

What's News at the TBA - September 2019

Youth Bridge

Prior to the monthly Committee Meeting on September 3rd we were lucky enough to hear from Bianca and Leigh Gold about Youth Bridge initiatives being sponsored by the ABF. Some of these will be discussed at the Ross Meeting of State Bridge Clubs but one very interesting initiative was a Grandparent Day, whereby Grandparents bring their grandchildren for a day of bridge related activities. The children need know nothing about bridge, and the day is designed to provide a fun experience introducing preliminary bridge related concepts. We are thinking about organising our first Grandparent Day in April next year - more details will be available closer to the event.

Training and Beginners Classes

Beginner and intermediate training is off to a fine start with Sue Falkingham preparing to commence her next series of Beginners Classes on October 14th (Monday afternoons) and October 15th (Tuesday evenings). If you have friends who want to learn bridge, the next series of classes is a good opportunity for the to begin!

David Robinson will take over from Sue with a series of Wednesday afternoon training sessions, commencing in October. These will run for approximately 1 hour at a cost of \$5 and are suitable for improving beginners and intermediate level players.

Intermediate/Advanced Training

At present, the TBA provides training at the Intermediate/Advanced level over the State team training weekend, typically held in July. We are investigating the possibility of providing more training at this level, but would like to hear from members who would be interested in attending classes at this level. If you are interested in intermediate/advanced training, please complete our short web based survey on the topics which would interest you, and suitable timing for the training.

Cashless payments

While we are investigating a complete technological solution for cashless payments, we have decided to introduce a voucher system as an interim solution for people who would prefer to prepay their table money.

Concession Card Audit

Over the next few weeks, Directors have been asked to check that players claiming a table money concession have a valid concession card. If you are claiming a concession, please ensure that you bring your card with you to bridge so that it can be checked and recorded.

Walk In Session Policy

The TBA has clarified its policy with regard to advertised walk in sessions. It is as follows :

1. Players who "walk in" to a session will be able to play with either another "walk in" player, or with the Director who is supervising that session.
2. Directors who are being paid to supervise a session will only play if they are playing with a "walk in" player.
3. It is not appropriate for Directors who are being paid to supervise a session, to play in that session with a regular partner, as there is potential for ethical conflict. That is, a Director may have to rule on a hand they are yet to play. They also have knowledge of hand records etc.

Melbourne Cup Event

Our (now) annual Melbourne Cup Bridge Luncheon will be held on Tuesday November 5th from 10.30 am. Red Masterpoints will be available along with a chicken and champagne lunch. Cost is \$10 per person and we are seeking volunteers to bring either sandwiches (for morning tea) or cakes/desserts/ fruit platters for lunch. Jan Colville is co-ordinating the event, so please let her know if you can bring a plate, and what you would like to bring.

Coffee break will be held around 12.00 noon with lunch at the conclusion of bridge at 2.00pm.

A range of sweeps will be held and there will be a range of "best dressed" prizes.

Look out for more details closer to the event and remember to register you intended attendance. Last year we had to close the event after 27 tables!