



The Newcastle Bridge Club Incorporated ABN 16 405 302 022

COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

For meeting held Tuesday 10/06/2025



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COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA

Location:	Newcastle Bridge Club	Date:	10 June 2025
Chair:	Jeff Biddlecombe	Time:	1:30pm

1. Apologies: Les Brien
2. Minutes of previous meeting dated 13 May 2025
3. Correspondence 3.1. Invitation to 2025 Bridge NSW State-Wide Pairs 3.2. Request from North Shore Bridge Club to promote its annual Bridge Festival (20/6 – 29/6) 3.3. Request from Peninsula Bridge Club (Warriewood) to promote its State Championships Restricted & Novice Pairs event Sunday 24/8
4. Financials 4.1. Treasurer's report 4.2. P & L 4.3. Energy review
5. Business arising from correspondence and previous minutes 5.1. NBC Open Congress 5.2. Cleaners schedule 5.3. Intermediate lessons 5.4. Catering for weekend events 5.5. Tablecloths
6. New Business 6.1. Tuesday night directors and scorers 6.2. Beginners' Lessons report
7. General Business 7.1. Suggestion box contents 7.2.
8. Next meeting: 08 July 1:30pm

COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES: June 2025

Location:	Newcastle Bridge Club	Date:	10/06/2025
Chair:	Jeff Biddlecombe	Time:	1:30 pm
Attendees:	Jeff Biddlecombe, Jenny Bissett, Julie Butel (minute taker), Christine Chandler, Ailsa Kearney, Vincia Martin, Peter Peterson, Ken Wilks.		

AGENDA ITEM
1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

Jeff opened the meeting at 1:35 pm.

Apologies: Les Brien

2. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING (13/05/2025)

Ken moved that the minutes of the previous meeting be accepted and Jenny seconded the motion which was accepted by all. Jeff then signed the minutes as a true record of the meeting.

3. CORRESPONDENCE:

- 3.1. Invitation to 2025 Bridge NSW State-Wide Pairs:** The event can be run anytime in the week 1-7 August as part of a normal duplicate pairs session. Cash prizes will be awarded , as well as gift vouchers and certificates. The entry fee will be \$5 per player (additional to the usual session fee).

Acton: *Ken will check if the Tuesday morning session players are interested.*

- 3.2. Email request from North Shore Bridge Club to promote its annual Bridge Festival (20/6 – 29/6).** The flyer has been put on display at the club.

- 3.3. Email request from Peninsula Bridge Club (Warriewood) to promote its State Championships Restricted & Novice Pairs event Sunday 24/8.** The flyer has been put on display at the club.

4. FINANCIALS (Les)

- 4.1. P & L (see attached)**

- 4.2. Treasurer's Report for the May meeting (see attached)**

Les was an apology for the meeting but had emailed his report and P & L prior to the meeting.

The P & L for the 11 months to May 2025 shows a profit of \$7739 compared to a loss of \$1715 last year.

Peter moved that Les' report and P & L be accepted and Jenny seconded the motion.

- 4.3. Energy Review:**

In late May Les advised that our current energy provider (Pacific Blue) had advised that its charges would increase by 34.6% for the daily supply charge and 58% for the usage charge, effective 7/06/2025. Les used the government website

energymadeeasy.gov.au to search for cheaper plans; the cheapest was Momentum.

AGENDA ITEM

Les suggested that we engage an energy consultant to evaluate the feasibility of installing extra solar panels and / or a battery. Our term deposits are due to mature on 29/06/2025 and 10/07/2025 and the intention is to reinvest the principal and interest of both accounts at that time. However, this will need be reviewed if we decide to add extra solar panels and / or a battery.

Action: It was agreed that we should consult with at least 2 solar panel / battery providers so that a decision can be made. Les to action.

5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM CORRESPONDENCE / PREVIOUS MINUTES

5.1. NBC Open Congress – update

- Prizes: Vincia to calculate and send to Ken and Les. It was noted that there will be no Novice team prizes as there are only 2 teams entered in the category. Vincia will get the cash for the prizes later in the week.
- Stickers for the envelopes for payments on the day have been printed but need to be put on the envelopes.
- Booklets are printed but need to be collated.
- Jeff agreed to be parking attendant for both days.
- Baking: Some contributions have been noted on the form. It is thought (hoped!) that a lot more will turn up on the weekend.
- Kitchen duties: We still need a few more helpers especially on Sunday afternoon. Vincia is approaching a few possibilities.
- Vincia has emailed Ronnie Ng (the director) re last minute arrangements.

5.2. Cleaners Schedule

A list of what the cleaners do has been provided and circulated to the committee for review. It was agreed that everything that needs to be done has been included.

Action: Julie to advise the cleaners.

5.3. Intermediate lessons

Jenny advised that she has agreement in principle from members who will form the sub-committee (Jenny Bissett, Christine Chandler, Jeff Biddlecombe, Neil Best, Greg Archbold, Vincia Martin). The next step is to set a date for the first meeting when priorities can be discussed and agreed.

Action: Jenny to coordinate.

5.4. Catering for weekend events

This was a follow on from the May meeting in which Ailsa had proposed that the Committee should not be expected to cater for weekend events when table numbers were low (as for the Club Teams Championship). She offered the alternative of sourcing platters (available at Woolworths) for players to access after the event. While the suggestion was accepted by those present at that meeting, Ailsa proposed that the discussion be held over until the June meeting so that Christine could participate.

Peter commented that in his opinion, all events should be catered for, irrespective of the numbers participating. Ailsa commented that the issue with the Club Teams Championship was that there was no clarity as to whether the event was going ahead as less than the minimum number had registered by the Thursday prior to the event.

It was agreed that better communication is needed in future.

Action: After discussion, it was agreed that a sub-committee be formed to coordinate the catering for weekend events. As there are only a few events remaining this year (GNOT Regional Final 3/08 and Club Pairs 31/08), it was agreed to implement this in 2026 once the calendar has been finalized.

AGENDA ITEM

5.5. Tablecloths

Most of the members on the current roster have agreed to be on the new roster. An email was sent to a few members to get help to fill the gaps. The new roster has now been finalized and everyone has been informed. The new roster which starts in July is on the noticeboard and has been emailed to all volunteers.

6. NEW BUSINESS

6.1. Tuesday night directors and scorers

Ken proposed that as Tuesday night is now a standard session, it should have its own directors and scorers. Ideally, this should be done by the regular players. Stand by players will still be available.

Action: Jeff to speak to the Tuesday night players and request that they step up to fill the roles. Ken to discuss/reinforce protocols and important points (e.g. keeping to time, not starting boards after warning bell, etc) with potential directors and qualified directors once they have been identified.

6.2. Beginners' Lessons report (see attached)

A detailed report on the Beginners' Bridge Lessons that commenced in March was submitted to the Committee by Neil Best and Greg Archbold who conducted the lessons.

The report was acknowledged as being an excellent summary. It covered participation, preparation, delivery of the course, financials and evaluation.

Consideration by the Committee was requested for the following:

- **Payment for the supervised play sessions (3) at the end of the course:** It was agreed that the cost for these sessions is \$10 (or 1 token if a member)
- **Focus of the supervised play sessions:** Club players were invited to play with the learners for these sessions. This increased knowledge and confidence but at the expense of the time per board (8 boards in 2 hours). It was recommended that this change be supported which was agreed.
- **Payment for conducting the course:** The submission for payment was agreed.

Action: Jeff to give feedback to Neil and Greg

The need for mentors was also discussed. Peter said that he would be happy to mentor on some Tuesday evenings. Jeff mentioned that other people are needed to take on Monday and Wednesday supervised sessions to share the load with Janet Hill and himself, plus experienced players to walk around during these sessions.

Action: Jenny and Vincia agreed to work together to compile a list of members who may be interested in being mentors and/or helpers. It was agreed that each mentor would be offered 6 free games with each member they mentored.

7. GENERAL BUSINESS:

7.1. Suggestion Box: There were no new suggestions received since the last meeting.

8. NEXT MEETING: Tuesday 08 July at 1:30 pm

9. MEETING CLOSE: The meeting concluded at 2:50 pm

CONFIRMED TO BE A TRUE RECORD OF THE MEETING:

Moved by:	J. BISSATT
Seconded by:	P. PRINCE
Signed by:	J. BISSATT
Date:	8.7.25

Newcastle Bridge Club – Treasurer's Report for June 2025 meeting

P & L for 11 months to May 2025 shows a result of \$7739 profit compared to a loss of \$1715 last year. See excel file P&L Months of 25 year, sheet MAY 25. An estimate has been made for depreciation at the rate of \$450 per month. The actual amount will be processed by the Accountants at year end.

The \$9454 turnaround from last year is mainly as a result of increased subscriptions (\$1465); increased table fees (\$7487); and increased interest (\$3041).

Also see **Table Fees** exercise showing table fees to end of the month, a weekly average and an estimate for the year.

Funds at end of May – cheque account \$7830, Online saver account \$14570. Greater Bank business access account \$427

Greater Bank Term Deposits - \$73579 for 6 months at 4.75% pa (matures 10th July 2025), and \$91073 for 6 months at 4.75% pa (matures 29th June 2025). Unless there are any large, unusual expenses in the foreseeable future, I will transfer \$4000 from the Online saver account to the Greater term deposit that matures on 29th June 2025 and reinvest that deposit and interest. In relation to the deposit that matures on 10th July 2025 I will also reinvest the deposit and interest. However, see my email advising of the change of our electricity provider and the possibility of adding additional solar panels and a battery, in which case those actions will need to be reviewed.

Newcastle Bridge Club 12 Young Road Broadmeadow 2292 Profit & Loss [With Last Year] July 2024 To May 2025				
	This Year		Last Year	TY - LY
	TY		LY	
Income				
Competitions				
Congress	\$3,560.00		\$2,213.60	\$1,346.40
Weekend Club Events	\$1,564.00		\$1,260.00	\$304.00
Hosting Events	\$470.00		\$1,652.00	(\$1,182.00)
Memberships				
Subscriptions	\$11,340.00		\$9,875.00	\$1,465.00
Table Fees				
Monday Supervised Play	\$8,878.00		\$6,158.00	\$2,720.00
Monday Afternoon	\$8,574.00		\$10,438.00	(\$1,864.00)
Tuesday Morning	\$21,064.00		\$21,496.00	(\$432.00)
Tuesday Night	\$7,832.00		\$6,936.00	\$896.00
Wednesday	\$6,212.00		\$5,332.00	\$880.00
Wednesday Supervised Play	\$1,646.00		\$0.00	\$1,646.00
Thursday Supervised Play	\$741.00		\$598.00	\$143.00
Thursday Morning	\$20,106.00		\$18,766.00	\$1,340.00
Friday	\$10,116.00		\$10,766.00	(\$650.00)
Saturday	\$10,796.00		\$7,988.00	\$2,808.00
Total Table Fees	\$95,965.00		\$88,478.00	\$7,487.00
Board Dealing	\$2,064.00		\$1,824.00	\$240.00
Hall Hire	\$160.00		\$140.00	\$20.00
Lessons	\$155.00		\$514.85	(\$359.85)
Sundry Receipts	\$1,180.00		\$40.00	\$1,140.00
Gain on Disposal of Assets	\$0.00		\$10.00	(\$10.00)
Total Income	\$116,458.00		\$106,007.45	\$10,450.55
Expenses				
Accounting Fees	\$935.00		\$2,200.00	(\$1,265.00)
Card Dealing	\$1,696.00		\$1,377.00	\$319.00
Cleaning	\$14,047.00		\$14,404.75	(\$357.75)
Consumables	\$6,872.22		\$6,055.67	\$816.55
Insurance	\$7,796.38		\$6,797.00	\$999.38
General Expense	\$136.00		\$296.00	(\$160.00)
Printing, Stationery & Postage	\$4,304.10		\$4,731.80	(\$427.70)
Prize Money	\$6,324.00		\$4,890.00	\$1,434.00
Refreshments	\$4,259.48		\$4,070.16	\$189.32
Socials	\$2,707.62		\$2,919.30	(\$211.68)
Competitions				
Congress	\$824.63		\$903.34	(\$78.71)
Other Competitions	\$2,034.81		\$2,171.61	(\$136.80)
Employment Expenses				
Wages				
Office Staff	\$10,707.67		\$9,692.50	\$1,015.17
Superannuation	\$2,045.95		\$1,449.12	\$596.83
Non Playing Director	\$9,770.00		\$9,520.00	\$250.00
Fees & Levies				
Affiliation (NSWBA)	\$5,300.00		\$5,200.00	\$100.00

Profit & Loss [With Last Year]

July 2024 To May 2025

	This Year		Last Year	TY - LY
	TY		LY	
Capitation (ABF)	\$6,245.10		\$5,061.20	\$1,183.90
Masterpoints	\$2,166.85		\$1,889.33	\$277.52
Repairs & Mtce				
R&M Air Conditioning	\$163.64		\$540.00	(\$376.36)
R&M Building	\$424.44		\$2,149.48	(\$1,725.04)
R&M Equipment	\$1,124.77		\$1,681.00	(\$556.23)
R&M Grounds	\$562.00		\$462.00	\$100.00
Utilities				
Electricity	\$2,603.29		\$2,289.63	\$313.66
Rates - Land / Water	\$12,894.55		\$11,870.69	\$1,023.86
Telecommunications	\$2,680.29		\$2,264.61	\$415.68
Computer Systems				
Events Calendar	\$170.50		\$271.83	(\$101.33)
Microsoft 365	\$179.00		\$139.00	\$40.00
MYOB Esentials	\$132.00		\$111.50	\$20.50
Pianola	\$600.00		\$600.00	\$0.00
Web Site	\$0.00		\$41.25	(\$41.25)
Depreciation	\$4,950.00		\$4,579.67	\$370.33
Total Expenses	\$114,657.29		\$110,629.44	\$4,027.85
Operating Profit/(Loss)	\$1,800.71		\$4,621.99	\$6,422.70
Other Income				
Interest Income	\$5,938.63		\$2,897.00	\$3,041.63
Investment Income	\$0.00		\$10.31	(\$10.31)
Total Other Income	\$5,938.63		\$2,907.31	\$3,031.32
Net Profit/(Loss)	\$7,739.34		(\$1,714.68)	\$9,454.02
Table fees to -		Weeks to	Wkly Avge	Est for Yr
July	9,504.00	5	1901	98842
August	17456.00	9	1940	100857
September	24880.00	13	1914	99520
October	34622.00	18	1923	100019
November	43022.00	22	1956	101688
December	50360.00	26	1937	100720
January	59852.00	31	1931	100397
February	68206.00	35	1949	101335
March	77128.00	39	1978	102837
April	87540.00	44	1990	103456
May	95965.00	48	1999	103962
June				
Membership at		April 2025	April 2024	April 2023
Home members		268	255	247
Alternate members		43	38	28
Total		311	293	275
1 April 2024 includes 6 life members				

BRIDGE CLUB – SCOPE OF WORKS

MAIN HALL – 2 x weekly

Wipe over player tables with damp cloth to remove crumbs etc.

Tidy pens & equipment of player tables.

Wipe/disinfect small tables placed at each player table.

Collect small player table bins, empty, wipe out & stack at rear of hall.

Wipe/disinfect desks at front of hall & dust equipment on desks.

Wipe/disinfect tables at rear of hall.

Wet wipe windowsills.

Vacuum carpet in main hall & tiled area at rear of main hall.

KITCHEN – 2 x weekly

Wipe/disinfect kitchen benches & wipe over any appliances on benches.

Clean & polish sink.

Clean splash back at sink.

Wipe clean front of urn.

Polish front of dishwasher.

Remove any dribble marks on fronts of kitchen cupboards.

Empty & reline kitchen bins & wipe over bin area.

Vacuum & mop kitchen.

Dust windowsill

OFFICE – 1 x weekly

Wipe all desks & surfaces.

Dust office equipment.

Dust windowsill.

Empty & reline office bin.

Vacuum office.

BATHROOMS/TOILETS – 2 x weekly

Clean & disinfect all toilets.

Clean & disinfect urinals and replenish deodorising blocks as needed.

Wipe/disinfect tiled area behind urinals.

Disinfect/polish stainless flush buttons at urinals

Replenish toilet paper.

Clean/polish metal hand plate on toilet doors.

Clean/disinfect sink & vanity.

Clean/polish mirrors

Replenish paper towel.

Dust windowsill.

Empty & reline garbage bins.

Vacuum & mop bathroom/toilet areas.

FRONT GLASS DOORS – 2 x weekly

Clean & polish glass front doors.

GARBAGE

All garbage to be emptied into appropriate bins at each clean.

Wiz bins to be placed at curb for collection on designated day.

The President
Newcastle Bridge Club

Dear Jeff,

I'd like to submit the following report of the Beginning Bridge Lessons for March 2025 to you and the Newcastle Bridge Club Committee.

Participation

- A total of 63 people contacted the Club to participate. 13 people did not attend the first lesson. Many of these non-attendees came from registrations from Newcastle U3A.
- Wednesday evening session – 17 Participants attended on a regular basis, of which 2 withdrew between 2 – 5 lessons.
- Thursday afternoon session – 32 Participants attended on a regular basis, of which 6 withdrew between 2 – 5 lessons.
- Seven participants were repeating the course from 2024.
- Many of the withdrawals indicated that they were willing to participate at a later set of lessons.

Preparation

- A review of the booklet was undertaken which led to a change of format from a portrait orientation to landscape. This enabled bidding sequences to be viewed across the page and was supported by those who had completed the course on a previous occasion. Thank you to Jeff Biddlecombe and Ken Wilks for editing the changes.
- The PowerPoint presentation used in the lessons was reviewed and edited, mainly to more clearly identify the holders of the hands displayed in the PowerPoint.
- In a new feature of the lessons, Revision sheets were produced to hand out to participants at the end of each session. Suggested answers to these sheets were emailed to all participants on the Saturday following learning sessions.

Learning Sessions

- Neil Best and Greg Archbold conducted 8 lessons on both Thursday afternoon and Wednesday evening. Ken Wilkes also conducted a session at the completion of the 8 lessons.
- Many participants who could not attend the Thursday session attended the following Wednesday. One participant attended every Wednesday and Thursday sessions, and two people attended the following session to clarify their learning.
- Two people attended "catch up" lessons.
- A number of club members assisted with the lessons. Thanks to Trish Gleeson, Margaret Pearson, Jenny Bissett and Kaye and Michael Deacon.
- Others attended supervised play sessions: Janet Sutherland, Mary Mahoric, John Burns, Jenny Bissett, Maureen Rippon, Frances Klumpes, Enza Di Stefano.

Revision Exercises

- The great majority of participants completed the revision exercises. Many questioned the responses delivered via email. This often required further explanation which was provided via email.

- There were mistakes made in the setting of the exercises eg not providing 13 cards in a sample hand. These mistakes were quickly identified by participants and changed on the original version so that the revision sheets for following set of lessons will be accurate.

Overall Evaluation

- We are unable to comment if the “drop-out” rate of participants is like previous programs, but the overall attendance by participants once they commenced was high.
- The overall “tone” of the lessons was positive. Comments from the club members who participated were positive, and emails from participants were very encouraging.
- As noted above, the Revision Exercises will need a thorough review before the next set of lessons, but most participants did “do their homework” on a regular basis and commented favourably on the fact that they were “forced” to think about Bridge and their learning throughout the week, rather than just on lessons.
- The course was helped by several participants who had learnt some aspects of Bridge from previous lessons, either at the Club or in other situations. These people provided support to those who were very new to the game.
- Participants gradually improved the time they took to play boards. Formative (i.e. ongoing) assessment of participant progress was inbuilt in lesson presentations and indicated levels of understanding ranging from “developing” to “high” with most participants progressing towards the high end of the learning continuum. Clearly identifying what was expected to be learned each lesson also proved valuable in the teaching/learning process.
- The response to the new Booklet was very positive; this included comments from participants who had previously purchased the old booklet. Four Club members purchased new copies.
- We did not run a specific evaluation sessions, but we did invite participants to send an email if they wished to make a comment. These comments are attached and include some suggestions for the next set of lessons. It was also suggested that participants talk to Jeff during the last Thursday session of supervised play, a session that we could not attend.
- We have encouraged participants to play at one or both supervised sessions on Monday and Wednesday. To date, 12 participants have transitioned to these sessions. Another 6 have told me that they will after they return from holidays or recover from surgery.
- The night session eventually consisted of 15 participants, mainly of people who are unable to attend the day sessions. Two have played occasionally on Monday / Wednesday when work permits. Two, with supervision from us, will eventually transition to play on Tuesday nights. Another four are keen to play, but are reluctant in play in a full session on Tuesday night, two are playing in a U3A competition, two are too busy at the moment, two more wish to redo the course in July and one is still overseas.
- 26 participants finished the afternoon session. 12 have played in the supervised sessions, 6 have told me that they will play after holidays / surgery, one is definitely not going to play at the club, two are playing at their units and 5 have not indicated their intentions.

Three Week Supervised Lessons.

- There was some confusion re the organisation of the Supervised Play at the end of the lessons. We had not realised that the payment for these lessons in the past was as per a normal session – ie \$10 or a coupon, and therefore we did not charge full price for those returning learners who had only been paying \$5. A clear direction from the Committee would be appreciated on this point.
- We also changed the focus of these sessions. We invited club players to play with the learners. This had the result of increasing the knowledge and confidence of the learners, but at the expense of the time in which boards could be played. In the sessions we ran, players played 8 boards in two hours, but this included the time taken for Club players to explain the bidding and possible playing strategies. We believe that this gave a greater focus to confidence rather than speed, and we recommend that the Committee supports this change of focus. The feedback from these sessions was extremely positive.

Finances

A detailed financial statement is attached below. Please note that the printing costs are based on costs that we encountered when printing revision Sheets and Hand Records at Officeworks and have therefore calculated costs to the Club based on that information. The \$10 lesson fee for new participants, and \$5 fee for returning participants were set in previous years.

In Summary:

Income:	\$3,740.00
Expenditure	\$1,875.52
PROFIT:	\$1864.48

This figure is increased by \$180.00 (booklets and lessons run by us were provided initially free of charge to M. Ives and B. Williams, family members of N Best.)

FINAL PROFIT: \$2,044.48

We did not embark on this program to make money. However, we do believe that there should be some recompense in view of the time expended on reviewing, preparing and delivering the lessons underpinned by our teaching expertise. **We submit that \$1,694.48 be retained by us and that \$350.00 be received by the Club. (Please note that a payment of \$350.00 for printing has already been submitted, as has the \$160 (\$10 per lesson) Club Fees and that we have run 5 supervised lessons from which the Club received all funds. Jeff ran one.)**

- This payment to us represents payment for 16 lessons, at an average cost of \$105.90 to the club for each lesson.
- Note there was extra work done for lessons this year:
 - Rewriting of Lesson Booklet.
 - Revision and Editing of PowerPoint lessons
 - Production of Revision Exercises which were printed each week, and emailing of answers to those exercises each week.

Thank you for your consideration of our submission.

We are very happy to run the next set of lessons beginning in July.

Neil Best and Greg Archbold

BRIDGE LESSONS MARCH 2025

INCOME	EXPENDITURE
Booklets Sold 52 x 25 = \$1,300.00 N Best copy – 3 G Archbold copy -1 K Wilkes copy -1 V Martin copy – 1 J Biddlecombe - 1 Unpaid - 1 Total = 60 TOTAL BOOKLETS = \$1,300.00	Booklet Printing (60) 881.70 Name Tags (60) 62.82 Club Fees. 160.00 Cheat Sheets (40) 160.00 Coupon Laminating. 35.00 <i>Lesson Printing & Tokens</i> Lesson 1 Hands (Club 2 x 60) <u>60.00</u> Lesson 1 Revision (Home – 4 x 60). 10.00 Lesson 2 Hands (Home – 2 x 50). 40.00 Lesson 2 Tokens - 16.00 Lesson 2 Revision (Home – 4 x 50). 15.00 Lesson 3 Hands (Club -2x 50) <u>40.00</u> Lesson 3 Revision (Officeworks -4 x 50) 15.00 Lesson 3 Tokens. 16.00 Lesson 4 Hands (Club 2x40) <u>40.00</u> Lesson 4 Revision (Officeworks – 4 x 50) 15.00 Lesson 4 Token 8.00 Lesson 5 Hands (Officeworks x 40) 35.00 Lesson 5 Revision (Officeworks – 2 x 40). 16.00 Lesson 6 Revision (Officeworks – 3 x 40). 12.00 Lesson 6 Hands (Club 4 x 40). <u>70.00</u> Lesson 7 Revision (Home 4 x 40). 16.00 Lesson 7 Hands (Club 4 x 40). <u>70.00</u> Lesson 8 Revision (Home 3 x 40). 12.00 Lesson 8 Hands (Club 4 x 40). <u>70.00</u> Club Printing \$350.00 N Best Home Printing \$184.00 N Best Tokens \$42.00 TOTAL EXPENDITURE: \$1,875.52
Lessons Lesson 1 Thursday. 240.00 Lesson 1 Wednesday. 155.00 Lesson 2 Thursday. 255.00 Lesson 2 Wednesday 125.00 Lesson 3 Thursday 205.00 Lesson 3 Wednesday 110.00 Lesson 4 Thursday. 200.00 Lesson 4 Wednesday. 150.00 Lesson 5 Thursday. 215.00 Lesson 5 Wednesday 90.00 Lesson 6 Thursday. 170.00 Lesson 6 Wednesday. 75.00 Lesson 7 Thursday. 125.00 Lesson 7 Wednesday. 50.00 Lesson 8 Thursday 200.00 Lesson 8 Wednesday. 75.00 TOTAL LESSONS = \$2,440.00 TOTAL INCOME: \$3,740.00	PROFIT: \$1864.48 This figure is then increased by \$180.00 (booklets and lessons run by us were provided free of charge to M. Ives and B. Williams, family members of N Best.) FINAL PROFIT: \$2044.48

Evaluation Comments:

Just letting you know that Zeni and I really enjoyed the learning process provided by you and Greg.

Just returning to your request for feedback re the course. I thought the booklet and the revision exercises were great. I know that we all make errors but I think that some can be very picky as the overall intent was to give us each a chance to practice our learning and that is where the focus should be. I also felt that some people showed greater knowledge of the game and later learned that some of these had previous experiences in Bridge. [This made it difficult at times for people with no experience.]

Just a bit of feedback - loved the lessons and think both you and Greg have been inclusive, approachable and informative - amazed you could both retain your sense of humour with some 30+ people coming at you with so many questions in no particular order!! Would be more than happy to give continued feedback as able - I think there is much to learn so it appears to be an ever evolving opportunity!

Thanks everyone for a wonderful and cheerful intro to bridge playing at the club. Much better than my anticipation from memories of parents playing at Newcastle Club from its inception their post-mortems at breakfast, usually my mother interrogating my father, about not following Acol, he tended to go off piste in creative ways especially if he sensed a slam in the offing. Bridge for him was more whiskey and cigars. So what did I learn apart from the new system? I've discovered that you can smile and bid! Not enough to raise questions of course about table talk.

My only comment on your wonderful encouraging teaching is to suggest that if you could use the exact book content sometimes in your overheads, it might allow better consolidation at home?

Thank you very much for all the work you and Greg put into our lessons. It was a tremendous amount of work for you and very beneficial for us.

*I struggled with aspects of the rules but find the game quite addictive. I will be back!
Thank you again!*

I just would like to let you know how much we enjoyed Bridge today. The 2 ladies (forgotten their names) were so lovely and helpful.

It really does fine tune the lessons we have been through.

Thank you again so much. (After a supervised game – the two women assisting were Janet Sutherland and Mary Mahoric)

Just wanted to say how much I enjoyed the course. I was unwell last week and am on holidays the next two weeks. Given the weather, I have decided to give tonight a miss also. I would like to go on the list if you do another course though. I am studying up at home and definitely need further education 😊

Thanks again

Thank you very much to you and Greg for providing such informative and well delivered lessons. I loved your injection of humour as well. The lessons were literally what the doctor ordered in his recommendation to 'challenge my brain'. Thank you both very much too for your patience and kindness, particularly during my moments of brain fog and memory difficulties. I am hoping to repeat the course in July. Thank you both very much again.

Thanks for putting in the time and effort in running these introductory bridge lessons. I knew nothing about this card game and joined the group in an effort to get some understanding, that I certainly got.

I mentioned to Jeff today that all the presenters did a great job at explaining the complexities of the game and what seemed to me a myriad of rules.

I think I am getting hooked, long way to go yet before I feel competent, but the material provided during the course and the invaluable summary sheet was/is very helpful.

I don't know how you could improve the course; it's a difficult game to learn and requires lots of time and practice, perhaps a follow up short course after twelve months to iron out any knowledge gaps for the people that joined the club could be useful.

Many thanks to both you, Neil, and Greg for your support and encouragement through our challenging Bridge Learning sessions! You have both been fabulous mentors/teachers and I am sure we have learnt so much in so little time.

I have especially enjoyed the last couple of weeks whilst we have joined your "assisted play" lessons - you have both been incredibly patient and have given us such valued strategies to help us on our way.

Although I know the theory is required, I have also found it invaluable to actually play the games with both your guidance as it seems to re address what theory we covered in our earlier classes and make a lot more sense when used in mock games.

Neil, I trust you will pass this message of thanks on to Greg as well - you have both made the classes interesting and entertaining whilst setting us up to join our fellow learners in a game that we can all enjoy as we gain further knowledge.

If you decide to run future classes of "assisted play" I would be most interested to join you as this is the level I feel I would be suited to at the moment - probably not quite ready to "do it alone" as yet!

Many thanks and trust we will see you again in maybe a future tutorial class down the track.

I wanted to thank you and Greg for your teaching and help over the past few months. I am very grateful for the time, energy and positivity you brought to the sessions every week.

I've really enjoyed coming along and learning each week even if I haven't been able to find much time outside of Wednesday evenings to commit to deeper Bridge learning.

I would love to continue to learn to play in a supervised setting with knowledgeable and experienced educators like yourself and Greg. If an evening session can be scheduled, that would be great.

I think the physical playing around the table is the best way to learn and also it is far more social than online play.

I am hoping something scheduled in the evenings can be assembled that would allow people like myself to continue to learn to play Bridge.

I enjoyed the lessons particularly because so much fell into place for me with the way you taught the game. Weekly revision was useful as well as Greg's bad joke! I would have wanted to learn about Gerber and Blackwood, weak 2s and pre-emps but the book is clear.

All in all Neil, I have invested in Bridge Baron because it says 'Well Done'! I play often, lose often but learn more