

What's Happening at the TBA - August 2019

The TBA Committee reconvened on August 6th after the July meeting was cancelled.

Training and Beginner Transition Strategies

The main strategic issue discussed was that of training, both at the Beginner and Advanced level which has been an area of interest highlighted in the Membership Survey.

Beginner Training & Integration

The TBA is committed to improving both training and integration for beginners, with Sue Falkingham co-ordinating Beginner and Intermediate training. Sue has concluded her first six week beginner's classes which have been very successful, with eighteen new TBA members coming from the classes, as well as a boost to the Monday morning supervised sessions. The next Beginners Classes commence on October 14th and 15th, so tell your friends about it if they want to learn to play bridge.

In order to provide a better transition into Club bridge, the TBA and Sue are about to establish a new supervised session on Wednesday mornings, to run in parallel with the regular Wednesday morning session. This supervised session will be fully supported by Sue, and the participants will play a fewer number of boards than a normal session at a slower pace than 7 minutes per board. It will provide an opportunity for "graduates" from the Monday highly supervised session to move forward with their bridge, but any regular club players who would like extra support with their bridge are welcome to join this group. If you are interested in this session, keep an eye out for its commencement date.

Supervised play is also available on Tuesdays, Wednesday and Thursday nights, but there are minimum table numbers required for these sessions.

Intermediate Training

A series of three Wednesday afternoon classes conducted by Sue Falkingham commenced last Wednesday with the topic of 'Overcalls and Responses' being the first to be discussed. Over 50 people attended this class, which was a great response. Upcoming topics include are 'Two Suited Overcalls (Michaels)' (14 Aug) and 'Overcalls of their 1NT (Cappelletti)' (21 Aug). Don't miss out if you would like to improve these area of your bridge. The cost is \$10 per session.

Advanced Training

Over twenty TBA members joined the members of the State Teams for the weekend of training conducted by visiting professional, Phil Gue. The weekend was widely appreciated and the Committee has decided that we should

attempt to develop a year round program of advanced level training conducted by appropriately qualified local instructors. This would include a mix of full weekend seminars conducted by visiting professionals, and shorter sessions run by local instructors. Ann Paton and Judy Bills are going to co-ordinate the advanced training program so contact them with any suggestions you might have.

Cashless Table Money

Research is continuing into the best solution for the TBA with this, so please bear with us while this process unfolds. We are committed to introducing this facility but It will take some time to locate and implement a good solution.

Teams of Three

The Teams of Three event is coming up on Wednesday night, September 11th. The idea of this event is to provide an opportunity for novice players to play teams bridge, which is a little different from the normal matchpoint duplicate session. Each “team of three” novices will be captained by an experienced player who will take turns in playing with each of them on the night. If you are interested in participating in this event, entries will be opening soon.

Club Room Expansion

We are in the process of developing a “concept plan” with an architect for initial submission to Hobart City Council. Ann Paton and Julie Rhodes are co-ordinating this. The “concept” at present is for the provision of a separate teaching to accommodate approximately eight tables, which can open to provide an expanded competition area. Redesign of the kitchen and some outdoor seating are also likely to be included.

Help Wanted

We are seeking help from anyone who could assist with the following jobs:

Notice Board Co-ordinator

Keep the notice boards up to date and organised. Contact John Grosvenor if you would like to take on this job.

Defrost the Fridge

This job needs to be done out of session, and is becoming urgent. Just turn up and do it, or contact Julie or one of the Directors to arrange out of hours access.

Captain a Team of Three

If you are prepared to act as a Captain for the Team of 3 Event on September 11th, please register your name and contact details in the Entry Book

Help with hospitality on Weekend of August 24th and 25th

General help is required throughout the weekend of the Tasmanian Restricted Pairs Championship and the Tasmanian Open and Womens Pairs to help Simon to keep things organised. Duties might include handing out and/or collecting boards, loading or unloading the dishwasher, restocking tea and coffee etc. Please contact Simon or Julie if you can help out on one of the days.

Be a Buddy

With our new beginners starting to come through, they are often keen to play, but do not have a partner. We would like to increase the number of "walk in" sessions where people can come to play without a partner, but in order to do this we need volunteer partners. Some time it is too busy for the Directors to be able to play. If you could volunteer for one session a week or fortnight, please let us know. Please contact John Grosvenor or Barbara Giizel if you would like to help with this.

Happy Bridging

Julie Rhodes

TBA President