

November 2024

Message from the President

Dear members,

Since our last newsletter, the club held its Melbourne Cup Day session. My thanks goes to Chris Snook for directing the session, Brenda McClean and Greg McCarron for looking after the social aspects of the day and Sarah Zoral for her behind the scenes work prior to the day.



Due to the unforeseen circumstances with the availability of one of our Audio Video Tournament Directors and the very low numbers in the Novice Grade of the Sunday 2.30pm session, the Novice Grade will be discontinued for the time being. Novices who have been playing in the Sunday 2.30pm session have the option of either playing in the Restricted Grade at 2.30pm or joining a new Novice session at 4.10pm on Sundays.

For our Home Club Members, there will be a slight increase in your membership fees from \$40 to \$45 in 2025. This is due to the increase in the ABF capitation fee / levy.

Congratulations to our Under 50 and Under 300 teams who have now qualified to the Final in the ABF Club Teams Knockout in the perspective grades, which will be held on Tuesday 10 December.

A reminder that our December Congress is coming up on Saturday 14 December with Open & Restricted Pairs. This Congress will use the Audio Video technology. Please submit your entry as soon as possible. For those who do not want to play in the Congress, there will be Open sessions at 1.00pm and 8.00pm on this day.

On Christmas Day we will have our usual 4.00pm and 8.00pm Open Red Masterpoint sessions. As has been the practice over the last few years, these sessions will be free, as a Christmas Gift from StepBridge. We will also have our late night New Year's Eve session at 10.30pm on 31 December to bring in 2025.

Committee

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Message from the President cont.

In our 10.00am Open Individual session there are times when the Tournament Director has to fill the table, as we require full tables in the Individual session to allow the movement to run smoothly. We would like to introduce a spare player roster. It would be that the rostered spare player for the day would come along to the Open Individual session and sit on the side prior to the session. Once the session has started, the Tournament Director would determine if the spare player is required to play to fill a table and added the spare player if required. The spare player would be credited a free game after the session. If not required, the spare player could leave and a free game will be credited after the session. Please note, there is NO GUARANTEE that the spare player will receive a game on the day they are rostered as a spare player. If you are interested in being a roster spare player for the Open Individual session, please contact support@stepbridge.com.au

As some of you will be aware, a 60+ year's old institution will be coming to an end in 2025 with the last Gold Coast Congress to be held. This has come about following a recent notice from the Gold Coast Convention and Exhibition Centre that the venue is fully booked throughout 2026 except for one week during the last week of the January school holidays. Over the last few years, StepBridge has had a tradition of a Hospitality Evening during the Gold Coast Congress. It would be wonderful if we held one last Hospitality Event in 2025. For this, we need assistance from members to assist with organising and running the event. If you are willing to assist, please let me know.

As promised, please find below and on the next page photos from my recent trip to the UK and Paris.

Happy Bridging,
Chris Larter (ChrisLar)



Christmas Day Sessions

On Christmas Day, StepBridge will hold the following two bridge sessions only.

4.00pm OPEN (Red Points)

8.00pm OPEN (Red Points)

As a Christmas Gift from StepBridge, these sessions will be FREE.



New Year's Eve Session

To celebrate the end of 2024 and bring in 2025, we will be holding a special New Year's Eve session at 10.30pm AEDT on Sunday 31 December.

This special session will be a Red Point session.

Come and join in the fun with your StepBridge friends!

From the Treasurer

All of our Home Club Members as well as long term members of StepBridge will be receiving their renewal notice at the start of December for membership for the next 12 months. Please remember to include your specific reference number with your payment.

A reminder to Associate members who have joined since COVID that your memberships will be throughout the year around the time when you joined StepBridge Australia.

For anyone who is not playing at their F2F (Face-to-Face) Club anymore, you are welcome to make StepBridge your Home Club. Let us know before renewing and we'll advise amended payment details. We charge \$45 for Home Club membership which includes ABF & SABF Levies.



CLUB PLAYING NUMBERS

Dec-24		Nov-24		Oct-24	8720	Sep-24	8,310
Aug-24	9,136	Jul-24	9,812	Jun-24	9,206	May-24	9,604
Apr-24	9,602	Mar-24	9,092	Feb-24	8,982	Jan-24	10,610
Dec-23	10,065	Nov-23	9,345	Oct-23	9,318	Sep-23	8,952
Aug-23	9,382	Jul-23	9,924	Jun-23	8,698	May-23	8,858
Apr-23	9,354	Mar-23	9,372	Feb-23	8,346	Jan-23	9,804
Dec-22	9,142	Nov-22	9,090	Oct-22	9,036	Sep-22	8,594
Aug-22	9,631	Jul-22	10,344	Jun-22	9,322	May-22	9,980
Apr-22	9,788	Mar-22	10,386	Feb-22	9,854	Jan-22	12,428

New Players

Welcome to the following new players that started to play in the second half of October and the first half of November. Please be supportive and friendly to these players. If these people are single players looking for a game, we encourage you to volunteer your time and team up with these new members.

OPEN

AlastaiL JimW MarnieL RaviS

RESTRICTED

GeoffKe

NOVICE

AmandaF Andrew9 BronwynS Charles DebbieF GabrielC
 JanFree JudySt MarilynH MelR Mereana NeilJ
 PaulR SueJa SusanWa ThomasMa TriciaSc Wendy1

Instructions

Setting a New Password

StepBridge uses encrypted passwords as an extra layer of protection for your account.

Support team members are unable to view your password. This means that if you forget your password, or would like to change your password, you will need to follow the instructions in the link below.

<https://www.stepbridge.com.au/set-new-password/>

Tip

It is good to restart your PC or Mac regularly to keep performance at its best. A reminder to iPad and Tablet users to restart prior to your tournament, especially Audio Video tournaments, so everything is fresh and ready to go.

Melbourne Cup Day Session

On Tuesday the 5th of November we held our traditional Melbourne Cup Session, a red point event.

Thanks go to TDChrisS for directing, TDBrenda for managing the social aspect and judging the hats that were on display, and TDGreg for running the backend processes. Thanks also to TDSarah for organizing the day.

We had a total of 22 tables, and everyone received a free entry into our Melbourne Cup sweep. The prizes for the sweep consisted of the table fees paid by members for a total prize pool of 6,640 pp. 1st place winners shared 55% of the pool, 2nd place shared 25% , 3rd place shared 15% and last place shared 5%. Congratulation to the winners!!

Sweeps winners:

11. KNIGHT'S CHOICE (6)
 J: Robbie Dolan
 T: J Symons & S Laxon
 ★

1st 910pp

**LeonieE
MattS
Micaela
Wicky**

4. WARP SPEED (3)
 J: Akira Sugawara
 T: Noboru Takagi
 ★★

2nd 415pp

**HerbNeu
LucyD
Savitri
SusanHam**

12. OKITA SOUSHI (10)
 J: Jamie Kah
 T: Claron Maher
 ★★

3rd 250pp

**AnneHe
FrancesP
RitaJo
WendyH**

24. TRUST IN YOU (5)
 J: Mark Du Plessis
 T: B Wallace & G Cooksley
 ★

Last 85pp

**CassMi
JohHanks
SeanQ
ThaisMP**

Fashions at the table:



1st MariaCh 100pp



2nd JudyWilk 50pp



Best man ColMor 50pp



ThaisMP



ChrisJoh



DavidHan



LouiseBe



SandiPir



RayJo



RoseP

StepBridge Australia DECEMBER CONGRESS

Open & Restricted
(An approved SABF red point congress)



Online on the StepBridge Platform

SATURDAY 14th DECEMBER 2024 – SWISS BUTLER IMP PAIRS

Directors	Alan Bustany
Movement	Swiss Butler IMP Pairs – Two separate fields of Open & Restricted The number of boards and rounds will be at the discretion of the Director and StepBridge.
Conditions of Entry	SABF Approved Red Masterpoint Congress conducted under the Laws of Duplicate Bridge. Masterpoints not guaranteed unless ABF number is provided. Green, blue & red systems, and Brown Sticker conventions and treatments, permitted in the Open Grade. Blue & green systems permitted in the Restricted Grade. No Yellow (HUM) systems in this Congress. Novice players must have fewer than 100 Masterpoints as at 30 September 2024. Restricted players must have fewer than 300 Masterpoints as at 30 September 2024. Each pair must have 2 systemically identical current system cards. Players are responsible for ensuring their system classification is correct. Audio Video will be used. Players are responsible for ensuring their Audio Video works.
Start Time	11am (ACT, NSW, VIC & TAS) / 10.30am (SA) / 10am (QLD) / 9.30am (NT) / 8am (WA)
Closing Date	Thursday 12th December 2024, 5.00pm Australian Eastern Daylight Savings Time. Late entries accepted at the discretion of the Director and StepBridge.
Entries & Entry List	https://www.myabf.com.au/events/congress/view/1839 If you have not used MyABF before, register for MyABF via the following link: https://www.myabf.com.au/accounts/register
Entry Fee	400 Participation Points per Player per Day. Select "Club PP System" in MyABF for payment. The Participation Points will be deducted from your account on the day of the congress. Please ensure you have enough Participation Points in your account.
Prizes	Cash Prizes will be awarded in the separate fields. 1st \$300, 2nd \$200 & 3rd \$150, subject to 20 tables in the particular field. Should there be less than 20 tables in the particular field, the above prizes will be reassessed & reduced. Prize for Best Novice Pair in the Restricted Grade.
StepBridge Username Registration	All players must be registered with StepBridge Australia. Details on registration at www.stepbridge.com.au If registering solely for this Congress, you can have temporary membership with no membership fee payable and in addition 150 free Participation Points to familiarise yourself with the StepBridge Australia platform. You will need order and pay \$20 for purchase of your Participation Points for this event. Account Name: StepBridge Australia BSB: 012013 Account Number: 302538455 StepBridge enquiries to support@stepbridge.com.au

The fourth month of the 2024 ABF Club Teams Knock was played on RealBridge on Tuesday evening 12 November.

The following players are representing StepBridge and will play the final round on 10 December.

Below are our Teams, and the Results following the fourth evening.

Category	Players	
Open	Florence Maltby (Florence) Ziauddin Kazi (Ziauddin) Denise Strain (DeniseSt) Frank Hardiman (FrankH) Barbara O'Shea (BarbO) Kevin Willcocks (KevinWic)	Our Open, U750 and U100 teams are in the top half of the field in the Consolation Swiss Results
Under 750	Eamonn McCabe (EamonMcC) Gary Frampton (GaryFr) Joann Theriault (JoannT) Edward Ellice-Flint (EdwardEF)	Our U300 team won their semi-final match and will be playing in the final against Wagga Wagga Results
Under 300	Chris Farr (ChrisF) Don Saunders (DonS) Mike Morrissey (MikeMorr) Libby Heyward (LibHeywa)	Our U50 won their semi-final match and will be playing in the final against the Victorian team Results
Under 100	Sue Stevenson (SStevens) GP Macolino (GPMaco) Joan Lenehan (JoanLe) Frances Pope (FrancisP)	<i>Congratulations on your performance to date!</i>
Under 50	John Hewitt (JohnHew) Cheryl Buttner (CherylBu) Ann Rinder (AnnRin) Ruth Harvey (RuthHar)	<i>We wish our teams well for the last round, to be held on December 10.</i>



Introduction of a Tournament Rating

On 1 September 2024, we introduced a tournament rating. This new rating provides a better way to determine the level of individual players and pairs. This allows us to make much more accurate matches of players based on their level.

Key points:

- The tournament rating is visible during all StepBridge tournaments.
- You have a personal rating, as well as a partnership rating with all partners you play with more frequently (minimum 100 boards)
- The pairs tournament rating shown is the rating you have with the partner you are currently registered with.
- Your tournament rating is based solely on your performance in tournaments.
- Both the division into sections and the pairing with a casual partner are now based on this tournament rating.
- In the near future, you will also be able to view your rating in the StepBridge portal. You can then also see how your rating has changed after playing a tournament.

Details about the tournament rating:

- The tournament rating is comparable to the ELO rating widely used in chess.
- We look at individual boards and the players at your table, not at the tournament result as a whole.
- For each board, we calculate an expected value, based on the rating difference between you (and your partner) and your opponents.
- The greater the difference between your actual result and the expected value, the greater the impact on your rating.
- Example: If NS has an expected value of 55% against a specific pair, they need to score more than 55% to increase in rating. In this case, EW would increase with a score above 45%.
- Your initial tournament rating is based on the boards you have played in the past two years.
- If you have played at least 100 boards with a specific partner, we use your joint rating. Otherwise, we use the average of your individual ratings.
- Each board played counts towards both your individual rating and your rating with your current partner.

We hope this new feature gives you extra insight into your tournament performance and further enhances your tournament experience.

Enjoy your bridge!

The StepBridge Team

Monthly Awards: October 2024

Award	Class	Rank	Score	Tourn	Players
Highest Player Average in October 2024	Overall	1	58.93	21	Philip Bapty (PhilIB)
		2	58.04	7	Nick Cantatore (NickCa)
		3	57.95	7	Richard Arnold (RichArn)
	Open	1	58.93	21	Philip Bapty (PhilIB)
		2	58.04	7	Nick Cantatore (NickCa)
		3	57.95	7	Richard Arnold (RichArn)
	Restricted	1	57.58	20	Glen Chick (GlenC)
		2	55.89	25	Steven Kemp (StevenK)
		3	55.58	20	Jian Williams (JianW)
	Novice	1	55.71	8	Keith Hill (KeithH)
		1	55.71	8	Michelle Hill (MichellH)
		3	54.62	7	Danny Rhodes (DannyRh)
	Open IMPs	1	32	6	Rex Livingston (RexLiv)
		2	28	6	Sebastian Wright (SebW)
		3	22	7	Abigail Wanigaratne (AbbyW)
	Open	1	56.63	6	Tien Chey (TienC)
Highest Pairs Average in October 2024	Individual	2	56.55	8	John Friesen (JohnFri)
		3	55.41	18	Jurate Laisve (JurateL)
	Overall	1	60.74	12	Rez Karim (MeemKar), Philip Bapty (PhilIB)
		2	59.64	6	Jian Williams (JianW), Glen Chick (GlenC)
		3	58.37	6	Steven Kemp (StevenK), Glen Chick (GlenC)
	Open	1	60.74	12	Rez Karim (MeemKar), Philip Bapty (PhilIB)
		2	58.04	7	Joann Theriault (JoannT), Nick Cantatore (NickCa)
		3	57.95	7	Herb Neumeister (HerbNeu), Richard Arnold
	Restricted	1	59.64	6	Jian Williams (JianW), Glen Chick (GlenC)
		2	58.37	6	Steven Kemp (StevenK), Glen Chick (GlenC)
		3	54.69	9	David Hancock (DavidHan), Joan Lenehan (JoanLe)
	Novice	1	55.71	8	Michelle Hill (MichellH), Keith Hill (KeithH)
		2	54.24	6	Patricia Fulton (PatFul), Ronnie Malthouse
		3	52.87	6	Jennifer Bissett (JenniBi), Neil McMaster (NeilMc)
	Open IMPs	1	15	6	Richard Lawrie (Ricky), Christopher Johnston
		2	14	7	Margaret Dyer (MargDy), Hans Van Weeren
		3	7	9	Annegrete Kolding (AnneK), Heidi Colenbrander

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 prizes are marked in red text below. Congratulations!

Award	Class	Rank	Score	Tourn	Players
<i>Player Who Has Played the Most Tournaments in October 2024</i>	Overall			80	Dianne Dwyer (DianneD)
				79	Elizabeth McNeill (ElizaMc)
				64	Elsie Chua (ElsieC)
	Open			70	Elizabeth McNeill (ElizaMc)
				66	Dianne Dwyer (DianneD)
				42	Marieta Borthwick (MarietaB)
	Restricted			29	Rhonda Henry (Rhonda)
				25	Steven Kemp (StevenK)
				23	David Hancock (DavidHan)
	Novice			25	Mary Hinves (MaryH)
				18	Cheryl Buttner (CherylBu)
				18	Helen Thomas (HelenT)
	Open IMPs			10	Delma Casabene (DelmaCa)
				10	Hans Van Weeren (HansVanW)
				10	Sandi Pirozzo (SandiPir)
	Open			31	Christopher Raisin (ChrisRai)
	Individual			30	Elsie Chua (ElsieC)
				22	Jude Brown (JudeB)

Award	Class	Rank	Score	Tourn	Players
Pair Who Has Played the Most Tournaments in October 2024	Overall			30	Heidi Colenbrander (HeidiC), Marieta Borthwick (MarietaB)
				26	Robert Stammel (RobS), Claire Stammel (ClaireS)
				23	Megan Grant (MeganGra), Barbara Williams (BarbWill)
	Open			30	Heidi Colenbrander (HeidiC), Marieta Borthwick (MarietaB)
				23	Megan Grant (MeganGra), Barbara Williams (BarbWill)
				22	Gillian Bugeaney (GillBu), Gayle Keenan (GayleK)
	Restricted			16	Rhonda Henry (Rhonda), Peter Thorpe (PeterTh)
				11	Dave Bright (DaveB), Lorna Bright (LornaB)
				10	Dianne Holst (DianneHo), Robert Ford (RobertFo)
	Novice			14	John Hewitt (JohnHew), Cheryl Buttner (CherylBu)
				8	Michelle Hill (MichellH), Keith Hill (KeithH)
				7	Kay Bennetts (KayBenn), Lizzie Rasheed (LizzieR)
	Open IMPs			9	Diva Hatfield (DivaH), Richard Gilbert (RichardG)
				9	Annegrete Kolding (AnneK), Heidi Colenbrander (HeidiC)
				8	Robert Stammel (RobS), Claire Stammel (ClaireS)

Award	Class	Rank	Score	Tourn	Players
Most Improved Player in October 2024	Overall	1	7.64	7	Richard Arnold (RichArn)
		2	6.8	7	Mary Hossack (MaryHo)
		3	6.7	8	Lesley Gunson (LesleyG)
	Open	1	7.64	7	Richard Arnold (RichArn)
		2	6.7	8	Lesley Gunson (LesleyG)
		3	4.32	14	Barbara Callan (BarbC)
	Restricted	1	5.2	10	Frank Johnson (FrankJo)
		2	3.8	6	Dot Slattery (DotS)
		3	3.63	9	Denise McTaggart (DeniseM)
	Novice	1	5.92	11	Julia Collins (Julia)
		2	5.58	12	Christine Chodasewicz (ChrisCho)
		3	5.26	9	Karen Hopkins (KarenH)
	Open IMPs	1	0.19	8	Elizabeth McNeill (ElizaMc)
		2	0.18	9	Frederick Harrison (FredHar)
		3	0.15	10	Hans Van Weeren (HansVanW)
	Open Indi-	1	5.23	18	Jurate Laisve (JurateL)
Most Improved Pair in October 2024		2	4.4	12	Marina Green (MarinaG)
		3	3.69	6	Tien Chey (TienC)
	Overall	1	7.55	7	Herb Neumeister (HerbNeu), Richard Arnold (RichArn)
		2	6.7	8	Lesley Gunson (LesleyG), Larissa Cowlshaw (LarissaC)
		3	4.78	6	Patricia Fulton (PatFul), Ronnie Malthouse (RonnieM)
	Open	1	7.55	7	Herb Neumeister (HerbNeu), Richard Arnold (RichArn)
		2	6.7	8	Lesley Gunson (LesleyG), Larissa Cowlshaw (LarissaC)
		3	3.98	7	June Breguet (JuneB), Barbara Callan (BarbC)
	Restricted	1	3.92	8	Peter Westmoreland (PeterWes), Denise McTaggart (DeniseM)
		2	2.76	6	Bev Cleary (BevClea), Phillip Carter (PhillCar)
		3	2.75	7	Diane Beasley (DianeB), Tony Plummer (TonyP)
	Novice	1	4.04	6	Patricia Fulton (PatFul), Ronnie Malthouse (RonnieM)
		2	3.75	7	Kay Bennetts (KayBenn), Lizzie Rasheed (LizzieR)
	Open IMPs	1	0.12	7	Margaret Dyer (MargDy), Hans Van Weeren (HansVanW)
		2	0.06	6	Delma Casabene (DelmaCa), Anne Morris (AnneMorr)
		2	0.06	9	Diva Hatfield (DivaH), Richard Gilbert (RichardG)

Masterpoint Promotions

October 2024

Thomas, Colin	Grand	Buckton, Janet	Silver Local
Binsted, Rod	Gold Life	Buell, Christina	Silver Local
Hohnen, Henrietta	Gold Life	Griffin, Geoff	Silver Local
Little, Helen	Gold Life	Lewis, Connie	Silver Local
White, Gwen	Gold Life	McCullough, Tim	Silver Local
Clark, Raelene	Bronze Life	Reddy, Maureen	Silver Local
Gaskill, Deanne	Bronze Life	Sisson, Andrew	Silver Local
Owen, David	Life	Armenis, Theo	Bronze Local
Steward, Janice	Life	Morgan, Trefor	Bronze Local
Chantler, Rhonda	Bronze National	Niland, Helen	Bronze Local
Clare, Jackin	Bronze National	Brown, Eris	Local
Finlay-Jones, John	Bronze National	Fowler, Julie	Local
Gissing, Joyanne	Bronze National	Holman, Amy	Local
Saunders, Don	Bronze National	Horsley, Louise	Local
Sims, Alan	National	Horsley, Patrick	Local
Fleming, Simon	Bronze State	Jarvis, Ian	Local
Friesen, Sandra	Bronze State	Legoe, Rosie	Local
Fuller, Bronwyn	Bronze State	Gdak, Michael	Club
Bock, Kathy	State	Iverach, Melissa	Club
Mathie, Pamela	State	Jasotharan, Shan	Club
McGonigal, Jean	State	Rooney, Jane	Club
Low, Gek	Bronze Regional	Yee, Barbara	Club
Antropov, Vladimir	Regional	Cooke, Robyn	Graduate
Forby, Lyn	Regional	Griffiths, Peter John	Graduate
Gould, Diana	Regional	Kolbe, Cherryl	Graduate
Griplas, Helen	Regional	Le Clercq, Dominic	Graduate
Jarvis, Beverly	Regional	Lomax, Susan	Graduate
Kroon, Jennifer	Regional	McCauley, Anne Maree	Graduate
Nichols, Caroline	Regional	Wotton, Bruce	Graduate
Thackeray, Jenny	Regional		
Wilmott, Bill	Regional		



Congratulations!



Deck the Halls with Deals

A Bridge Christmas Party



Picture it: carols echoing, twinkling lights, and the scent of cinnamon. Special guests arrive, sing merrily. After lunch, they'll play bridge, their cards dancing like gum leaves. Cheers to Yuletide magic Down Under

🎵 "12 Deals of Bridge" 🎵

(Verse 1) On the first deal of bridge, my partner gave to me, A singleton ace in hearts, oh glee!

(Verse 2) On the second deal of bridge, my dummy laid it down, Two finesses working, and a singleton ace in hearts, oh glee!

(Verse 3) On the third deal of bridge, my opponents bid with flair, Three no-trump contracts, two finesses working, and a singleton ace in hearts, oh glee!

(Verse 4) On the fourth deal of bridge, my declarer play was fine, Four suits in harmony, three no-trump contracts, two finesses working, and a singleton ace in hearts, oh glee!

(Verse 5) On the fifth deal of bridge, my slam bid soared so high, Five aces shining, four suits in harmony, three no-trump contracts, two finesses working, and a singleton ace in hearts, oh glee!

(Verse 6) On the sixth deal of bridge, my trump suit broke so sweet, Six tricks in spades, five aces shining, four suits in harmony, three no-trump contracts, two finesses working, and a singleton ace in hearts, oh glee!

(Verse 7) On the seventh deal of bridge, my squeeze play left them stunned, Seven winners dancing, six tricks in spades, five aces shining, four suits in harmony, three no-trump contracts, two finesses working, and a singleton ace in hearts, oh glee!

(Verse 8) On the eighth deal of bridge, my opponents whispered low, Eight tricks they needed, seven winners dancing, six tricks in spades, five aces shining, four suits in harmony, three no-trump contracts, two finesses working, and a singleton ace in hearts, oh glee!

(Verse 9) On the ninth deal of bridge, my grand slam bid was bold, Nine tricks assured, eight tricks they needed, seven winners dancing, six tricks in spades, five aces shining, four suits in harmony, three no-trump contracts, two finesses working, and a singleton ace in hearts, oh glee!

(Verse 10) On the tenth deal of bridge, my squeeze play came alive, Ten cards in sequence, nine tricks assured, eight tricks they needed, seven winners dancing, six tricks in spades, five aces shining, four suits in harmony, three no-trump contracts, two finesses working, and a singleton ace in hearts, oh glee!

(Verse 11) On the eleventh deal of bridge, my opponents sighed in defeat, Eleven tricks taken, ten cards in sequence, nine tricks assured, eight tricks they needed, seven winners dancing, six tricks in spades, five aces shining, four suits in harmony, three no-trump contracts, two finesses working, and a singleton ace in hearts, oh glee!

(Verse 12) On the twelfth deal of bridge, my partner grinned with pride, Twelve tricks victorious, eleven tricks taken, ten cards in sequence, nine tricks assured, eight tricks they needed, seven winners dancing, six tricks in spades, five aces shining, four suits in harmony, three no-trump contracts, two finesses working, and a singleton ace in hearts, oh glee!



Every element, from the heading to this very sentence, is AI-generated.

Partnership Platform

The logo for Partners 4 Bridge features a green background. On the left, there are two white squares: the top one contains a small red heart, and the bottom one contains a small black spade. To the right of these squares, the words "Partners" and "4 Bridge" are written in a large, white, sans-serif font, stacked vertically.

I took my first Bridge lesson, in London, in 1980. Hooked from day one I had no idea I would still be *learning Bridge nearly 45 years later. I don't think I ever play a session without learning something.* Fast forward to **Partners4Bridge**, another learning experience. What, you may ask, is a Bridge player doing setting up a Bridge site for people seeking partners? Like on -line Bridge it's something I wanted, for myself, for the many times when I am without a partner for a particular situation. And listening to other players, around many tables, in many different clubs I believe I am not alone. But, just like Bridge, there is much to learn. And, unlike Bridge, there's not a lot of information to guide the novice.

So let me shout out to those players who have been kind enough to let us know what is working, what is not working and how we can improve. We salute you. Sitting on this side of the fence we can be unaware of how players experience the site. We need to hear from you. We have been making improvements, every month, and will continue to do so. It will take some time. Like Bridge, you don't learn it all after your initial round of lessons. So, please, let's hear from you. We can only improve if you shine your lights and expose the flaws.

Jay Novak (JayN)
Partners4Bridge

The logo for Partners 4 Bridge features a green background. On the left, there are two white squares: the top one contains a small red heart, and the bottom one contains a small black spade. To the right of these squares, the words "Partners" and "4 Bridge" are written in a large, white, sans-serif font, stacked vertically.

Connect

Forge partnerships

And build bridges to new
opportunities

On **partners4bridge.com**



For feedback, enquiries and support,
email us at
admin@partners4bridge.com

Partnership Platform - Meet the Member

I played opposite **Larry Bryant** in the recent Gosford Congress and asked if he played on **StepBridge**. I think I may have outed one of the founding members. Larry has been a member since 2005! Talk about an early adopter! Let's hear more from him.

When did you start playing Bridge, and why?

NSW Uni at the start of the 70's had a students' cafe called the "golf house" where there were nonstop gambling games: poker, rickety Kate, etc. and bridge. Some really good players came from there including my first partner, Terry Brown. We decided to have a go at Don Evans' bridge club at Bondi and everyone thought we would be slaughtered. When we won, it cost Tony Ong a lot of money as he had backed himself odds-on. We were then both hooked for life.

Tell us about your Club and why we should visit? Central Coast Leagues Club Bridge Club. The standard is high and it's a great community.

Your best Bridge tip or advice from an Expert "play for show, bid for dough". I don't know who said that, but it's more important to be in the right contract than to make a clever play or to make a bad one. We can thank Cohen and Bergen for the rule that helps that happen. As far as play goes, maybe try not to take an unnecessary finesse if there's another way first, such as elimination and throw-in or a squeeze. Squeezes are fun!

And finally, Surprise us. Tell us something about yourself that we would never guess.

Most people who know me already know I am a croquet tragic. They may not know that I am a drummer. I was also lead singer in a blues rock band way back (probably why I am going deaf now).



Remember, It's free to Register and use the platform.

Head to www.partners4bridge.com or use the QR code on the previous page. Tell us a bit about yourself and sit back and see if we can find you a match. Use the platform to message each other and discuss system, availability, etc.

As an incentive, StepBridge is offering a bonus of 100 Participation Points (credits) for any StepBridge player who supports this exciting initiative.

P4B will share names only of all sign-ups and your credits will be allocated.

ADELAIDE BRIDGE CENTRE AND
BRIDGE AT BEAUMONT INVITE
YOU TO THEIR

YEAR END BRIDGE FESTIVAL

at Adelaide Bridge Centre
548 Portrush Road, Glenunga

\$65 per player per day
includes bridge,
a light catered lunch
and a hot drink

DECEMBER 29: MP PAIRS
DECEMBER 30: TEAMS
DECEMBER 31: IMP PAIRS

9:30am - 5pm each day
plus drinks at end of play
on New Year's Eve

Entries via MyABF - contact
Barbara for assistance on
0437 919 928 or speak with
David or Barbara in person

Limited to 20 tables per day





63RD INTERNATIONAL

Gold Coast Bridge Congress

Saturday 1 - 8 February 2025

**VENUE: Gold Coast Convention Centre,
Broadbeach, Queensland, Australia**

QBA MANAGER: Kim Ellaway
manager@qldbridge.com.au
+61 412 064 903 qldbridge.com.au/gcc



Theme: Silly Shoes and Kinky Boots





Visit Adelaide for the
2025 Autumn Nationals

Thursday 1st May - Monday 5th May 2025

Ridley Centre, Adelaide Showground, Wayville

**Gold Masterpoints awarded
PQPs in Open and Mixed events**

**David Lusk Rookie Butler Swiss Pairs
Butler Swiss Pairs (Open, Mixed, Under Life, Under Grand)
Swiss Teams (Open, Under Life, Under Grand)**

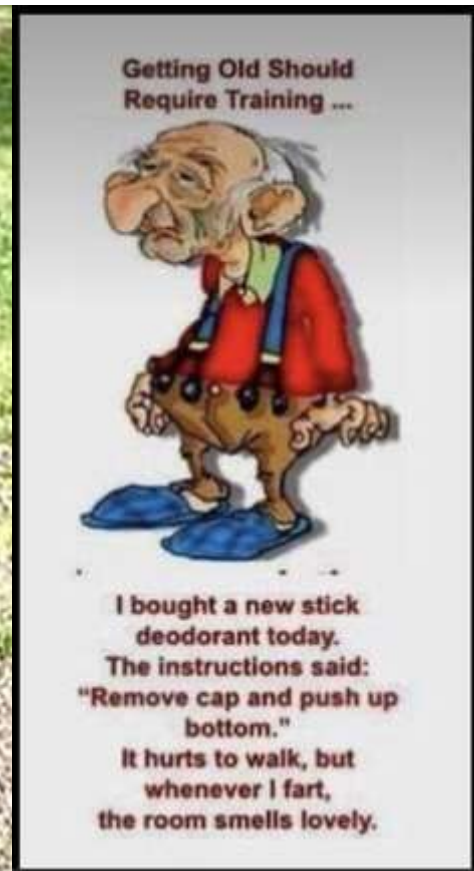
Final only on Monday - no Consolation

Tournament Organiser: Barbara Travis
Phone: 0437 919 928 | **Email:** anot@sabf.asn.au

To enter or for more information, see MyABF



One day you're young...
the next you're sitting
on the edge of the bed like this:



Test drove a Jaguar
today. Very fast but the
ride was bumpy and the
saddle kept falling off. I
also think he tried to
bite me.

Please send your funnies through by emailing
support@stepbridge.com.au with "newsletter" in the
subject line

StepBridge Tournament Fees

Green Point Session: 50 Participation Points

Red Point Session: 75 Participation Points

Session Times

All sessions are Pairs unless otherwise stated.

Open: 1.00pm (Everyday)

2.30pm (Sunday - *All Around Australia*)

4.00pm (Everyday)

8.00pm (Tuesday-Sunday)

Open Individual: 10.00am (Everyday)

Open Teams: 8.00pm (Monday)

Restricted: 1.15pm (Monday - Saturday)

2.30pm (Sunday - *All Around Australia*)

7.45pm (Wednesday & Friday)

Novice: 4.10pm (Everyday)

7.45pm (Tuesday & Thursday)

IMPs Sessions

Tuesday: 8.00pm Open

Thursday: 8.00pm Open

Contributions to the Newsletter

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

- Do you have an interesting hand from 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**.

Facebook

Visit our StepBridge Australia Facebook page www.facebook.com/Stepbridge.com.au/

Upcoming Red Point Sessions

November

Thursday 21 November

- 1.00pm Open & 1.15pm Restricted

Sunday 24 November

- 2.30pm Open & Restricted

Tuesday 26 November

- 7.45pm Novice & 8.00pm Open

Thursday 28 November

- 4.00pm Open & 4.10pm Novice

December

Sunday 1 December

- 2.30pm Open & Restricted

Wednesday 4 December

- 10:00am Open Individual

Saturday 7 December

- 1.00pm Open & 1.15pm Restricted

Sunday 8 December

- 2.30pm Open & Restricted

Tuesday 10 December

- 4.00pm Open & 4.10pm Novice

Thursday 12 December

- 7.45pm Novice & 8.00pm Open

Sunday 15 December

- 2.30pm Open & Restricted

Thursday 19 December

- 10:00am Open Individual

Sunday 22 December

- 2.30pm Open & Restricted

Wednesday 25 December

- 4pm Open (Christmas Day Session)

- 8pm Open (Christmas Day Session)

Thursday 26 December

- 1.00pm Open & 1.15pm Restricted

Sunday 29 December

- 2.30pm Open & Restricted

Tuesday 31 December

- 10:30pm Welcome to 2025 (NYE Session)