

January 2020

News from the President

Richard Lawrie (Ricky)

Members,

Welcome to 2020, another New Year of Bridge on StepBridge. I hope that the New Year brings to you and yours the best that 2020 has to offer. This Newsletter is an innovation introduced and edited by Chris Larter, which helps us to improve our communications and to keep you up to date with goings on.

StepBridge belongs to us all and we are trying as much as possible to improve the experience by encouraging friendly interaction and providing challenging bridge. The more players we can get the better and to this aim we will advertise in the ABF Newsletter for one year. I encourage you to invite your bridge friends to join. We also hope to introduce a State Teams Challenge.

I look forward to meeting you at the tables.



Session Fees

Account name: StepBridge Australia Bridge Club

BSB: 012 013 Account number: 3025 38455

Reference: *Your StepBridge Username*

Email admin@stepbridge.com.au that you have made a payment.

| | Members | Non Members |
|--------------------------|----------|-------------|
| 10 Standard Tournaments | \$30.00 | \$35.00 |
| 50 Standard Tournaments | \$125.00 | N/A |
| 100 Standard Tournaments | \$225.00 | N/A |

Committee

President

Richard Lawrie (Ricky)

Secretary

Christopher Larter
(ChrisLar)

Treasurer

David Adams (DavidAd)

Head TD &

Chief Technical Officer

Sarah Anwar (MaureenA)

Masterpoint Secretary

Sebastian Wright (SebW)

Public Officer

Eric Taylor (EricTay)

Committee Members

Mardi Hogarth (MardiHo)
Kevin Kendall (KevinKen)
Brenda McClean (Brenda)
Rita Pringle (RitaPr)

Email Address

admin@stepbridge.com.au

*Please put a **SUBJECT** in the message line using one of the following categories*

Admin
Committee
Help & Support
Membership
Newsletter
Password Lost
Payments

Undo on StepBridge

As with a number of other online bridge programs, StepBridge has an Undo feature available.

In the past, Undos have proven to often be contentious. With this in mind, StepBridge has tightened the criteria for TDs allowing an Undo.

In essence, it has been decided that Undos will only be permitted when the TD is convinced the bid was a misclick and not a change of mind. An example is bidding 7D when clearly the intent was to pass.

If there is any doubt that there has been a change of mind, the TD will not allow an undo to be granted.

Fund Raising Session to Support Bushfire Victims

As you read this newsletter, our country of Australia has bushfires all over still burning. There are many victims from these fires, with no home left to go to. As a bridge club with members all over Australia, StepBridge would like to do its bit to support those who are affected by the bushfires in some way.

Therefore, StepBridge will hold a fund raising session on **Friday 17 January, 8pm**. Table fees for the session will be 75 participation points. StepBridge will donate \$10 per player which will go to the Red Cross Disaster Relief and Recovery fund. We would like to see as many as possible play at this session.

Red masterpoints will be awarded. However, the masterpoints won't appear on the results page of the website directly after the session due to it being a special event with the ABF.

StepBridge players are welcome, if they wish, to make an additional donation by either transferring it to the StepBridge bank account or going directly to the Red Cross website <https://fundraise.redcross.org.au/drr> . Please note that if you require a tax receipt for any additional donation, you need to make this donation yourself through the Red Cross website.





Recipe Corner

Bread and Butter Pickle

Rita Pringle (RitaPr)

Preparations 15 minutes plus 5 hours standing time

Ingredients

570g pickling cucumbers
1 large onion
salt
570ml distilled malt vinegar
460g sugar
2 tablespoons of mustard seeds
1/2 a teaspoon of turmeric
1 teaspoon of celery seeds
pinch cayenne pepper

Method

1. Slice the cucumbers and onion very thinly and place in shallow dish
2. Sprinkle liberally with salt. Cover with weighted lid and leave for at least 6 hours. Drain and rinse with cold water, and drain again.
3. Place the remaining ingredients in a large pan and bring to the boil stirring well.
4. Boil for 2-3 minutes, then add the sliced cucumber and onion
5. Boil for 5 minutes or until the cucumber looks translucent.
6. Pour into jars, seal with acid-proof paper and store in the fridge.



Sun Bran Loaf

Rita Pringle (RitaPr)

Equipment

1 medium size mixing bowl
1 orange cake tin or log cake tin
1 flour sieve
1 tablespoon

Ingredients

1 cup for bran flakes or bran cereal
1 cup of sultanas
3/4 cup white sugar
1 1/4 cup of milk
1 1/2 cups of self-raising flour

Method

1. Mix the bran flakes sultanas sugar and milk together in the bowl .
2. Let the mixture stand for at least two hours this is to let the brand flakes and fruit to soak up the milk.
3. Lightly grease the cake time with butter.
4. When the mixture has stood for 2 hours, sift the flour onto a large sheet of baking paper.
5. Add the sifted flour a little at a time to the mixture stirring well until all the ingredients are thoroughly mixed together.
6. Put the mixture into the greased tin and bake in moderate oven for one hour.
7. Serve sliced and buttered.





Interview with Sarah Anwar

StepBridge username (and Nickname)?

MaureenA / TDSarah

Where are you from?

I was born in NZ and have lived in many countries. Emigrated to Sydney in 1979. Currently live in Liverpool NSW

What do you do?

Former Practice Manager for large legal practice for 25 years. Now part time Admin/Finance Officer for a plasterboard distributor.

How long have you been playing bridge?

For more than 10 years at lunch time every day at work we would play 500. When we moved to Tasmania in 2003, I wanted to learn to play bridge. In 2004 we went on World Cruise on QE11 and as part of onboard activities there was a Duplicate Bridge session and classes for beginners every day at sea. After 103 days I was addicted. Returning to Tasmania I was fortunate to be mentored and tutored by Bruce Williams (Silver Grand Master) until I went to Turkey in 2011 where I played nearly every day for more than 2 years. I have been a TD at club level and on BBO for more than 10 years and now it is my privilege to head the TD Team on Step.

Favourite card in the deck, and why?

Ace Spades. Top of the Totem Pole.

*How many StepBridge players have you met in person? **Six.***

Any memorable bridge auctions?

No just be in the moment.

Summarise your life in one word.

Rollercoaster.

Mentoring Program

The StepBridge Committee would like to provide a mentoring service to new players joining our club. These players may not be new to the game of bridge, but just new to using the StepBridge program.

If you are either available to be a mentor to a new player on StepBridge OR someone who would like a mentor for a few sessions, please email admin@stepbridge.com.au with the subject title of the email being **Help & Support**.

Masterpoint Promotions

December 2019

| | |
|-------------------------|-----------|
| Trevor Moore (TrevorMo) | *Regional |
| Greg Mayne (GregM) | **Local |

New Members

We welcome the following players who have recently become financial members on StepBridge over the last couple of months.

Paul Pilowsky (PaulP)
Roger Dennison (RogerDen)
Anne Morris (AnneMorr)
Bev Cleary (BevClea)
Penny Richardson (PennyR)
Jay Novak (JayN)
Lyndel Hewitt (LyndelH)
Paul Davey (PaulDa)
Pam Davey (PamD)

Saturday 4pm Session

Due to the constantly low number of players at the Saturday 4pm session, we are going to trial the following arrangement to keep the session afloat.

6 or more pairs registered

The session will go ahead as per usual with masterpoints awarded.

5 pairs registered

We will attempt to make it to 6 pairs for a pairs session. Otherwise, a pair will have to pull out and we will revert to the 4 pairs situation below.

4 pairs registered

The pairs session will be cancelled and a two table friendly teams competition will be provided. This will consist of 24 boards, playing 12 hands against each pair of the other team. There will be no masterpoints awarded.

Less than 4 pairs registered

The session will be cancelled, due to insufficient numbers.

Reasons for change

This decision has not come lightly. Factors in making this decision include:

- Sessions with less than 3 tables are very unbalanced with the results. You also play pairs multiple times in the session.
- Sessions with less than 3 tables do not attract ABF masterpoints.
- This session has lately involved the TD and stand-by player/s regularly playing to make up the numbers to run the session
- The format of the session (i.e. matchpoints, IMPs, Individual) has not made a difference to player numbers improving

We thank the regular Saturday 4pm session players in advance for accepting this news and that they will support this decision.

Vale

StepBridge has been advised that former member Ann Klibbe (AnnKlibb) passed away on 27 May 2019.

Red Point Sessions

Sunday 12 January - 8pm

Friday 17 January - 8pm [Bushfire Appeal Session]

Monday 27 January - 8pm

2020 Membership Renewals

Membership fees are now overdue for 2020. Below are the 2020 membership rates for StepBridge.

- Home Members \$23.80
- Alternative [Associate] Members \$5
[Members pay their ABF levy at another club]

Thank you to those members who have been proactive and paid their membership on time. We are now following up late payments and also encourage regular non-members in becoming members.

Contributions to the Newsletter

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 admin@stepbridge.com.au with the subject title of the email being **Newsletter**.