

# What's Trumps?

The Newcastle Bridge Club Newsletter

#10 - March 2014

## Congress Results

My search of web pages for results achieved by members at recent congresses has shown the following successes:-

### Great Lakes Bridge Club Teams Congress

1<sup>st</sup> place Ken Wilks and Rosalie Broughton.

### QBA Gold Coast Congress

#### Pairs Championships:

- **Open A Final**  
15<sup>th</sup> Chris Dibley and Wayne Smith
- **Open B Final**  
22<sup>nd</sup> Normand MacLaurin and Ken Berry
- **Open D Final**  
11<sup>th</sup> Rosalie Broughton and Ken Wilks
- **Seniors B Final**  
11<sup>th</sup> Ian Walker and Graham Rusher
- **Restricted C Final**  
19<sup>th</sup> Margaret and David Corney
- **Ivy Dahler Butler Swiss Open**  
12<sup>th</sup> Michael Simes and Michael Johnson  
24<sup>th</sup> Matt Blackham and Michelle Tredinnick  
42<sup>nd</sup> Rosalie Broughton and Ken Wilks  
214<sup>th</sup> Jim Thatcher and Carolyn Seymour
- **Ivy Dahler Butler Swiss Restricted**  
51<sup>st</sup> Margaret and David Corney
- **Weekend Matchpoint Swiss**  
3<sup>rd</sup> Chris Williams and Ian Lincoln  
68<sup>th</sup> Michael Simes and Michael Johnson  
68<sup>th</sup> Ruth Littler and Kath Crane
- **Monday Butler Swiss**  
105<sup>th</sup> Jim Thatcher and Carolyn Seymour  
118<sup>th</sup> Chris Williams and Ian Lincoln  
133<sup>rd</sup> Ruth Littler and Kath Crane,

#### Teams Championships:

- **Open Teams**  
12<sup>th</sup> Dibley, Smith, MacLaurin and Berry

73<sup>rd</sup> Williams, Lincoln  
114<sup>th</sup> Broughton, Wilks, Simes and Johnson  
122<sup>nd</sup> Blackham, Tredinnick  
123<sup>rd</sup> Littler, Crane, Ellis and Hannan

- **Intermediate Teams**

54<sup>th</sup> Thatchers, Seymour, Caro

- **Restricted Teams**

27<sup>th</sup> Marton, McMaster  
66<sup>th</sup> Corneys and Bowen-Thomas'

- **Friday Teams**

2<sup>nd</sup> Williams, Lincoln

Well done to all. Gold Coast is an even harder school at which to shine.

My apologies if anyone has been omitted. Full results for all congresses are available through the NSWBA website.

## Newcastle Congress

In discussion with our Congress director Matthew McManus and his analysis of our last three congress attendance record, Committee has decided to split this year's congress into two fields. The Pairs on Saturday and the Teams on Sunday will be contested in two separate divisions. That decision means that any Restricted category players will compete at their own level, and not be drawn against Open category players.

For some players, that approach will create a more relaxed environment in which to play and enjoy their bridge. Hopefully, it will also encourage more players and boost attendance at our Congress. Rest assured, committee will examine the attendance figures to see if the decision has been appreciated.

## Member contact detail changes

If you have changed you contact details and wish to remain in touch with club members then please keep me updated.

Kay Rich has had her telephone number changed. Her new number is 4041 0614.

### **Club History**

I have not received any feedback on this item yet. Surely someone out there has some fond memories or an anecdote or two about the Club and its past members.

### **Club Regulations for Substitutes**

The Club's *Rules & Regulations* have recently been put into question and that has led to an amendment on some clauses within the section dealing with the permissible number of substitutes in a unit. The main change within those clauses now restricts the number of substitutes in a three week pairs event to one.

The overriding clause allowing that number to be varied still stands. Should circumstances warrant, the Tournament Director and the director of the session may accept an additional substitute.

### **Tournament Directors' Word**

#### **Slow play**

I have heard that there has been some improvement in the rate of play in most sessions which is very encouraging. There will always be occasions when a table has fallen too far behind the clock to allow the set of boards to be completed. If this should happen at your table, please accept the situation gracefully after all, an average for the unplayed board is not a heavy penalty.

A special bouquet goes to the pair who recently acknowledged that they were at fault for the slow play and volunteered to take an average minus. And a bouquet also goes for their opponents who told the Director that such a penalty was not necessary. Good spirit shown by all involved.

Because South is the player who can see the clock most easily, the Committee has recommended that South should draw attention to time problems at the table. For example, if the table has only played one board in a set of three and there are just ten minutes left for the remaining two boards, it is appropriate for South to bring this to the attention of the other players. Please do not accuse South of being bossy or of exerting undue pressure if this happens at your table, South is simply doing what has been requested, to keep the game moving.

### **Hand records**

Some people seem worried about a shortage of hand records. If copies have run out, there will usually be someone around who can run off extra photocopies. If not, the hand records will appear almost instantly on the Club's website and be there waiting for you when you get home.

Peter Peterson, Tournament Director

### **Thanks Roy Low**

The Club's appreciation of Roy's computer skills, expertise and time given to the Club over the past 25 years were officially recognised when on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> March a presentation was made to him by the President, Tony Wagstaff. Tony alluded to just how much the Club had come to rely upon the use of computers in its administration of the game and coupled that with just how much the Club had come to rely upon Roy being there to keep them doing the job expected of them.

From early beginnings of one computer used to score sessions, the Club now possessed three computers, one to score, one to deal cards and one to manage business.

Tony on behalf of all club members thanked Roy for his efforts and presented him with a token of the Club's appreciation.

### **NSWBA - eCongress News**

An item contributed by Anita Stiller.

Many members would be aware that John McIlrath is editing the above service for the NSWBA as a means of publicising Congresses held by NSW bridge clubs, as well as national events.

Bridge players have the option of subscribing and having the *eCongress News* sent to them direct by email, or by reading it online if they prefer without having it sent to the individual's email address. This is a free service and you can subscribe by going to <http://www.nswba.com.au/enews>.

As well as providing information about forthcoming events, the *eCongress News* also includes articles of interest to players, directors and organisers. The March 2014 edition features a competition for movie passes, an informative article for players by Matthew McManus, interesting hands from past Congresses and details of the Congress Player of the Year Awards with four categories from Novice to Open. Something for everyone.

John would like to increase the number of subscribers so, if you think it has items to interest you, please make him happy and sign up without delay.