



## NEWSLETTER July 2017

### From the President

As most members are aware, following the AGM and a Special Management Committee Meeting (SMCM) in May, Jennifer and I headed north to Broome for our annual 'winter getaway'.

I would like to acknowledge the support of members who elected me as President, and reiterate my commitment that I am the President for all members.

At the May SMCM the following sub committees were appointed: Building Sub Committee, Tournament Sub Committee, Education Sub Committee and Social Sub Committee. Club Recorders, Sheryl Coates and Graeme Perry were also reappointed. A list of all Sub Committee members will be placed on the Club's notice board.

The Club's new Rules, in accordance with the State Government's Associations Incorporation Act 2015, were presented at the AGM, and one amendment was required. This has been done, and the Rules have been lodged with the Department of Commerce.

The Club has signed the new Licence Agreement with the City of Mandurah, ensuring our long term security of tenure. The new Licence will run until to 20 January 2026 with an option to renew the licence from 21 January 2026 to 20 January 2037. This extension of five years to the previous term is in recognition of the Club's expenditure on the verandah project and redevelopment.

The City of Mandurah has advanced the Club the \$50,000, Interest Free loan fitout funds and a repayment schedule has been received. The first repayment of

\$5,000 is due on 13<sup>th</sup> October 2017, and thereafter six monthly, until the final payment on 13<sup>th</sup> April 2022.

The veranda enclosure continues, the new office is completed and operational. Unfortunately the works will not be completed in time for our Winter Swiss Pairs Congress 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> July. I look forward to the event, returning to Mandurah for a week commencing 4<sup>th</sup> July. Finally, a note on 'Bridge in Broome'.



Club members, Pam and Mike Wadsworth normally run this each Tuesday, and whilst they will not arrive until mid July, our small group commenced on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> June with 5.5 tables. Mandurah Club was once again well represented with Jenny Rees, Dean and Judith Gaskell and the McNamaras. Melville Club was represented by Ros Warnock, who is co-ordinating in the Wadsworth absence, and Annie and John Mulchay. Visitors from Victoria and NSW, along with members of other WA clubs made up our group. Club member Jenny Brown will be joining us next week.

Regrettably, despite best efforts and intentions, Broome locals do not appear interested in playing.

Unfortunately, whilst Jennifer and I were able to meet Harry and Lyn Waters for lunch, during their travel through the Kimberley, they weren't able to join us for bridge.

So members, if you are in Broome, even for a short stay, contact the Wadsworths or us, and join us for bridge on Tuesdays, or a social game.

Jim McNamara  
President.

### UPCOMING EVENTS 2017

<b>AUGUST</b>	From Mon 7 Aug	Jackpot Week
	Wednesday 16 Aug	Special Teams - 11am start
	Friday 25 Aug	Australia Wide Open Pairs
<b>SEPTEMBER</b>	From Mon 4 Sept	Jackpot Week
	Sat 2, 9, 16 & 23	Best 'Three of Four' event
	Thursday 14 Sept	Jack Rowse Novice Pairs - 2 sessions(<50 pts at July 1)
<b>OCTOBER</b>	From Mon 2 Oct	Jackpot Week
	Thur 5, 12, 19 & 26 Oct	Best "Three of Four" event
	Tues 10 Oct	Teams of three (11am start)
	Tues 17 & 24 Oct	Restricted Red point event (<300 pts at July 1)

## Competition Winners



The Restricted Red Point (Under 100 Masterpoints) competition in April was won by Kimberley Zhao and Josephine Dundas. Francisco Correa and Colleen Webb came second, and Clarice Smith and Diana Moorhouse were third.



In the Under 50 Masterpoints section, the winning team was Jill Dixon, Sandra Petterson, Peter Dixon and Lesley Simms.



The Club Teams Championship held in May was won by Roman Gdowski, Kathy Power, Clyde England and Phil Power. Runners up were Jo Dundas, Denise Sampson, Christine Leather and Gudrun Kemmer.



The winners of the Handicap Pairs championship held in June were Freda Badger and Doug Hardman. Runners up were Elizabeth Blow and Ivan Lewis, followed by Bev Ford and Margaret Busani third.



The winners of Friday's Best 3 out of 4 competition were Mike Mulholland and Frances Darnborough. Runners-up were Doug and Vera Hardman.

Congratulations to Mandurah pairs Ann Shalders and Sheryl Coates, and Gerald Merven and Patricia Anderson, who will represent Western Australia in the National Country GNOC finals in November. We wish them every success.

# Important Changes to the Laws

by Ton Kooijman - Laurie Kelso

From 1<sup>st</sup> August 2017, Australia starts to use the new 2017 Laws. We provide a very quick overview below.

When a player has given wrong information about a partnership agreement and becomes aware of it during the auction, the player is no longer obliged to rectify it immediately, but may wait till the auction is completed.

We have introduced the concept of a 'comparable call'. If a player replaces their illegal call with a comparable call, then the consequences will be less severe than in the present laws. We embarked upon this approach with insufficient bids in 2007 and have now extended it to calls out of rotation. An important benefit of this is that in most cases partner is no longer silenced for the entire auction, which in turn removes the need to select a unilateral (gambling) final action. This also will reduce the frequency of when a lead penalty applies and we have taken this opportunity to also make Law 26 less complicated.

The number of instances within the laws where a Regulating Authority is presented with an option to vary the default position has been reduced in an effort to ensure greater global uniformity in the way the Laws are applied.

One example of this is that defenders will now be permitted to ask one another about a possible revoke, irrespective of which Regulating Authority's auspices the event is being held under. Another is that the option to award split (rather than weighted) assigned adjusted scores has been removed.

All the Regulating Authority options are now presented such that the default position is that used in WBF events.

Dummy will now be permitted to prevent any player (previously it was just declarer) from committing an irregularity.

When a player has a penalty card, information related to that card is authorized for their partner as long as that card stays on the table. It becomes unauthorized when that card is played or taken back into the hand.

When both sides have revoked on the same trick and only one side has played to the next trick; both revokes must now be corrected.

When a player claims/concedes, both sides (all four players) may now agree to continue play, rather than summon the Director. If they do however agree to play on, then the table result will stand.

When a player makes a claim or concession, that player is now required to face his hand.

When there is a scoring error discovered after the correction period, that error may still be corrected, but only when the Director is satisfied beyond all reasonable doubt that a mistake has been made. To make this type of (late) correction, the Director will need the permission of the Tournament Organizer (but the involvement of the Regulating Authority is no longer required).

## Bridge Tips: The Rule of 22

Add together the number of HCP in the hand, plus the number of cards in the two longest suits, and the number quick tricks in the hand. If the resultant number is 22 or higher, then an opening bid is suggested (the choice of which bid depends on partnership agreement).

In 3<sup>rd</sup> seat the requirement may be lowered to 19.

Quick tricks are: AK=2, AQ=1.5, A=1, KQ=1, Kx(x)=0.5 (singleton K=0). This formula for evaluating opening bid strength is referred to by Ron Klinger as "Highly Cutie" (HI-LE QT): **H**igh card points + **L**ength count + **Q**uick Tricks.

The method attempts to improve the widely accepted "Rule of 20" by emphasizing the importance of defensive values in a one-level opening hand, and by assigning greater value to honour cards that work together in the same suit than to honours that are split between suits.

## Jack Rowse Novice Pairs - Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> September

Jack Rowse was a Director of the Club and an annual championship event has been dedicated in his memory. This year it takes place on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> September with a full day's bridge. It's a chance for less experienced players to gain Red points, as well as prize money, as only players with less than 50 Masterpoints (as at 1<sup>st</sup> July 2017) are eligible. It's a popular event, so make sure you put it in the diary now.

## Vale Brian Davies

Sadly Brian Davies passed away recently. He lived in the UK but regularly came to Mandurah to play during the UK's winter months. He was a proud, jovial Welshman and will be missed by his many friends at the Club.

## Cancer Council Biggest Morning Tea: Jenny McNamara

Unfortunately, a change of date, from Thursday to Tuesday, reduced attendance. Hopefully, next year, when the BMT returns to Thursday, our numbers will increase. Whilst our numbers were down those who attended had a great morning.



Club President Ann Shalders, opened the proceedings. Ann drew the Lucky Door Prize, a large box of chocolates, won by Colleen Webb, then revealed the first Lucky Guess \$100 winner, Lynda Ford. This \$100 was donated by the Ladies of the Monday afternoon social bridge group. The second \$100 winner was Pat Slater.

Once again, Jim was MC, and he and I then proceeded to draw raffle prize winners. Donations from Club members and local businesses resulted in over 80 prizes to be won. The first

number drawn was Frances Darnborough, who chose a huge wall clock suitable for the outside, donated by Jenny Slade. With so many prizes available, during the proceedings, Jim announced that anyone who had not won a prize to come forward and choose one.



Special thanks to Pam Gale, who worked very hard in securing prizes from local businesses - News Xpress at Halls Head; Nino's Fish Bar; Coles at Meadow Springs; Ugly Mug Café and Farmgate Fresh Produce. I appreciated her assistance in sorting and organising the Bring and Buy table and the Raffle Prizes.



A regular donor, Gabriella Perer was unable to attend due to being unwell. However,

she met Jim and I at the Club, with her donations of wine, hampers, doona, jewellery and two huge trays of tiramisu. Thank you so much for the generosity you and Mario extend to our fundraiser each year.



Penny Thomas' brother Vaune, owner of Hope Valley Nursery, has donated plants for sale each year, and this year we raised \$511.



To Diana Moorhouse and her 'kitchen crew' of Penny Thomas and Notta Davidson; Joy Hampson and Val Bell who sold the entrance tickets; Isobel and Warwick Jones for securing the Dan Murphy donation and running the Bring & Buy Table; Audrey Edwards our flower seller; Lynda Ford raffle seller and photographer; and to one and all who worked, donated, bought and bid, our most sincere thanks for the support to a really great cause.

Finally, we gratefully acknowledge our Sponsors and ask Members to support them:

Thai Silk Restaurant

Penang House

My Place for Hair, Halls Head

Hope Valley Nursery

News Express, Halls Head

Dan Murphys

Peel Family Zoo

Nino's Fish Bar

Farmgate Fresh Produce

Peel Flower House, Halls Head.

Mandurah Performing Arts Centre

Coles, Meadow Springs

## Your Management Committee 2017

At the AGM in May, Jim McNamara was elected President and Josephine Dundas Vice-President for the year 2017-18.

Other Management Committee members elected were:

Secretary: Pam Gale

Treasurer: Diana Schupp

Convener: Neville Walker

Masterpoint Secretary & Partner Coordinator: Joy Hampson

Assistant Treasurer: Alison Cullen

Committee Members: Les Cowcill, Ross Proudfoot and Colleen Webb



*Jim McNamara  
President*



*Colleen Webb  
New Committee Member*



*Jo Dundas  
Vice President*

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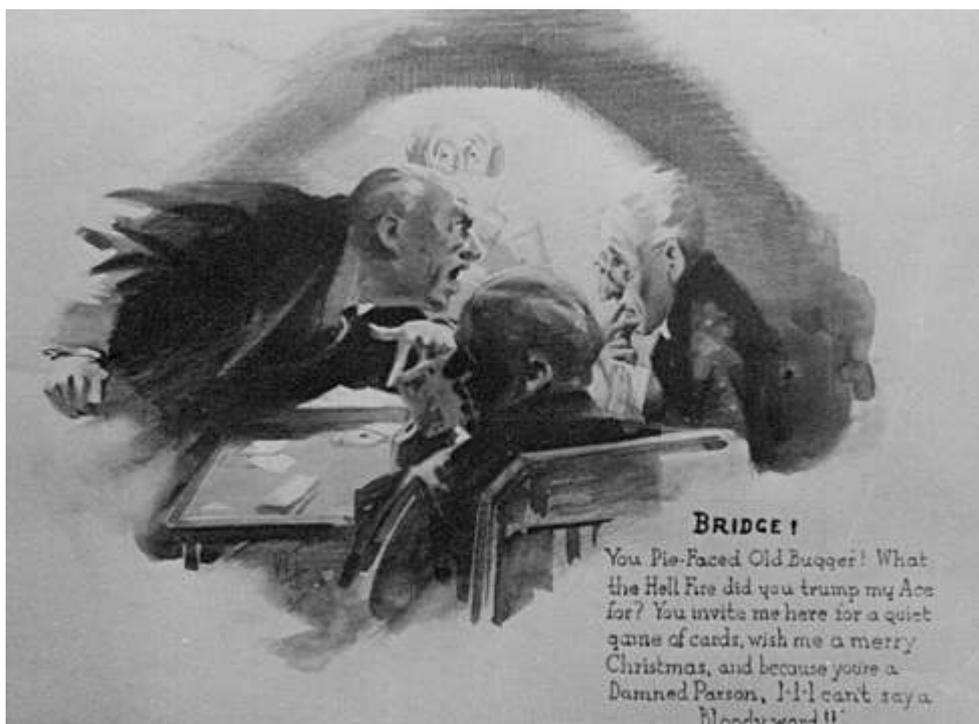


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## Stage 2 will be finished soon



Nothing changes!

## **Reflections on playing in Congresses, by Isobel Jones**

As we prepare for another Congress, my thoughts turn to the first one in which we ever played. It was probably four years ago, when Warwick and I had recently finished lessons and were playing regularly at the club (with a lot of enthusiasm but as real rookies!) There was talk of this Congress that was coming up. "Congress", we said. "What is that and does this apply to us?" We were assured we could enter and encouraged to do so "for the experience" and not to worry, it was "Swiss Pairs", whatever that meant. I was still at the stage of coming to weekly club bridge with butterflies in my stomach, so when the day came and we arrived to see for the first time the partition open and all those tables spread across the two rooms, those butterflies rapidly took on the proportions of Atlas moths! I would happily have gone home but alas this was not an option. We were there for the long haul. Having virtually no masterpoints, we were seeded last and sat at the bottom table, against the pair that was seeded second last. We struck lucky and managed to smash our opponents, and that's when the significance of "Swiss Pairs" became clear. Our dear Laurie Hayes was there in his capacity as a helper and when he saw the draw for the second round he said to us, with that inimitable twinkle in his eye, "How did you pair manage to get up there?" We had in fact moved from the bottom (our comfort zone) to half way up the room where the real players were! The Atlas moths came back in a swarm! However, we survived the ordeal, noting with interest not only the play of the experienced players but also the (sometimes doubtful) tactics employed by some of them. As the weekend went on, with each successive round, we gradually returned to our rightful place.

This experience did not put me off. On the contrary, we started to enter other congresses and multi-session events and, although we were seldom in the points, we were gaining experience and meeting people from other clubs. The same people tend to turn up at all these events and we have made several friends through them. This year we are really "bitten", having already played at Albany, Bunbury, Bridgetown, Swanbourne and Geraldton, with our own Congress, and Kalgoorlie, Denmark and the Goldenwest still to come.

We are lucky. We are a couple and we have a motorhome. Therefore these weekends away are not a problem for us. On the contrary, each one is a mini-holiday and we are using the motorhome, which would otherwise be sitting unused in the back yard. I know there are members of our club who are very keen to play and who have indeed played in some of the one-day events, but who have non-playing spouses to consider. Perhaps we need to establish a "bridge widowers/widows" group, to occupy them during the bridge play! All ideas welcome! This article is written with the intention of encouraging members who are keen to play in outside events. We have had a great deal of fun, have had our eyes opened to the way others play, and if we have met the odd aggressive pair, it has served to emphasise how nice our home club players are!

## **Margaret River Readers & Writers Festival**

Club member Pam Halbert attended the Margaret River Readers & Writers Festival over the long weekend of 2<sup>nd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> June. The 9<sup>th</sup> annual festival started spectacularly with writer and social commentator Jane Caro as MC for an evening of entertainment on Friday night. International author and ex-python Michael Palin drew the crowds to the launch of the event, and to his special session on Saturday where he shared his adventures in the Himalayas, Africa and a Dutch town in Japan. Renowned Journalist Kerry O'Brien revealed stories from his 50-year career in a feature event at Voyager Estate winery, while also discussing his book "Keating" and participating in a discussion on "Media & Politics" with Jane Caro. Stephanie Alexander, Robert Drewe and Clementine Ford all had sell-out events, and Indigenous writer Bruce Pascoe held the audience in his hand, with his compelling description of aboriginal agriculture before colonisation.

For those interested in attending next year's event, put the dates in your diary now – 1<sup>st</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2018.

## Winter Congress July 2017

The Congress was held over the weekend 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> July 2017. Sixty pairs took part in five matches of 10 boards each day and the event was run by State Director Neville Walker, assisted by Directors Robina McConnell and Brain Wade from Bunbury.

Club President Jim McNamara conducted the prize-giving, and thanked our Sponsors for their continuing support and Club members for their tremendous help in organising and coordinating the event. Special thanks must go to all the behind-the-scenes helpers who made the event possible, in particular to Ross Proudfoot, Colleen Webb, Jan Marron, Judy De Vis and Les Cowcill, and to joint Conveners Sheryl Coates and Clyde England.



*Congress winners were Viv Wood and Ron Cooper*

*Runners Up were Andrew Swider and Anton Pol*



*In Third place were Dave Munro and David Schokman*

*Fourth Place went to Stella and James Steer*



*The Best Country pair were Alan Dundas and Eugene Wichems*



*The Best Mandurah pair were Jan Howell and Sheryl Coates*



*The Best Mandurah Under Life Master pair were Denise Sampson and Gudrun Kemmer*

*The Best Mandurah Under State Masters were Warwick and Isobel Jones*

