala (WenceV)
		3	6.64	10	Steve Miller (SteveMil), Titus Ling (TituLing)
	Open	1	7.44	6	Marleen Medhat (MarleenM), Wence Vahala (WenceV)
		2	7.4	6	Barbara Williams (BarbWill), Margaret Boniface (MargBo)
		3	6.64	10	Steve Miller (SteveMil), Titus Ling (TituLing)
	Restricted	1	4.78	11	Pam Leahy (PamL), Ann Rice (AnnR)
		2	4.63	7	Patrick Rasmussen (PatRasmu), Peter Morris (PeterMor)
		3	3.72	8	Matthew Geeve (MatthewG), Sandi Pirozzo (SandiPir)
	Novice	1	3.43	8	Margaret Manning (MargM), Carmel Fox (CarmelF)
		2	3.18	6	Helen Baran (HelenB), Vanessa Wells (VanessaW)
		3	2.82	6	Penny Cory (PennyCoy), David Hancock (DavidHan)

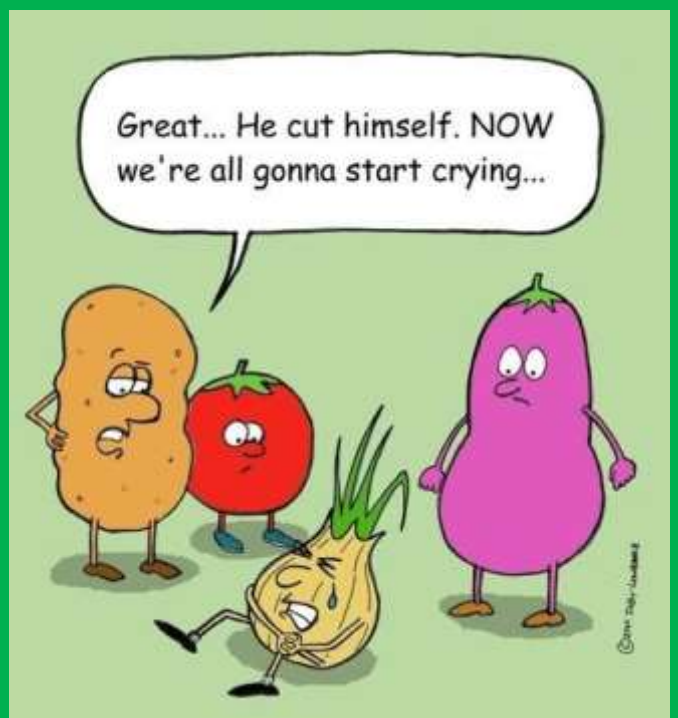


Every month members of StepBridge earn Masterpoint Promotion.

Congratulations to our members who were promoted in June 2021

Rosemary Glastonbury Neil Strutton	Grand Silver Life	Annie Sheth Hoawrd Bridgman	State State
Sue Robinson	Silver Life	Rachel Wagner	State
Alan Dundas	Silver Life	Rae Duffy	Regional
Winnie Chan	Bronze Life	Keith Brinck	Regional
Barbara Williams	Silver National	Camie McMahon	Regional
Ruth Perris	Bronze National	Suzane Harrison	Regional
Lorna Shuttlewood	Bronze National	Peter Stanmore	Silver Local
Sue Shadbolt	Bronze National	Liz Farr	Silver Local
Norma Hale	National	Maurice Ambrosoli	Silver Local
Dave Mathieson	National	Heather Heidenreich	Bronze Local
Suzi Ledger	National	Norman Johnston	Bronze Local
Paul Acfield	National	Marie Singleton	Bronze Local
Sandy Garber	Bronze State	Kerry Barridge	Bronze Local
Anne Downes	Bronze State	Jeff Veing	Local
Elizabeth van Vugt	Bronze State	Janet Wilkie	Local
Moirra Heath	Bronze State	John Dyson	Club
Szuanne Tooth	Bronze State	Mary McCrohon	Graduate
Karen Moller	Bronze State		

Plus anyone we may have missed due to the influx of new players to StepBridge



STEPBRIDGE TOURNAMENT FEES

Green Point Session: 50 Participation Points

Red Point Session: 75 Participation Points

WEEKLY SESSIONS

Monday-Friday

Open *Individual*: 9:50am (30 boards)

Open: 1pm, 4pm & 8pm

Restricted: 1.15pm

Novice: 10am (Monday-Friday)

& 7.45pm (Monday, Tuesday & Thursday)

Saturday-Sunday

Open *Individual*: 9.50am (30 boards)

Open: 1pm, 4pm & 8pm

Restricted: 1.15pm

Novice: 10am & 4.10pm

IMPs Sessions

Thursday: 8pm Open

Sunday: 4pm Open

FACEBOOK

Visit our StepBridge Australia Facebook page

www.facebook.com/Stepbridge.com.au/

We try to add humorous bridge related photos up on the page every few days.

Check it out and LIKE the page!



NEWSLETTER

CONTRIBUTIONS

All contributions, big or small, would be welcome to this newsletter.

- Do you have an interesting hand for a recent bridge session or congress?
- Can we interview you, so we can all get to know you better?
- Do you have a favourite recipe you would like to share?
- Do you have any other information you wish to share?

Please email your contributions to support@stepbridge.com.au with the subject title of the email being Newsletter.

OBITUARY

Carol Mary Daniel (1952 - 2021)

Darling wife of Noel Daniel (Noel/TDNoel) from Willetton WA passed away after a short illness.

Carol's (CarolD) main partners on StepBridge were Noel and also Denise McTaggart (DeniseM).

Carol will be sorely missed by her family and friends.

