



StepBridge the Australian
Internet bridge club

Newsletter

March 2021

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Sarah Anwar (SarahAn / TDSarah)

Dear Members,

StepBridge has seen another very busy month with more player enhancements and back-end processing improvements coming on line every day. We have had a couple of hiccups along the way which are inevitable when we introduce new procedures and changes to our software, however we are confident these matters have been resolved. Our server for both the playing platform and our website have been relocated to Australia and this relocation has taken a few days to settle. Players are reporting much faster speeds and we are encouraged that this relocation will prove to be of benefit to all. The results email is handled a little differently now and at times maybe delayed a short time. If you are anxious to review your results you can always go to the website to check them out.

Membership numbers continue to grow which is really good to see with face to face clubs also returning to play.

In our quest to ensure that StepBridge players play in a fair and just environment, we have appointed a Player's Jury. This panel is made up of players representing each State and ACT. Their task will be to examine complaints or play referred to the panel for consideration that is deemed to be unjustified bidding/play. The Jury will reach a decision and report to our Committee where a decision as to penalties will be made. The guidelines will be added to the member's page on our website.

The automated membership participation points process is working well. We have included the procedure in the newsletter again for those of you still unsure of how it works. Please make sure you follow the new process and you will have your points available instantly and the saving in processing time for our team is considerable.

Check out the StepBridge Polo shirts and T-shirts. There are many variations available upon request. We hope our players will buy and wear the shirts with pride.

Happy Bridging
Sarah



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

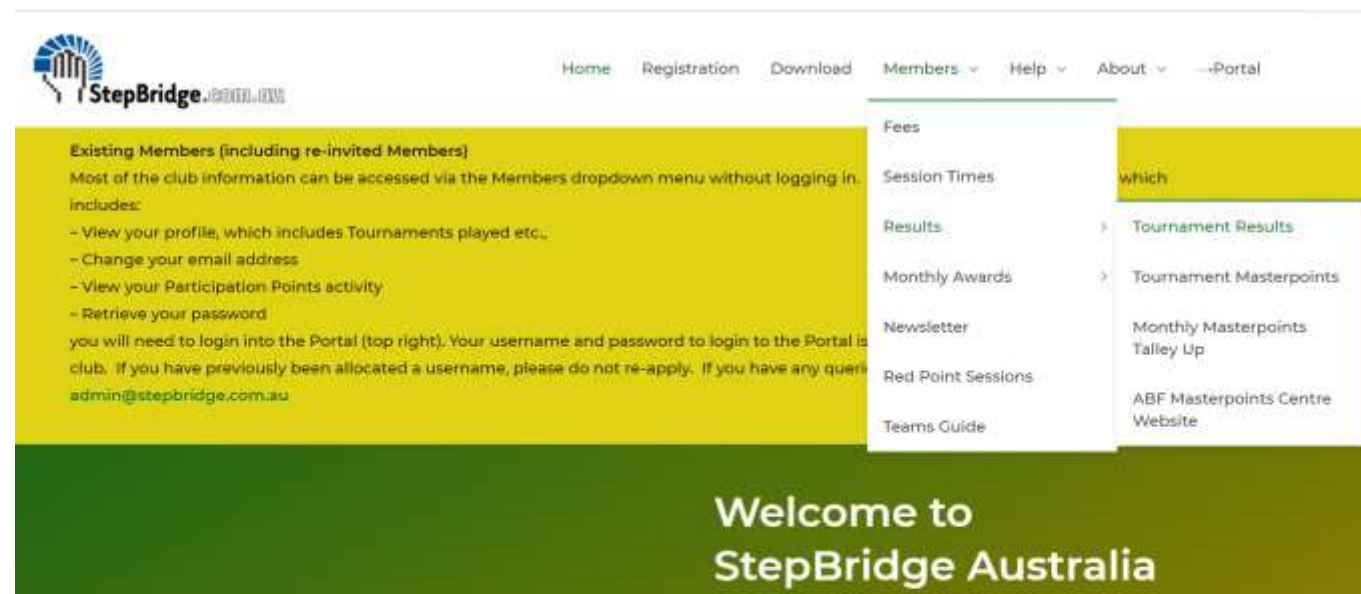
*Please put a **SUBJECT** in
the message line using one
of the following categories*

**Admin
Committee
Help & Support
Membership
Newsletter**

VIEWING RESULTS & MASTERPOINTS ON THE WEBSITE

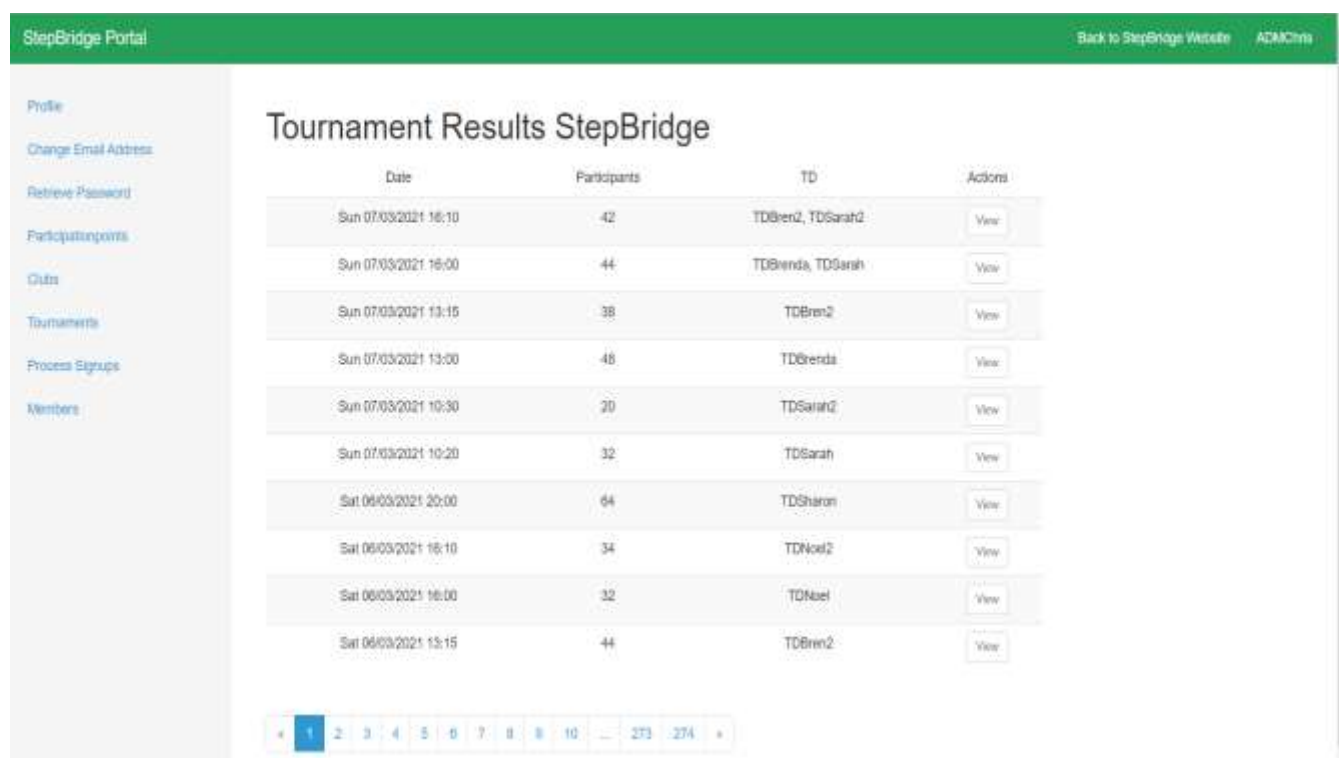
StepBridge Australia has updated the way you view the results on the club website. Below is an explained of this new process as it is at this stage.

Go to www.stepbridge.com.au and go to MEMBERS and then RESULTS. Under RESULTS you have two choices, being TOURNAMENT RESULTS and TOURNAMENT MASTERPOINTS



The screenshot shows the StepBridge Australia website. The top navigation bar includes links for Home, Registration, Download, Members, Help, About, and Portal. The Members dropdown menu is open, showing options: Fees, Session Times, Results, Monthly Awards, Newsletter, Red Point Sessions, and Teams Guide. The Results option is highlighted, and a sub-menu is visible with options: Tournament Results, Tournament Masterpoints, Monthly Masterpoints Talley Up, and ABF Masterpoints Centre Website. A yellow banner on the left lists information for existing members, including how to view profiles, change email addresses, and retrieve passwords. A green banner at the bottom says "Welcome to StepBridge Australia".

TOURNAMENT RESULTS is to view the overall results for each session and the hands, including the contracts and use of the Double Dummy Solver at BridgeWebs and Replay at BridgeBoost. When you click on TOURNAMENT RESULTS, you will need to login to the Portal with your username and password. Once logged in, you will see the screen as per below. Select the session of your choice.



The screenshot shows the StepBridge Portal interface. On the left is a sidebar with links: Profile, Change Email Address, Retrieve Password, Participation points, Clubs, Tournaments, Process Signups, and Members. The main content area is titled "Tournament Results StepBridge" and displays a table of tournament sessions. The table has columns for Date, Participants, TD, and Actions. Below the table is a pagination bar showing page 1 of 10, with a total of 273 to 274 results.

Date	Participants	TD	Actions
Sun 07/03/2021 16:10	42	TD Bren2, TDSarah2	View
Sun 07/03/2021 16:00	44	TDBrenda, TDSarah	View
Sun 07/03/2021 13:15	38	TDBren2	View
Sun 07/03/2021 13:00	48	TDBrenda	View
Sun 07/03/2021 10:30	20	TDSarah2	View
Sun 07/03/2021 10:20	32	TDSarah	View
Sat 06/03/2021 20:00	64	TD Sharon	View
Sat 06/03/2021 18:10	34	TD Noel2	View
Sat 06/03/2021 16:00	32	TD Noel	View
Sat 06/03/2021 13:15	44	TDBren2	View

VIEWING RESULTS & MASTERPOINTS ON THE WEBSITE (cont.)

TOURNAMENT MASTERPOINTS is for the viewing of the Masterpoints you earnt for the session. To view an older session, select from the list. Please note that the blue four/five digit number at the top, which was the link to view the hands, does not work now. This is where you use TOURNAMENT RESULTS now.

ABF

Monthly Results

Results for Tourney
: 10014» <- Do not use the blue link to the left.
This link does not work now.

Tournament type : Pairs
Tournament name : NOVICE Sun 4.10pm
Tournament date : Sunday 7 Mar 2021
Points type : Green

Name	%	MPs
MariaAlm - SandiPir	58.57	0.66
MichPem - SuePem	58.33	0.46
BobMac - BevHople	56.61	0.33
JulieCot - BrianE	55.79	0.22
SandyMc - JulieSh	55.32	0.16
BethM - ElaineJ	54.17	0.13
MicaelaV - DianeB	53.70	0.11
PennyCoy - TammyHu	52.78	0.09
YvonneA - DonnaC	52.78	0.09
LibHeywa - CeliaMcK	52.38	0.07
SuzanH - AlisonMk	51.16	
GrahamWo - ChrisSp	50.23	
LeonieMa - Mahendra	49.21	
CaroleO - JillSmith	47.68	
JamesLy - SanLynch	46.30	
MaurG - DeniseL	46.03	
AnnBatta - HelenC	45.37	

Select another result

- 7 Mar 2021 (OPEN Sun 4pm IMPS)
- 7 Mar 2021 (RESTRICTED Sun 1.15pm)
- 7 Mar 2021 (OPEN Sun 1pm)
- 7 Mar 2021 (NOVICE Sun 10.30am)
- 7 Mar 2021 (OPEN INDIVIDUAL Sun 10.20am)
- 6 Mar 2021 (OPEN Sat 8pm (Red Points))
- 6 Mar 2021 (NOVICE Sat 4.10pm)
- 6 Mar 2021 (OPEN Sat 4pm)

Go

WARM PEACH AND ALMOND DESSERT CAKE

Megan made this at the weekend and all thought it was delish!

INGREDIENTS

Two peaches, sliced
150gm butter softened
3/4 cup castor sugar
3 lightly beaten eggs
1.5 cups almond meal
1/2 cup plain flour
1/2 cup self raising flour
3/4 cup thickened cream
3/4 cup frozen raspberries
1/3 cup flaked almonds



METHOD

1. Preheat the oven to 180°. Grease a pan (preferably a springform cake pan)
2. Using an electric mixer beat the sugar and the butter together until light and fluffy. At the eggs, one at a time beating well until mixed (don't panic if the mixture looks a little curdled)
3. Add the almond meal, flours and custard
4. Spread the mixture into the prepared pan and then arrange and press the peach slices into the top as well as the raspberries. Sprinkle the flaked almonds on top and bake for about 40 mins.
5. Serve warm and enjoy with cream, ice cream or custard.

If you have a favourite recipe please email it to admin@stepbridge.com.au for inclusion in next month's newsletter.

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 SHIRTS

NEW IN TOWN - StepBridge shirts. There are many variations available upon request. There are also vests available. We hope our players will buy and wear our shirts with pride.

You can go to www.jbswear.com.au or www.bizcollection.com.au to look at the different styles of shirts and vests.

T-Shirts will be \$25.00 and Polos \$40.00 (delivery included).

An email will be sent out in the next couple of weeks with an order form.

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



ATTENTION**QUEENSLAND, NORTHERN TERRITORY & WESTERN AUSTRALIA PLAYERS**

Daylight Savings ends on Sunday morning 4 April [Easter Sunday].

This means play will start one hour earlier for players from Queensland, the Northern Territory & Western Australia.

Below is the spelled out timetable for these players.

Monday-Friday

	<i>Queensland</i>	<i>Northern Territory</i>	<i>Western Australia</i>
Open:	10.20am	9.50am	8.20am
Novice:	10.30am	10.00am	8.30am
Open:	1.00pm	12.30pm	11.00am
Restricted:	1.15pm	12.45pm	11.15am
Open:	4.00pm	3.30pm	2.00pm
Novice	7.45pm	7.15pm	5.45pm
(Mon, Tue & Thur)			
Open:	8.00pm	7.30pm	6.00pm

Saturday-Sunday

	<i>Queensland</i>	<i>Northern Territory</i>	<i>Western Australia</i>
Open (Individual):	10.20am	9.50am	8.20am
Novice:	10.30am	10.00am	8.30am
Open:	1.00pm	12.30pm	11.00am
Restricted:	1.15pm	12.45pm	11.15am
Open:	4.00pm	3.30pm	2.00pm
Novice	4.10pm	3.40pm	2.10pm
Open:	8.00pm	7.30pm	6.00pm

Note: There is no change of time for players from New South Wales, Victoria, Tasmania, South Australia & the Australian Capital Territory.

MARCH 2021

What is happening in March 2021?

INTERNATIONAL WOMENS DAY 8 MARCH



International Women's Day

This is a day that not only celebrates the achievements of women and the progress made toward women's rights, but also

brings attention to ongoing struggles for equality around the world. The theme for 2021 IWD is Choose to Challenge. We can all choose to challenge and call out gender bias and inequality. We can all choose to seek out and celebrate women's achievements. Collectively, we can all help create an inclusive world.

ST PATRICKS DAY 17 MARCH

According to folklore, folks wear a shamrock on St. Patrick's Day because the saint used its three leaves to explain the Trinity. St. Patrick's Day is celebrated annually on March 17, the anniversary of his death in the fifth century. The Irish have observed this day as a religious holiday for over 1,000 years.



RED POINTS

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

In March 2021 the remaining session are:

Sunday 14 March, 4.00pm Open & 4.10pm Novice

Thursday 18 March, 7.45pm Novice & 8.00pm Open

Wednesday 24 March, 8.00pm Open

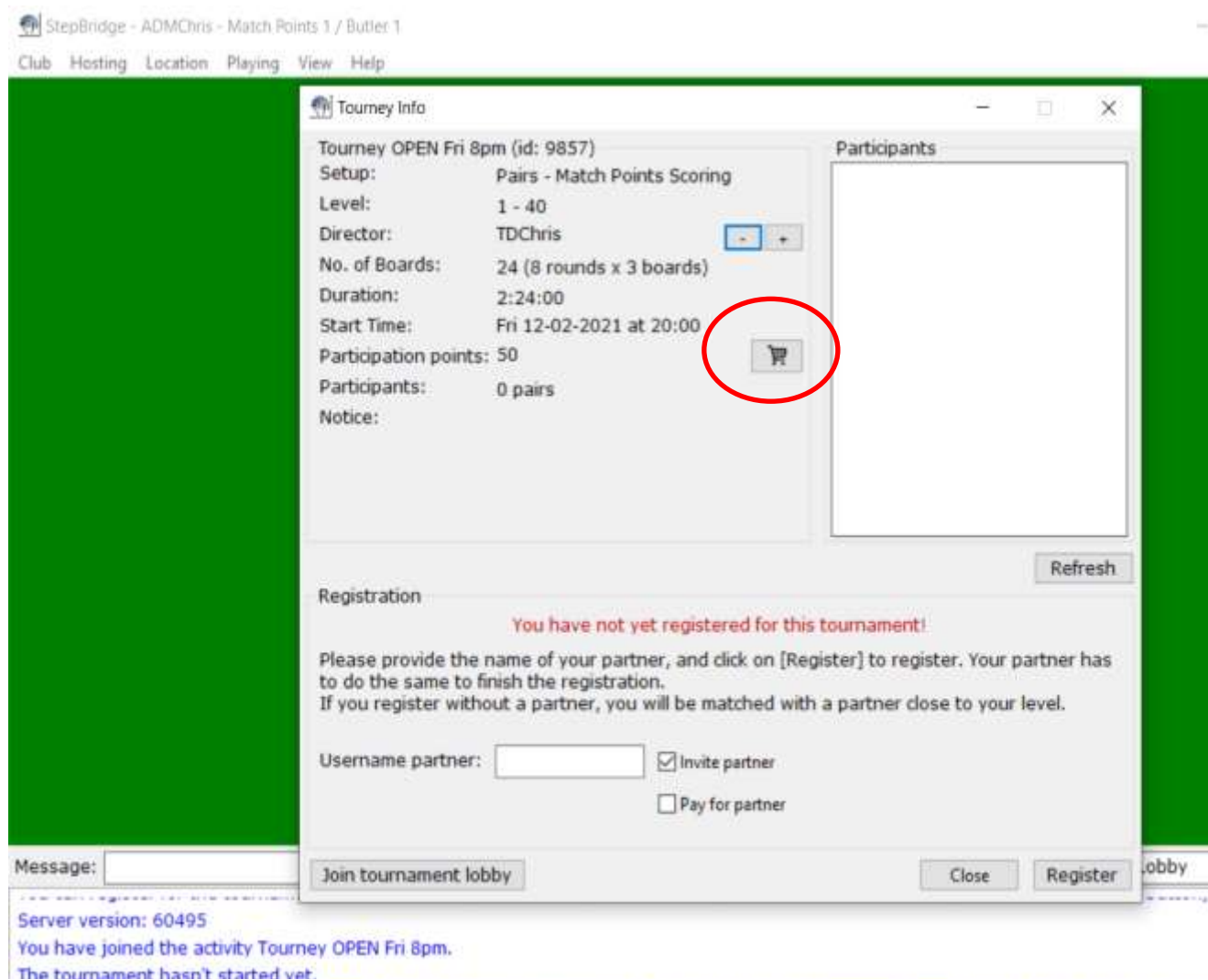
Saturday 27 March, 10.20am Open Individual & 10.30am Novice

NEW PROCESS FOR PURCHASING PARTICIPATION POINTS

StepBridge is introducing 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.

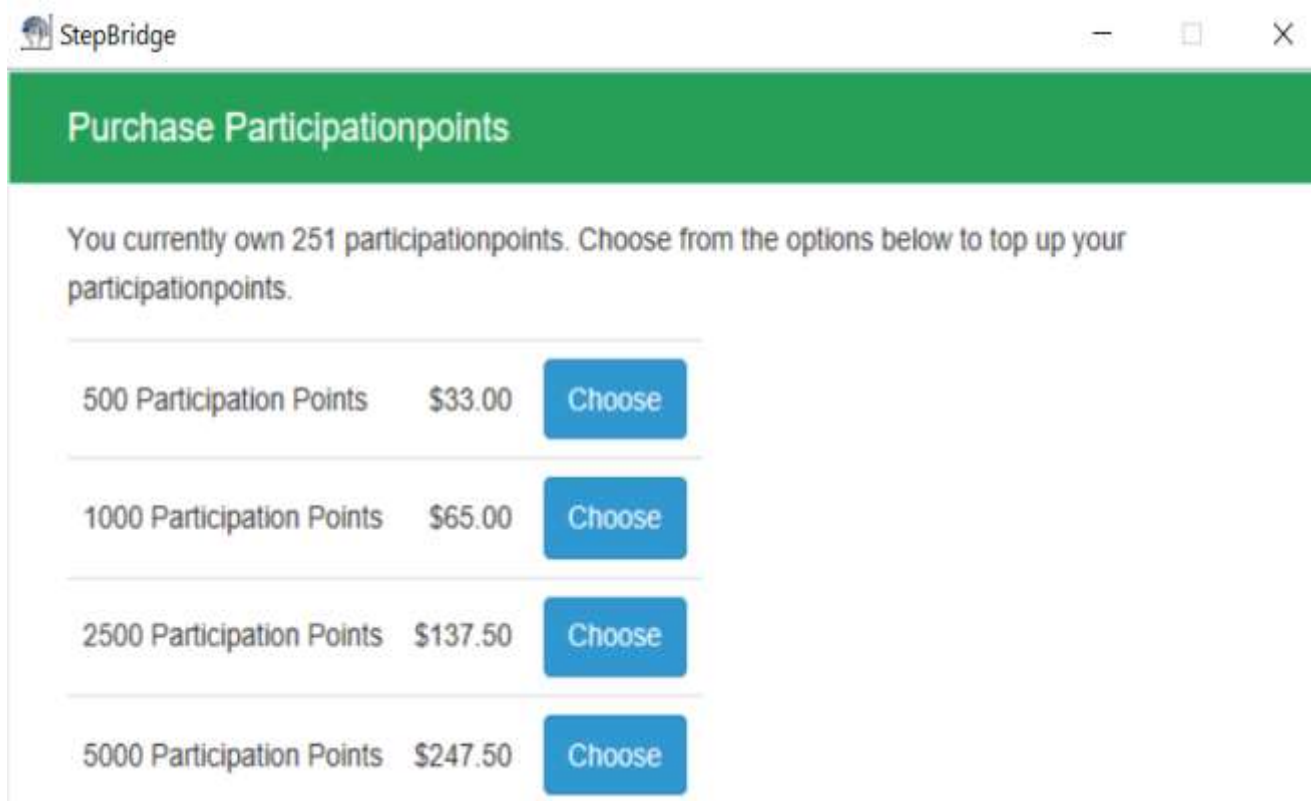
Below are step by step instructions of how to purchase your Participation Points with this new process. You have two options of where you purchase your Participation Points

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.



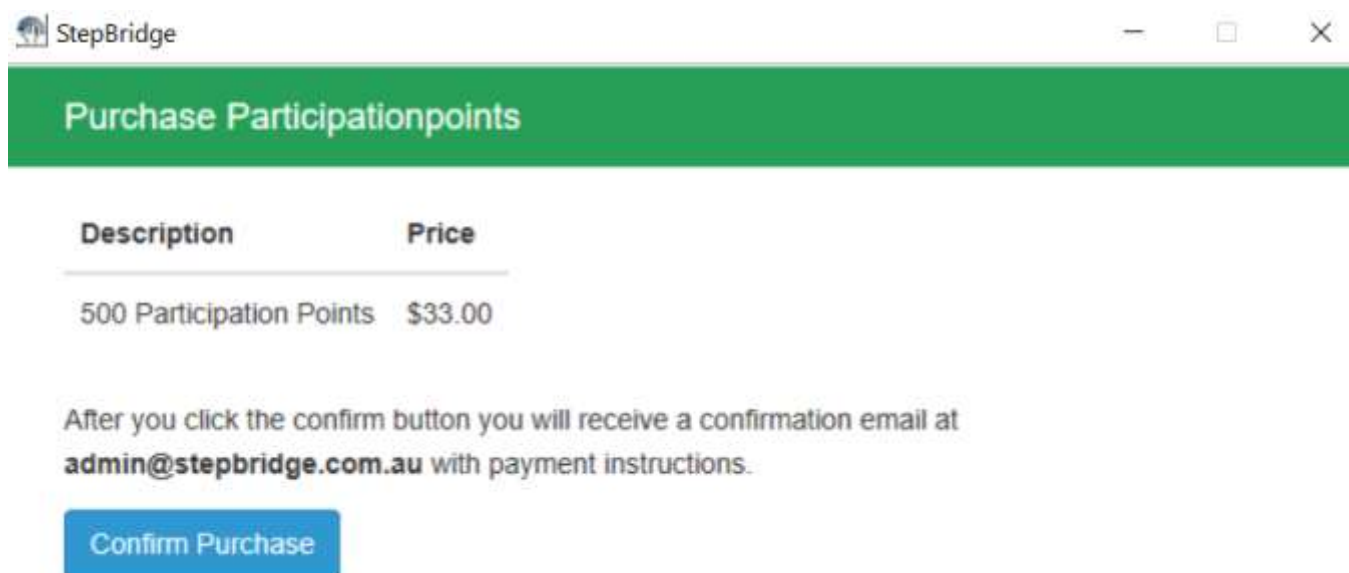
NEW PROCESS FOR PURCHASING PARTICIPATION POINTS (cont.)

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.



Description	Price	Action
500 Participation Points	\$33.00	Choose
1000 Participation Points	\$65.00	Choose
2500 Participation Points	\$137.50	Choose
5000 Participation Points	\$247.50	Choose

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.



Description	Price
500 Participation Points	\$33.00

After you click the confirm button you will receive a confirmation email at **admin@stepbridge.com.au** with payment instructions.

Confirm Purchase

Dear Editor,

I recently played a game against an opponent who objected to my comment to my partner, wdp, after he made a contract.

I would like to point out the fact that we are mostly geographically remote, and it is our habit to say typ when dummy goes down, blp when partner fails to make a contract, often makeable, and wdp if a contract succeeds.

This is how we support our geographically remote partnership, and at no time are any comments a reflection on what the opponents have or have not done.

I think your previous un named correspondent, probably the same lady that objected to our wdp is being a bit sensitive. We at no time displayed “ gloating” behaviour, just a wdp.

Regards

Ann Michael

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

admin@stepbridge.com.au



MONTHLY AWARDS FOR FEBRUARY 2021



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



Award	Class	Rank	Score	Tourns	Players
<i>Highest Player Average in February 2021</i>	Overall	=1	59.85	12	Irina Taran (IrinaT)
		=1	59.85	12	Victor Taran (VictorT)
		3	59.27	10	David Randles (DavidRan)
	Open	1	59.27	10	David Randles (DavidRan)
		2	58.22	7	Bill Boulton (BillBo)
		3	58.1	15	Robert van der Hoek (RobertV)
	Restricted	1	58.2	8	Margaret Byrne (MargByrn)
		=2	57.13	15	Steven Kemp (StevenK)
		=2	57.13	15	John Ewing (JohnEw)
	Novice	=1	59.85	9	Irina Taran (IrinaT)
		=1	59.85	9	Victor Taran (VictorT)
		3	58.04	6	David Hancock (DavidHan)
	Open IMPs	1	11.17	6	Dianne Dwyer (Dianned)
	IMPs	=2	6.29	7	Rita Jones (RitaJo)
		=2	6.29	7	Ray Jones (RayJo)
	Open	1	55.47	6	Nimal Weerasinghe (NimalW)
<i>Highest Pairs Average in February 2021</i>	Individual	2	54.55	6	Jenny Johnstone (JennyJoh)
		3	51.82	7	Linda Picone (LindaPi)
	Overall	1	60.0	8	Robert van der Hoek (RobertV) Tim Davis
		2	59.85	12	Irina Taran (IrinaT), Victor Taran (VictorT)
		3	59.27	10	David Randles (DavidRan) Tim Davis (TimD)
	Open	1	60.0	8	Robert van der Hoek (RobertV) Tim Davis
		2	59.27	10	David Randles (DavidRan) Tim Davis (TimD)
		3	58.49	14	Helen Fleet (HelenF) Robert Fleet (RobFleet)
	Restricted	1	57.11	15	John Ewing (JohnEw) Steven Kemp (StevenK)
		2	56.57	7	Chris Farr (ChrisF) Paul Letts (PaulLet)
		3	55.48	6	Brian Wawn (BriaWawn), Sue Kinnear (SueKinne)
	Novice	1	59.92	9	Irina Taran (IrinaT), Victor Taran (VictorT)
		2	57.13	7	Colleen Moule (CollenMo) Paul Nitschmann
		3	56.73	14	Celia McKew (CeliaMck), Libby Heyward

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 February prizes are marked in red text below. Congratulations ! Good luck to all players!

Award	Class	Rank	Score	Tourns	Players
<i>Player Who Has Played the Most Tournaments in January 2021</i>	Overall	1		58	Chris Raisin (ChrisRai)
		2		71	Matthew Geeve (MatthewG)
		3		70	Cassandra Mitchell (CassMi)
	Open	1		104	Chris Raisin (ChrisRai)
		2		69	Cassandra Mitchell (CassMi)
		3		64	Hans van Weeren (HansVanW)
	Restricted	1		26	Pauline Moore (PaulineM)
		2		23	Wendy Doyle (WendyDo)
		3		21	Alma van der Walt (MariaAlm)
	Novice	1		48	Matthew Geeve (MatthewG)
		1		41	Sandi Pirozzo (SandiPir)
		3		30	Kay Bennetts (KayBenn)
<i>Pair Who Has Played the Most Tournaments in January 2021</i>	Overall	1		48	Claire Stammel (ClaireS), Robert Stammel (RobS)
		2		33	Cassandra Mitchell, Claire Filmer-Ramsay
		3		26	Lawrie Hall (LawrieHa), Pauline Moore (PaulineM)
	Open	1		33	Cassandra Mitchell, Claire Filmer-Ramsay
		2		28	Claire Stammel (ClaireS), Robert Stammel (RobS)
		3		25	Hans van Weeren (HansVanW), Margaret Dyer
	Restricted	1		20	Ian Maclean (IanMac), Jan Maclean (JanetMac)
		2		20	Claire Stammel (ClaireS), Robert Stammel (RobS)
		3		17	Kay Hale (KayHale), Ruth Perris (RuthP)
	Novice	1		22	Matthew Geeve (MatthewG), Sandi Pirozzo
		2		21	Sandy Fraser (SandyFra), Susie Fraser
		3		14	Celia McKew (CeliaMCK), Libby Heyward

Well done everyone! Congratulations !

Award	Class	Rank	Score	Tourns	Players
<i>Most Improved Player in February 2021</i>	Overall	1	6.14	8	Adele Brown (AdeleBr)
		2	5.52	12	Louise Cregan (LouiseCr)
		3	5.39	9	Jake Andrew (Jake)
	Open	1	6.14	8	Adele Brown (AdeleBr)
		2	5.52	12	Louise Cregan (LouiseCr)
		3	5.39	9	Jake Andrew (Jake)
	Restricted	1	6.49	9	Pauline Caust (PaulineC)
		2	4.85	10	Ina Buhse (InaBuhse)
		3	4.65	8	Margaret Byrne (MargByrn)
	Novice	1	6.11	10	Suzanne Harrison (SuzanH)
		2	5.32	10	Wendy Venning (WendyVen)
		3	5.13	10	Jill Smith (JilSmith)
	Open	1	5.87	6	Jenny Johnstone (JennyJoh)
	Individual	2	3.88	7	Suzanne Harrison (SuzanH)
		3	2.51	6	Nimal Weerasinghe (NimalW)
<i>Most Improved Pair in February 2021</i>	Overall	1	6.14	8	Adele Brown (AdeleBr), Louise Cregan (LouiseCr)
		2	5.34	10	John Ewing (JohnEw), Steven Kemp (StevenK)
		3	3.12	8	Marieta Borthwick (MarietaB), Patricia Thomson
	Open	1	6.14	8	Adele Brown (AdeleBr), Louise Cregan (LouiseCr)
		2	3.12	8	Marieta Borthwick (MarietaB), Patricia Thomson
		3	2.48	7	Gayle Keenan (GayleK), Gillian Buganey (GillBu)
	Restricted	1	5.34	10	John Ewing (JohnEw), Steven Kemp (StevenK)
		2	2.88	7	Christine Meijer (ChrisM), Patricia Hamilton
		3	1.64	13	Sean Quinn (SeanQ), Thais Morgan-Pertus
	Novice	1	3.09	6	Colin Morrison (ColMor), Sandra Schoffer
		2	2.76	8	Celia McKew (CeliaMcK), Libby Heyward
		3	2.35	10	Jim Lynch (JamesLy), Sandy Lynch (SanLynch)



Every month members of StepBridge earn Masterpoint Promotion.

Congratulations to our members who were promoted in February 2021

Valerie Isle	Grand	Cilla Butler	Regional
Joy Trigg	Gold Life	Pam Ward	Regional
Deborah McLay	Silver Life	Ian Fraser	Regional
Vinod Nasta	Bronze Life	David Richards	Regional
Jenny Sykes	Life	Annie Vaughan	Regional
Stephen Miller	Silver National	Libby Heyward	Silver Local
Ian Cameron	Bronze National	Penny Cory	Silver Local
Mavis Koay	Bronze National	Paul Pilowsky	Silver Local
Marg Boniface	Bronze National	Jennifer Shaw	Silver Local
Julie Short	Bronze National	Kusum Jayarane	Silver Local
Gill Phillippo	National	Lynne Nunan	Bronze Local
Michael Hogan	National	Joyanne Gissing	Bronze Local
Mardi Grosvenor	Bronze State	Lesley Rosenthal	Bronze Local
Gordon Cooke	Bronze State	Simon Fleming	Bronze Local
Raylene Clark	Bronze State	Subhrendu Rath	Local
Trish Byrnes	Bronze State	Seizo Taguchi	Local
Gwen Riordan	Bronze State	Margo Miranda	Local
Lawrie Hall	Regional	Kerry Barridge	Local
Matthew Geeve	Bronze Regional	Mary Hirsch	Club
Lyn McLain	Bronze Regional	Irene Hall	Club
Carolyn McCusker	Bronze Regional	David Cumming	Graduate
Jake Andrew	Regional	Sue Le Busque	Graduate
Tammy Hubbard	Regional	Donald Le Busque	Graduate
Midge Spice	Regional		

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



ABF MASTERPOINTS NEWS

1000 Club

The ABF Council have confirmed a recommendation that players who have earned 1000+ masterpoints, irrespective of the colour of the masterpoints, be recognised. These players will be awarded a certificate designating the player as a member of the 'One Thousand Club'.

Players who achieve 1000+ masterpoints, providing they do not achieve the rank of Grand Master at the same time, will receive this recognition. Otherwise, they will simply receive their Grand Master certificate.

Note: The 1000 Club is purely a recognition certificate, not a new Master rank.

Star(*) Master Ranks

Some of the Master Ranks previously were denoted by either 1-star (*) or 2-star (**) rankings. To bring the nomenclature in line with that used for Life and Grand Masters, the ABF have renamed the 1-star (*) ranks as Bronze, and the 2-star (**) ranks as Silver.

The full list of changes is below:

NEW NAME	OLD NAME
Bronze Local	*Local
Silver Local	** Local
Bronze Regional	* Regional
Bronze State	*State
Bronze National	*National
Silver National	**National

STEPBRIDGE TOURNAMENT FEES

Green Point Session: 50 Participation Points

Red Point Session: 75 Participation Points

WEEKLY SESSIONS

Monday-Friday

Open: 10.20am, 1pm, 4pm & 8pm

Restricted: 1.15pm

Novice: 10.30am (Monday-Friday)

& 7.45pm (Monday, Tuesday & Thursday)

Saturday-Sunday

Open: 1pm, 4pm & 8pm

Open *Individual*: 10.20am

Restricted: 1.15pm

Novice: 10.30am & 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 admin@stepbridge.com.au with the subject title of the email being Newsletter.

